

INDIAN CORN.

Maize or Indian Corn, originated in America, and is not yet, we think, cultivated to any extent on the European continent. Though the people of Great Britain cannot be made to appreciate its merits very fully, the aggregate exports of corn in 1856, in the form of whole grain, meal, cornstarch, farina, etc., amounted to between seven and eight millions of dollars, or about one-fortieth of the whole exports of the country, and 6,700,000 bushels, considerably more than half, went to England alone.

Corn has always been an important article in this country, both of consumption and export. The total amount of this produce exported in 1770 was 578,349 bushels; in 1791, 2,064,936 bushels, of which 151,695 were Indian meal. The value of corn and its manufactures exported from the United States in 1830 was \$597,119; in 1835, \$1,217,665; in 1840, \$1,043,516; in 1845, \$1,053,293; in 1850, \$1,652,804. The export increases more rapidly than the production. The export of corn quadrupled between 1840 and 1850 while the production did not quite double.

The great amount of invention bestowed on corn planters, corn cutters, shellers, cob grinders, etc., tends each year to increase the amount of production. It has been estimated that, as a general rule, seven pounds of corn will produce one pound of pork; so that in localities where through distance from market or from transportation facilities, the cereal cannot be raised as a profit for sale, it is frequently the material used in fattening the more concentrated form of diet, and on which, consequently, the freight is less. Cob meal we believe, is most valuable for animals that chew the cud; horses and hogs, as a general thing, deriving less benefit from the cob-grinding inventions. With all animals however, we believe, there is a perceptible advantage realized by mixing the cob with the denser meal.—*Scientific American*.

FUNNY RAT TRAP.—A correspondent of the *Genesee Farmer* relates the following funny way of catching rats: "I build my corn crib on posts about eighteen inches high, made rat-proof except at one of the back corners. Here, where they will like it best, make a nice hole with a spout five inches long on the outside, where they can go in and out and eat at pleasure. Then, if I think the rats are too numerous, I take a bag, after dark, and slip the mouth over the spout on the outside of the granary. Then send "Ben" in at the door with a light, and the rats and mice will run into the bag. Then slip the bag off the spout, and slap it once or twice against the side of the granary. Turn out the dead, and in an hour or two repeat the process. After all are killed, stop up the hole till new recruits arrive, which catch the same way."

TO CLEANSE MATTRESSES.—Hair mattresses that have become hard and dirty, can be made nearly as good as new by ripping them, washing the ticking, and picking the hair free from bunches, and keeping it in a dry, airy place several days. Whenever the ticking gets dry, fill it lightly with hair, and tack it together.

HEALING OINTMENT FOR WOUNDS, &c.—Take a quarter of an ounce of white wax, and half an ounce of spermaceti, and put them in a small basin by the side of the fire, till the wax and spermaceti are dissolved. When cold, the ointment is ready for use. This is an article which it is much better to make than to purchase. When you make it yourself, you know that it has no irritating or inferior material in it.

GOOSEBERRIES.—I have preserved my gooseberries from mildew by mulching with coarse gravel, and applying water freely. One kind, on which I had never tried the experiment and which I had considered worthless on account of mildew, I mulched with gravel this year, and obtained perfect fruit, free from mildew.—H., *Fl. Wayne, Ind.*

PRESERVED PUMPKIN.—Cut a good pumpkin in strips like citron; sprinkle sugar on them over night, pound for pound, and the juice of four lemons in the morning; boil the peel and a little ginger root, and add to the syrup. Boil the pumpkin till tender, then turn on the syrup boiling hot.

THE YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY rivals the National Exhibitions as to the extent of its shows both as regards implements and stock. The population of the shire is stated at 2,000,000, and includes several of the most celebrated breeders of all descriptions of stock from the thorough-bred horse to the small pig. This year, with a prize list amounting to nearly £1,000, the number of competitors was unusually large.

Knowledge directs practice yet practice increases knowledge.