

REARING CALVES.

(To the Editors of the Albany Cultivator.)

Messrs. EDITORS—I would beg leave to drop a few remarks on the subject of rearing calves, having had considerable experience in that branch of rural economy. When I first commenced farming I had to pay heavy *crow rates* every year (as the term was). I never could get my calves through the first winter without losing one or more. They would grow poor towards spring—their backs would assume the appearance of an arch—the scouers would set in, and they would die in despite of all my care and attention. Experience and observation have convinced me that lice was the primary cause of all the difficulty; and for several years past I have adopted the practice of destroying them in the fall, or forepart of the winter, since which time I have not lost a calf. I have tried many remedies, but the best thing I have ever tried is sulphur. I take two parts of lard and one of sulphur, melt the lard, and when nearly cold mix in the sulphur, and rub it thoroughly on the parts most frequented by these troublesome vermin, and they will soon disappear. It sticks close to the hide and hair, and continues to scent until they shed their coat, and prevents any more from getting on them from other animals with which they may chance to come in contact. I keep my calves by themselves, and have a warm shelter for them to go in when they choose, in addition to as much good hay as they can eat. I give them each half-a pint of oats or corn meal ground in the ear, every night and morning, and I never was troubled with having my calves get so fat in winter as to do with the black leg as your correspondent in the January number of the Cultivator complains of.

JASON SMITH.

Tyre, N. Y., January, 1844.

TOBACCO IN CONNECTICUT.

(To the Editors of the Albany Cultivator.)

Messrs. GAYLORD & TUCKER—East Windsor has for a long time been celebrated for its distilleries and tobacco as Weathersfield for its state prison and onion, and manufactures daily as many bushels of the staff of life into the seal and body destroying poison, gin, as the states prison numbers convicts. We grow in this town annually about three hundred tons of tobacco, and in the Valley of the Connecticut about five hundred tons are grown annually. The yield, the last year, was less than usual, 1,500 pounds being about the average per acre. The price of tobacco the last season of a fair growth was 7 cts. a pound, and most of the crop was sold before housed and cured. We have two varieties of the weed, the broad leaf and the narrow leaf—the latter is about two weeks the earliest.

It seems our tobacco is of a peculiar species, or our soil and climate are peculiarly adapted for the production of a superior article

The soil which produces our best tobacco is a light sandy loam. We prepare our beds for the seed as early in April as possible—select the richest or best land in the garden or on the farm, moist but not wet—manure and prepare it as we do for the cultivation of cabbage or any delicate plant for transplanting—pulverize, and make the bed as fine and smooth as possible; then sow the seed broad cast about as thick as we do cabbage seed; then roll or tread down the bed thoroughly, that the seed may be pressed into the soil. The bed is kept clean of weeds. In a common season the plants will be large enough for transplanting by the 10th of June. The land for the crop should be well manured and plowed at least twice before the time of transplanting, and harrowed and rolled, or bushed, and left as smooth as possible. We mark the rows three feet apart and straight; on the rows we make small hills for the reception of the plants, 2 ft. to 2 ft. 6 in. apart. We have our land all prepared by the time the plants are large enough for transplanting. If raining at the time, we take the advantage of it and get all our plants out; if not, we set and water. After this, the field is examined several times, and where plants are dry or injured by worms, others are set in. As soon as they stand well they are carefully bowed and vacant places filled with new plants—after this the cultivator is used between the rows,

and the crop kept clean with the hoe. The plants are frequently and thoroughly examined for the tobacco worms, and they must be destroyed; if not, the crop is sure to be. When in blossom, and before the formation of seed, it is topped about 32 inches from the ground, leaving from 16 to 20 leaves on each stalk. After this, the suckers at each leaf are broken off, and the plants kept clean till cut. When ripe, the time of cutting, the leaf is spotted, thick, and will crack when pressed between thumb and finger. It is cut any time in the day after the dew is off, left in the row till wilted, then turned, and if there is a hot sun it is often turned to prevent burning; after wilted it is put into small heaps of 6 or 8 plants, then carted to the tobacco sheds for hanging. We usually use poles or rails about 12 feet long; hang with twine about 40 plants on each rail—20 each side, by crossing the twine from the plants one side to the plants the other, the rails about 12 inches apart. It hangs from six to ten weeks to get perfectly cured, which is known by the stem of the leaf being thoroughly dried. It is then, in a damp time, when the leaves will not crumble, taken from the poles and placed in large piles by letting the tops of the plants lap each other, leaving the butts of the plant out. It remains in these heaps from 3 to 10 days before it is stripped, depending on the state of the weather, but must not be allowed to heat. When stripped it is made into small hands; the small and broken leaves should be kept by themselves. It is then by the purchaser packed in boxes of about 400 lbs., and marked *seed leaf tobacco*. The most of our last crop has been shipped to Bremen.

I think we can cultivate one acre of tobacco with the same labour and expense that we can two acres of corn that produces 60 bushels to the acre, and the manure required is about the same as for the corn crop, and I do not think it exhausts the land as much as the corn crop, for it is not allowed to seed.

HENRY WATSON.

East Windsor, Jan. 22, 1844.

LIME.

The analysis of soils in a certain sense, and with a view to certain special objects, is far from worthless or deserving of neglect. One soil, by an easy examination, is found to be deficient in organic matter, and the advice may be—try the ploughing-in of a green crop; another may contain much vegetable matter in what is called an inert state—try upon that a dressing of hot lime; a third may contain sulphate of iron or alumina—drain, deep plough, lime, or marl, and summer fallow such land, and you take the shortest road towards a cure. Again, one may ask, why does lime not benefit my land? An easy analysis will reply, because it abounds in lime already, and must have a season of rest from liming; or because it is poor in organic matter and requires more liberal supplies of manure, or, if neither of these is the case, because your land requires draining. So the subsoil may be yellow and noxious when brought to the surface, or it may kill the roots of plants when they descend to it. Then a simple examination may prescribe draining and subsoiling, that the noxious matter may be washed out by the rains, and the whole mellowed by the admission of air. Or it may be rich in lime, which has sunk from the surface, and after frequent limings has produced a real marl bed beneath; and here the chemist may say, plough your land deep, and bring up the marl, and thus save the cost of lime for a season at least.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

TRANSPLANTING ONIONS.—An Aberdeen paper, published a few months since, says: "In the gardens at Gordon Castle, at present, may be seen the good effects resulting from the transplanting of onions, by which their growth is materially improved. Mr. Saunders, the gardener, had a bed sown in March, and since transplanted, which presents a truly gigantic appearance. Twenty-four of the onions were taken up on Saturday, and weighed 16 lbs. One of them, now before us, measures twelve and a quarter inches in circumference, and weighs ten ounces. The quality of the onions is as fine as their size is remarkable."

Home District Ploughing Match.—

The Home District Ploughing Match, which was advertised to come off on the 15th of May next, will take place on the 7th of that month, on the ground occupied as the Union Race Course, near the Don Bridge, a short distance East of this city. The members of the District Society, also of its Branches in the several Townships in the District, will be allowed to compete for the prizes, which are arranged in three classes, without any entrance money. A prize will be made up by private subscription, on the ground, for which the successful competitors will plough. It is confidently expected that there will be a large gathering of spectators from the city and surrounding country. We would recommend the officers of the Township Branch Societies to make the necessary arrangement for inducing the best ploughmen in their respective townships to attend the performance, which will take place on the 7th day of May next, as above mentioned. The District Society will award in all nine prizes, equalling the very handsome sum of sixty dollars; and we anticipate that thirty dollars more will be made up on the ground.

TORONTO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE Toronto Horticultural Society will hold its first Prize Exhibition on Wednesday, the 15th day of May next, at the hour of 11 o'clock, at the CITY HALL, which, by the permission of his Worship the Mayor, has been placed at their disposal for that day. Admittance to Members and their families, Free.

The following prizes will be awarded, viz.:

Articles to be exhibited for prizes.	Cultivators.	Amateurs.	tears.
	1st 2d.	1st 2d.	1st 2d.
	1st 2d.	1st 2d.	1st 2d.
Best Green-House Exotic,	20	10	20 10
Best 12 Green House Plants in flower, (named)	20	10	20 10
Best collection of Geraniums (named)	10	5	10 5
Best 24 Geraniums in flower, (named)	10	5	10 5
Best collection of China Roses, ..	10	5	10 5
Best 6 Tea Roses,	10	5	10 5
Best 6 Carnations,	10	5	10 5
Best Picotees,	10	5	10 5
Best Auriculas,	10	5	10 5
Best collection of Pansies,	10	5	10 5

	1st 2d.	1st 2d.
	1st 2d.	1st 2d.
Best pint of Strawberries,	20	10
Best 12 Table Apples,	10	5
Best 12 Cooking Apples,	10	5
Best brace of Cucumbers,	10	5
Best 50 heads of Asparagus,	10	5
Best dish of Sea-Kale,	10	5
Best 12 Stalks of Rhubarb,	10	5
Best 25 Radishes,	10	5
Best 12 heads of Lettuce,	10	5
Best peck of Spinach,	10	5
Best 3 heads of Cauliflower,	10	5
Best 3 heads of Cabbages,	10	5
Best half-peck of Kidney Beans,	10	5
Best quarter peck of New Potatoes,	20	5
Best dish of Mushrooms,	10	5

Members of the Society only can compete at this exhibition.

A subscription of 5s. constitutes a member.

Toronto, March 17, 1844.

GARDEN AND AGRICULTURAL SEEDS FOR 1844.

J. F. WESTLAND begs to call the attention of his friends and the public, to his STOCK OF SEEDS, imported this season from England, and warranted genuine. It comprises an excellent assortment of Turnip Seeds, Mangel Wurzel, Clover, Timothy, Rye Grass, Orchard Grass, Lawn Grass, &c. &c. All of which will be sold on the lowest possible terms.

168. King Street, Toronto, 20th February, 1844.