

authority, unbending aspect does not always serve the purposes of religion: but sometimes to prejudice; and that an exhibition of her milder, more conciliating and pliant form, is most conducive to admiration of her excellence; and consequently best calculated to increase her votaries. But in such cases of vast importance, where the salvation of immortal souls is at stake, surely the kind and gentle admonition may be permitted to give place to the firm, but not less kind, command; and the tender persuasion, to the positive prohibition, without diminishing at all the sacredness of her character, or reducing the assemblage of her graces. Firmness is not inconsistent with meekness, neither is decision with gentleness: but the one may rather be considered as adding a lustre to the other, but certainly requisite in the formation of the Christian character, in order to usefulness, as well as happiness, that honour and praise may be reflected to the glory of God.

A.  
Guisborough, March 15th, 1839.

### The Domestic Economist.

#### PRESERVATION OF THE POTATOE.

POTATOES almost instinctively shun the light and air. These things, so indispensable to the perfection of many other things, are most injurious to the potatoe, and the grand secret of its preservation lies in the most perfect exclusion of these silent and active agents. To perceive the difference between roots exposed, and those secluded, we have only to take one which has grown partially above ground, and one that has ripened in its proper place. The one will be green on the exterior, hard, heavy and bitter in the interior, while the other will be of the natural color, farinaceous, and fine flavored.

Farmers should take lessons from these facts, and conform their practice to the teachings of nature. In England and Scotland, where most serious complaints have arisen from the failures of the planted tubers, it is acknowledged by all, that roots which are allowed to remain in the ground during the winter, never fail of vegetating, and that those secured by pitting, are more likely to succeed than those put into cellars, and thus partially exposed to light and air.

The most common method of preserving potatoe is to put them into bins in the cellar, where they are left without any covering or other preparation, and used as wanted. It is also customary to get in as little dirt with them as possible, and one standard of good farming has been the clean state of a farmer's potatoe when deposited in his cellar. For the reasons given above, and from our own experience, we think both these modes of securing potatoe or preparing them, erroneous. If put into bins, they should be covered as closely as possible from light and air; and if there is dirt enough thrown into the bin to completely fill all the interstices between them, so much the better for the roots. It has been recommended by some potatoe growers, and the practice is founded in reason, to line the sides of the bin with turf, the lower sides placed inwards, and when the bin was filled, to cover it closely in the same way, and with the same material.

Owing to the severity of our winters, potatoe cannot be allowed to remain where they grow: else their mealiness and freshness would be much increased by allowing those that are to be used the coming season to remain where they are till the spring opens. Since this cannot be, the method of preservation that approaches the nearest to this will be found the best, and this method doubtless is pitting, or, as most of our farmers term it, burying. In this way care should be taken not to put too many in a pit, or in other

words, not to make the heaps too large. Twenty or twenty-five bushels are quite enough, and some prefer even a smaller number. The cone should be regular so as to be covered equally. The covering of straw and earth first put on should not be too thick, as otherwise the roots will heat, and be injured; but at the latest period allowable, the thickness of the covering should be increased so as effectually to prevent freezing. In covering potatoe in the fall, it should be remembered that the great object of the first covering is simply to exclude air and light, and preserve them from rain or unfavourable weather, and the last one to be relied on as a defence against the frost. If the roots are dug and pitted immediately, without unnecessary exposure, and if the ground and the process of covering are properly selected and performed, the potatoe will come out in the spring in excellent order, rather improved than deteriorated by their winter's keeping.

Farmers, who are in the habit of making their pork from potatoe, or feeding them extensively, to their stock, will undoubtedly see the propriety, from the present high prices, of sorting their roots more carefully than they have hitherto done, in order to sell or preserve as many as possible. The apprehended scarcity of this root will also prompt to this course; and should induce all to adopt the best and most effectual measures to preserve through the winter uninjured, or, if possible, improved, this root on which so many rely for sustenance.—*Christian Intelligencer*.

#### PARSONAGE GARDENS.

MESSENGERS. EDITORS.—In leaving one field of labor for another, in our excellent itinerant system, I have often been exceedingly grieved, and sometimes not a little chagrined, to find an excellent garden attached to the parsonage, or house hired for the preacher and his family, and not a single plant or seed put into the ground to supply the table with vegetables. And as it is well known that our Conference does not sit until the middle of May, and does not generally break up until nearly the last of said month, and the preacher having to remove from one station to another, by the time he has unpacked and fixed his furniture, it is entirely too late in the season to plant or sow almost any kind of garden plants or seed; and the consequence is, he has either to beg, or buy, or go without through the entire season. Whereas, to have attended to these things at the proper time, little trouble and expense would have given him a good supply without being thrown on the charity of his neighbours, or driven, cash in hand, to the market for every little article in the vegetable line. Now brethren, ought these things so to be? I think not. The brother who expects to stop a second year in his station or circuit will very naturally provide for himself; but those who are obliged to move may not feel the like anxiety to provide for their successors, for their predecessors would not probably have done any thing in this way. And so want succeeds want all round.

I grant, a brother moving away may have some apology for neglect in these things. There are often, nay, indeed always, many things to attend to at the winding up of our concerns on a station or circuit to engage attention and engross time. And I think it will be admitted that in most soils the best and most proper time for attending to these things is just the time the minister needs for packing up furniture, &c. But is there no remedy for such a case? I think there is. I would very respectfully suggest to the stewards or trustees of those stations and circuits which are to be vacated for a season, and then supplied with new men, that they would attend to these things. And if it be thought unjust for the society to bear the expense, let them charge the preacher with it who is to enjoy the benefit of it; but by no means suffer the

land which Provident. I could point to a large garden, which I attend to the business and never charge. And I believe they are what is more, the

A house without it, and a fine garden plants or seed, all me, as a cold record warm the express people, or at least never fail to give from which he months. And ho

A M.

We heartily supply and proper for our friends, the same in all places where and we hope it with promptitude.—N

STRAWBERRIES the spring, spread straw and set fire cayed leaves &c. neat and clean.

from the yard, and then a covered. This method is earlier, and to quality. It keeps The burning is Princeton, and use of the chaff in ern Agricultural gathered, from bushels of the fit cents a quart, y

CULTIVATION ven.—The cultivation introduction is at least indul through the garden this delicious flavor of horticulture as the result of the cost at which the cost of the cents the bushel

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Str.—I have seeing on the am free to con agree with him your respectable the following which have occ appear to have Ministers, and iam was abolition tianity: therefore 21. Tithes se the Jewish Chu that Jewish cer tithes law is ann 31. If the law ly some of the