

ticipated. Although his last letter was not written for publication, we are tempted (trusting to his forgiveness) to transcribe one or two paragraphs for the information of our readers.

"I do not think the *weevil* has materially injured our wheat in this neighbourhood, it was certainly not worse in Spring wheat than it was last year, and though I think it was worse in the Fall wheat than it was last season, yet the crop being so abundant it will not be much noticed. There was least weevil in the Mediterranean Wheat with me, I thought there had been more in it as I could not find any while wheat was growing, but on thrashing some a few days ago. I found some in running mill after cleaning up.

I do not know whether you have any museum for preserving grains or not, but I think it would be very desirable to have samples on the straw of all the different varieties of wheat and other grains grown in the province—and an account of the soils for which each is best suited. I would send you if you should wish it, small samples on the straw of all the different kinds of grain I grow or could procure. A collection of grains from the different parts of the province would help to corrupt the names as I am convinced that the same variety of grain goes by different names in different parts of the country."

REAPING MACHINES.

"As far as my own experience of reaping machines goes I am of opinion that the cutting principle of Hussey's is very good, cutting clean and well. The greatest objection I have to it, is, that it requires to be bound up as fast as cut, as the sheaves lie right in the track. McCormack's reaper lays the sheaves on one side, so that a whole field may be cut without binding; but then I don't think the cutting principle is near so good, and I think the whole machine is more liable to get out of order. I think a machine that would be most useful to the generality of farmers would be one that would allow of cutting and laying the sheaves on one side, as it is not easy to hire hands to keep a machine going, and is often not convenient for neighbours to exchange them, and should anything go wrong with a machine it is a great loss to a farmer to have all hands idle, even for an hour in harvest. I think there has been far too much desire shown for mere speed, both with reapers and thrashing machines, whereas, had there been more desire shown for good compact machines that would do good work with few hands, it would be far better, the mere object of speed being a secondary consideration."

Mr. E. R. Breisach, of Germany, the inventor of wood gas, has arrived in the United States. He claims this to be a great improvement upon the present mode, both in the economy of the process, and in the quality of the gas. The cities of Basle in Switzerland, Heilbrun in Wurtemberg, and Baireuth in Bavaria, are lighted with wood gas.

* We are much obliged to our correspondent for his kind offer and gladly accept it. It is the intention, we understand, of the Board of Agriculture to commence the formation of the Museum forthwith, and every kind of aid will be gratefully received.—[Ed.]

PRODUCTIVE FARMING.

In a treatise on Productive Farming just issued from the press, the following observations occur:

It is in vegetable as in animal life; a mother crams her child exclusively with arow root—it becomes fat, it is true, but, alas! it is rickety, and gets its teeth very slowly, and with difficulty. Mamma is ignorant, or never thinks that her offspring can not make bone—or what is the same thing, phosphate of lime, the principal bulk of bone—out of starch. It does its best; and were it not for a little milk and bread, perhaps now and then a little meat and soup, it would have no bones and teeth at all. Farmers keep poultry; and what is true of fowls is true of a cabbage, a turnip, or an ear of wheat. If we mix with the food of fowls a sufficient quantity of egg-shells or chalk which they eat greedily, they will lay many more eggs than before. A well-fed fowl is disposed to lay a vast number of eggs, but can not do so without the materials for the shells, however nourishing in other respects her food may be. A fowl, with the best will in the world, not finding any lime in the soil, nor mortar from walls, nor calcareous matter in her food, is incapacitated from laying any eggs at all. Let farmers lay such facts as these, which are matters of common observation, to heart, and transfer the analogy, as they justly may do, to the habits of plants, which are as truly alive, and answer as closely to evil or judicious treatment, as their own horses.

THE PLUM.

Good healthy trees must be raised from stones of the common wild plum. Put them in the ground before winter, and cover lightly with earth—the frost will open them. In April plant them in rows six inches apart, with sufficient space between the rows to introduce the plough. Turn the soil from the trees till they are a foot high; go through them with the cultivator when necessary, and level the ground. It may then be ploughed towards the rows, and hoed freely. The second year they should be budded from the 1st to the 15th of August. The buds should be set very near the ground. In the following April, head them down to the bud, and treat them as recommended for the first year. I have had no knots upon my trees worked upon the wild plum. One grafted with the Washington has been loaded with fruit six years in succession. They make large healthy trees, and will last an age. The worm does not injure the root. When large enough, plant them 12 feet apart in rows. The soil should be rich. Lime or wood ashes is useful, applied near the root. The main roots should be exposed near the trunk when the tree is rooted firmly enough to bear it.

If you want to keep horseradish, grate a quantity while the root is in perfection, put it in bottles, fill the bottles with strong vinegar, and keep it corked tightly. You may thus have a supply all the winter.

Suet and lard keep better in tin than in earthen ware.