

wheat report in similar favourable terms, respecting the size of the berry, the productiveness, hardness, and midge-proof qualities of the grain. Many other agricultural authorities have given equally flattering testimony, and we shall watch the results of a more extended trial with much interest. Such experiments as those of Mr. Arnold deserve every encouragement, and in the present aspect of the wheat question, and considering the gradual deterioration of most of the old varieties, the matter is of special importance.—*Globe*.

CULTURE OF BEETS.

THE culture of the beet is said to be worth more to a country as a fertilizer than the product directly derived from the treatment of the root, the waste pulp proving more valuable than the sugar. It is fed to barded cattle in large quantities. It is stated that in France, where the business has grown to enormous dimensions, the increase in cattle on account of beef pulp is wonderful. In the district of country surrounding the city of Valenciennes, where, before the production of beet sugar, 700 oxen were the total amount, 11,500 were the total amount raised last year. But this is not all. This enormous increase of stock has so much advanced the fertility of the land, that 192,000 bushels more wheat are raised in the same district per annum than were ever raised in previous years.—*N. Y. Com. Bulletin*.

EARTH CLOSETS.

THE only positive requisite is the dry earth or dust. A supply is easily shovelled up from the roads in August or September, but if none was secured, and if artificial drying is inconvenient, or if none can be scraped up from sheds, the siftings of coal ashes answer very well, better as a friable divisor than the earth, facilitating the intermixture of the manure with the soil to which it is applied, but perhaps not quite so effectual in retaining all its good qualities. But these will not escape if the ashes are used in sufficient abundance to absorb all the liquid without becoming saturated with it. A common tinful of this very dry ashes or dust poured after every use of the seat, will effectually prevent everything offensive to either sight or smell. It is best received on the ground, as if any wooden receptacle is used it will absorb some of the liquids, and as the dust cannot follow them into the wood, the latter will soon become offensive. And it is more convenient to shovel the harmless compost off the surface of the soil than to lift it out in a wooden box. I have seen plans of self-working seats much simpler than those of Mr. Moule, but it seems scarcely worth while to take the space necessary to describe them, when an old tin cup answers perfectly, and conveniently.—*Country Gentleman*.

FARM GLEANINGS.

THE average crop of potatoes in Maine the past season was about 75 bushels per acre, one-third of which have decayed so as to be worthless.

It is said that many farmers in England intend to grow oats largely in place of wheat during the coming season, in consequence of the low price of the latter cereal.

THE cost of fencing a quarter section of land in California is more than five times the amount charged by Government for the land, owing mainly to the scarcity of timber.

TOWA plants every year a forest of 5,000,000 trees. Within considerably less than half a dozen years, 25,000,000 forest trees have been planted, and are now growing in the Northwest.

LAND well drained will continue longer to give crops without manure than undrained, because the roots have a wider range for food, and when manured will give a larger return for the manure used.

THE *St. Louis Journal of Agriculture*, learns that much of last year's growth of barley is unreliable seed. Farmers should take especial pains to determine whether their seed is good, and sow none other.

THE *Canada Farmer*, in replying to a correspondent's queries about plaster of Paris, makes a mistake surely in saying—"It is always burnt before being ground." For "always," read "never."

HON. George Geddes will probably accept the Professorship of Agriculture in Cornell University. He stands in the front rank of agricultural writers in this country, and has long been a very successful farmer.

THERE are 12,000 windmills in constant use in Holland at the present day, for the simple purpose of drainage. They are almost of colossal size, each lifting from 10,000,000 to 50,000,000 gallons of water every 24 hours.

TWO farmers in Kansas recently had a lawsuit about seven pounds of butter. When the jury retired they took with them the butter, procured some crackers, ate them together, and returned a verdict of "no cause of action."

AN English writer thinks the American early potatoes will come to an end ere long, for as each new variety is claimed to ripen about ten days earlier than any other, the time between planting and digging will soon be used up.

J. J. THOMAS says that fortunes are lost by farming in three ways—in badly wintering stock, in want of proper attention to rotation of crop, and in raising weeds. He calculates that it is easy for a farmer to lose \$20,000 in 40 years by raising weeds.

J. S. STONE, of Belvidere, Ohio, in reply to an inquiry recently made for a log-roller to clear new land from logs, states that the best way to get rid of large logs is to blast them with powder. It takes but little powder, he says, and the logs can then be easily handled and put in piles for burning.

THE *Milwaukee News* has an article cautioning those who are thinking of engaging in beet-sugar making, to take into consideration the possibilities of failure before engaging in the enterprise—in other words, cautioning them to act only after cool deliberation, and not allow themselves to be carried away by a mania.

THE *New England Farmer* says that the Massachusetts Agricultural College has property amounting to \$196,500, of which the live stock is valued at \$4,880, tools and vehicles \$2,240, produce \$4,345. The balance of accounts between the farm and its expense is \$2,567. There were 119 students in 1869. The trustees estimate that the buildings needed to accommodate the faculty and next class will cost between \$100,000 and \$200,000, according to the number provided for.