

Sea Weed.

Considering the use which is being made of sea weed as a manure abroad, it is extraordinary that more attention is not being paid in New Brunswick to that valuable fertilizer by farmers residing near the sea. The cutting and use of sea weed in France, is not left to the discretion of the inhabitants, for since the year 1681, it has been regulated by a royal ordinance, and the use of sea weed has been limited in such a way as to favorize agriculture. The harvesting of these marine plants is now fixed by the administration of France between the months of March and April, that is to say, after their reproductive powers are exhausted. Those which are washed ashore by the action of the waves are rarely employed, since they have lost in the water part of their fertilizing principles.

In the Isle of Re, sea weed constitutes, so to speak, the only manure employed, since there are no cattle on the island; it is chiefly made use of in the vineyards. On the shores of the Channel in the arrondissement of Morlaix from the commune of St. Pol-de-Leon to Plouescat, there is a belt of land 24 kilometres long by 8 kilometres in depth, where market gardening is carried on very successfully, thanks to the abundance of the sea weed which the people of this section have on their shores.

In France sea weed brings about the same price as ordinary manure, its effects being about the same. Its benefit as a fertilizer for beets has been especially well attested in France. As regards the value of sea weed as a fertilizer Storer says, "It is an easy matter for the farmer to keep a large stock of cattle upon the grass which the sea manure nourishes, and so to supplement that kind of manure by the dung of cattle thus kept. But the stable manure though helpful is not essential. Here in New England," the author says, "there is abundant evidence of the great value of sea manure. If we throw out of consideration the interval farms of the Connecticut river and its tributaries, which are practically farms manured by way of irrigation, and the farms that depend upon the manure from great cities, and perhaps some farms upon Buzzard's Bay, Long Island Sound, and the coast of Maine that are based upon fish manure of one kind or another the only really fertile tracts in New England are to be found back of those sea beaches upon which an abundant supply of sea weed is thrown by storms. The strips of country behind Rye Beach in New

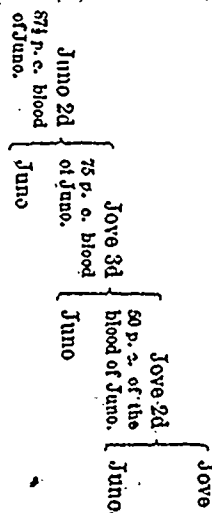
Hampshire, comprising the towns of Rye, Greenland and Northampton affords a striking example of this fact.

"Abundant crops of hay and (in former times more than now) of potatoes, are thus grown and sold year after year, while the country remains fertile and fortunate. It is interesting to see the fields in that region remain green throughout the summer draughts, at times when the scantily manured fields of the interior are brown and parched."

The same article gives from the author's own analysis the following facts relative to the composition of rock weed taken from Hingham harbor: water 77, 49; organic matter 18, 12; ash 3, 04.

In and In-Breeding.

The Western Rural says on this subject: "We lay it down as a scientific fact that there is too much danger in it to do it in a haphazard way." In our opinion, the "haphazard way" is a very stupid way and is no criterion for in and in-breeding. We believe in careful well managed in-breeding. Suppose you have a very excellent female and you wish to reproduce her in her progeny how are you going to do it except by producing an animal having a large percentage of her blood? To do that you will, in the first place, mate her as well as you can with a vigorous male, choosing him on his record, pedigree, and individuality, with a view of intensifying the good qualities of the female and bringing to the breeding any good points wanting in her. If the offspring of this mating is a male, as soon as it is old enough for use bring it back on its dam. If you then get another male, as soon as it is old enough to serve, use it in the same way. Produce a female and the result will be had as follows:



We see here that while the son of Jove and Jove has but 50 per cent of the blood

of his dam, by mating him with his dam you get Jove 3d, with 75 per cent. of her blood, and Jove 3d, mated with his dam, gets Jove 2d, with 87 1/2 per cent. of old Jove's blood. This should give an animal very much like Jove and better, if good judgment has been used in the first mating with Jove. Such breeding as this depends somewhat on the practicability of controlling the sex. The Stuyvesant theory of controlling sex, as improved upon and practised by Dr. Rankin, of Linesville, Penn., has been proved correct and quite practical in good hands. It requires much care and attention to in-breed successfully and unless you intend to give it that, leave it alone. But the "haphazard way" is as bad in out-crossing as in in-breeding and breeders who go by it are misnamed.

Trade with England.

The London correspondent of the Montreal Star writes to that paper that since the passage of the McKinley bill by the United States Congress, there has been landed in England by the various steamship lines running from Canada one thousand cases, or a total of one million four hundred thousand eggs, and these have met with ready sale at remunerative prices. This correspondent made a tour of business houses, dealing in provisions, and the consensus of opinion among the proprietors was that the Canadian egg trade is now established on so firm a basis that were the McKinley bill repealed to-morrow Canadian eggs would be shipped to and sold in England in as great and greater quantities than at present. It was further added that even were the United States in a position to take all the product of the Canadian hen, the English dealer would certainly ask especially that the English trade be not diminished. There is practically an unlimited demand for this branch of Canadian product and the future expansion of the trade is not so much a question of what the market demands, but of the capability of Canadian produce shippers to supply that demand. The McKinley tariff has proved a blessing in disguise by directing the attention of Canadian shippers to the English markets.

"My dear uncle," says a humorous writer, "was the most polite man in the world. He was making a voyage to the Danube, and the boat sank; my uncle was just on the point of drowning. He got his head above water just once, took off his hat and said, 'Ladies and gentlemen, will you please excuse me?' and down he went."