

much greater profit than those who have, from either poverty or ignorance, neglected doing so. Many thousands of farmers know nothing about our tested varieties, and will not have a knowledge of their great advantages until they begin to run out, as all our grain and seeds do run out after a few years of cultivation in the same soil or in this climate. The most valuable acquisitions from the thirty-two varieties tested by us for the past three years have been the Calico, the Rose, the Goodrich, and the Harrison. The Rose is very prolific, very early, and of excellent table quality for an early summer and fall potato. On low or damp land it is liable to rot. The Goodrich is also very prolific, good in quality, but sometimes a little hard in the centre. The Calico has not been quite as prolific nor as early, but for a fall, winter or spring eating potato, we consider it surpasses any variety raised by us that we have as yet fully tested. The Harrison is the most prolific, but they will never be classed as a first-quality of eating potato. But for raising large crops for stock-feeding, they surpass any other variety we as yet have fully tried.

The above varieties are now procurable by all, as the prices are now reduced, the stock having become plentiful. But the improvement does not end with them.

The coming favorites appear to be the Climax, Bresee's King of the Earlies, Peerless, Bresee's Prolific, and the Willard. These varieties we have not yet fully tested, but only planted a few hills of each last season, and they bid fair in many respects even to surpass any class of potatoes as yet.

CORN.—Our best farmers are now commencing to sow considerable corn for feed, both for feeding green and cutting green, and feeding in a dry state. It is found very profitable, we believe even more advantageous to stock men than turnips. The select American corn is found to be more profitable for that purpose than our common corn, as it will grow three feet higher than the latter. It has yielded twenty tons of feed per acre. It should be sown thick: about four bushels per acre, either in drills three feet apart, or broadcast. This corn will not ripen with us, but it will come gradually into use as it becomes known. All really good stock men should sow some of it. Dairymen find it most profitable. Both in summer and winter it is preferable to hay. For seed in the northern parts of Canada, where corn has not been much in cultivation, the Bates' Early may be found advantageous, as it ripens early. In old corn sections, the Common Yellow, the Large Yellow, the Duttin, the King Philip, the White Flint, and the Sandford corns are found to do well, each having particular advantages.

Just arrived at Portland, per steamship Moravian, ordered for the Canadian Agricultural Emporium, direct, a quantity of seed-grain, garden and flower seeds—the best procurable from Europe; will be opened in a few days. The invoice has been examined by the best seedsmen in this city, who pronounce it the choicest collection ever brought into London.

SOILING.—From what we have read and heard about the soiling process, we are fully satisfied that it will be profitable to many persons who are in the dairy business and to breeders of fancy stock, and also to a much greater extent among our farmers generally. But the system involves so much additional labor, and at the present cots of land, labor, and prices of productions, it will not come into general practice in our generation, except on a small scale. In fact it is found (in counties where it has been fully tested), to be objectionable on account of the great impoverishment to the soil which may be kept up by those who have the control of the markets for fancy stock, or a government purse to draw from. But with the real practical farmer who must exist on his own resources, and pay, directly or indirectly, towards the support of these large institutions, it will only be practiced on a small scale, as it will be found that the farms where this system is practiced will consume a large amount of the products of other farms throughout the country, and tend to impoverish them. If it enriches the one on which it is practiced, each farmer should have but a small space annually for soiling purposes, because he can keep a small piece replenished with manure. In counties where it has been more fully tested, it has been found a great impoverisher of the soil, and consequently is not so largely practiced.

Dickens on Pompous Funerals.

The undertakers have seldom received such a severe blow as that dealt to them by Mr. Dickens's will. "I emphatically direct that I be buried in an inexpressive, unostentatious, and strictly private manner, that no public announcement be made of the time or place of my burial, that at the utmost not more than three plain mourning coaches be employed, and that those who attend my funeral wear no scarf, cloak, black bow, long hatband, or other revolting absurdity." This is plain speaking, and the grim ravens who hover round the house of mourning with the view of turning tears into cash, will be all in a flutter when they read this expression of opinion with regard to their trade, uttered by one whose voice has none the less influence because it proceeds from the grave. Lord Derby, Lord Clarendon, and Mr. Dickens have all set an example, which the vulgar and ignorant will do well to follow, of simplicity in their funerals. The day will come when we, or rather our descendants, will wonder that undertakers were ever permitted to trade upon our sorrows in the present disgraceful fashion. In nine cases out of ten, when the head of a family dies, every dollar is of value, and nothing more lamentable can be conceived than that the hard-earned savings intended to provide for the necessities of a wife and children should be squandered on black kid gloves and silk hatbands for second cousins, doctors, servants, and others who are mere puppets in the hands of the undertaker to help him to plunder the family of the deceased.

Do good with your money. It is fairly ridiculous to see, as we have seen, about twenty carriages filled with perhaps most mourners, at a funeral in another city. It might be to follow an unprincipled villain. We do not believe that one-twentieth of them would give a poor widow, with a dozen needy children, one dollar. Such is fashion.

—The reply of Sydney Smith when a beautiful girl exclaimed: "Oh, Mr. Smith, this pea will never come to perfection." "Then permit me to lead perfection to the pea," is perfect.

How Cheese Factories Should be Built.

An essay on this subject was presented by Dr. L. L. Wight, of Oneida, to the Dairymen's Association lately held at Utica. He stated that probably no cheese factory has yet been constructed in America on principles best adapted to secure the desired results—the greatest convenience in point of labor, and the best quality of cheese. This is not strange, because the manufacture of cheese by the modern system dates back less than a dozen years, and yet the great and constantly increasing importance of the business renders the subject one worthy of close thought and study. The first thing to be considered is a plentiful supply of cold water, the temperature of which should never arise above 60°. Low, swampy ground is of course to be avoided, and the dryer and harder the ground the better. The size of the building should be 32 feet wide, two-story high, of eight feet the clear, and the length will depend upon the amount of milk anticipated. A building 75 feet long will accommodate the milk from 500 or 600 cows. Thorough ventilation is secured by elevating the building so far above the ground as to admit of an abundance of air, and the inserting of large registers in each bent under every counter in the first and second floors, and by good ventilators through the attic floor and roof. An ice chamber in the attic would at times be beneficial. The length of the manufacturing and pressing room, in a building of the size above mentioned, would be 35 or 40 feet. The boiler room and wood or coal room will be erected at the end and adjoining the manufactory, having easy entrance thereto. If the factory is to receive the milk of 500 cows or over, get a steam engine, of not less than 2-horse power, the boiler being not less than 6-horse power. Other hints and suggestions were given, and in the discussion which followed, Mr. Lewis said special provision should be made for preventing any foul odors arising from whey draining from the presses from reaching the milk in vats. Mr. Slatt, of Clinton, had found many new factories with the presses placed in a separate room and he thought the idea good one. Mr. Wise, of Ohio, never allows a drop of whey to touch the floor, and thus he prevents the necessity of a ditch under the floor. Mr. Dick has a living stream of water running under his factory, and he thinks the plan worthy of imitation.

Money.

The power of "the root of all evil" in these times is overwhelming. Before Mammon, men tremble. It is the god of the rich, and the idol of those less favored. Its influence pervades all ranks and classes of men. Heroes lose their manhood in grasping after it. Honor quails before its influence. Crime is set down as naught in comparison with the respectability (?) and weight which he who possesses a well-lined purse can command. Its influence for good is undoubtedly powerful; but in the hands of the vile and unprincipled it has a tendency to taint and pollute the entire social and moral atmosphere. Backed by money, a man, in these times, can with impunity commit every crime in the calendar, and escape unscathed. He can, if his villainy is deep-seated, and he is in possession of the quality vulgarly denominated "brass," hold his head high and ride down all frowns and the contempt of an entire community. He can buy up those who have suffered insult and injury at his hands; and puffed up with his pride of purse and acknowledged influence, he can tread the public thoroughfares with a stately step, and receive the smirking salutations of those who, in their hearts, despise him, while he inwardly gloats over his untold crimes, and plots new schemes for the gratification of his base passions, and injury of his fellow men. Justice can be subverted; the laws set at defiance; the grossest immorality practiced; and the blackest and most degrading crimes com-

mitted without fear, by the depraved, if the can but command at will the influence of money. Such has been, and will be, we suppose, the record of this, as well as all other communities. The strong-minded man ceases to be powerful when tempted with the alluring bait. His knees smite each other, and he quietly worships at the shrine. The weak and puerile readily grasp with nervous activity the glittering bauble, and daily, in all ranks and stations of life, homage is paid Mammon.—*Dundas Banner.*

AGRICULTURAL RETROGRESSION.

There always will be some names to strike off every year; but we are happy to inform you that we are not much troubled in that way. But such a letter as the following we insert, to show how many of our farmers are circumstanced. Here is a real farmer desiring information about his business; but so oppressed that he really cannot afford to take the paper. We know many who take no other paper. Could not our Government afford to tax agricultural papers less heavily? Would it not be of benefit to the country:—

Elsinor, Feb. 10, 1871.

DEAR SIR,—You would oblige me very much by taking my name off your list, as a subscriber for your paper—the "Farmer's Advocate." I am not able to take it this year. If times take a change, I will be likely to subscribe at some other time.

Yours respectfully,

WM. WATSON.

RUSTIC PICTURE FRAMES.—Rustic wood for this and other purposes is in great favor nowadays. With a little care in selection of material, and skill in handling tools, we may frame our engravings and paintings at slight cost. Oak wood, denuded of the bark, presents a beautiful corrugate surface, out of which the knife easily removes the few fibres which adhere, and it is ready for varnishing as soon as it is seasoned. The "season cracks," should they occur, may be filled with dark brown putty, and will even heighten the general effect.

Take a thin board, of the right size and shape, for the foundation or "mat," saw out the inner oval or rectangular form to suit the picture. Nail on the edge a rustic frame made of the branches of hard seasoned wood, and garnish the corners with some pretty device, such for instance as a cluster of acorns. Ivy may be trained to grow around these frames with beautiful effect.—*Scientific American.*

OUR RECEIPT FOR CURING MEAT.—To one gallon of water, take 1½ lbs. of salt, half-pound sugar, half-ounce saltpetre, half-ounce of potash. In this ratio of the pickle to be increased to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together until the dirt from the sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. Then throw it into a tub to cool, and when cool, pour it over your beef or pork, to remain the usual time, say four or five weeks. The meat must be well covered with pickle, and should not be put down until at least two days after killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with finely powdered saltpetre, which removes all the surface blood &c., leaving the meat fresh and clean. Some omit boiling the pickle, and find it to answer well; though the operation of boiling purifies the pickle by throwing off the dirt always to be found in salt and sugar.

WORTH KNOWING.—If brooms are wet in boiling suds once a week, they will become very tough, will not cut the carpet, last much longer, always sweep like a new broom. A very dusty carpet may be cleaned by setting a pail of cold water out by the door, wet the broom in it, knock it, get off all the drops, sweep a yard or so, then wash the broom as before, and sweep again, being careful to shake all the drops off the broom, and not sweep far at a time. If done with care, it will clean a carpet very nicely, and you will be surprised at the quantity of dirt in the water. The water may want changing once or twice if the carpet is very dirty.