

other deleterious matter, they should be got rid of by repeated washing, and the extra water reduced four or five per cent. by passing through a drying apparatus.

We do not consider it necessary to describe the washing apparatus, or the hydro-extractor used by the inventors: our subject has been to direct the attention of our readers interested in the matter, to a principle which we consider contains much that is valuable both as regards the *preparation* and the *preservation* of grain.—*Farmer's Magazine*.

THE WHEAT MIDGE—HOW TO RAISE WHEAT AND BARLEY WHERE IT PREVAILS.

Eds. Rural:—I have noticed in some of the late numbers of your paper inquiries from different individuals in the western part of this State, just now so severely afflicted with that scourge of the farmer, the Wheat Midge, how they may avoid or rid themselves of its devastating and ruinous warfare upon their prospects and hopes. Having had and still experiencing our full share of the evil in the vicinity, on its onward march westward,—and for some years before it reached the granary of the State,—you will perhaps permit me to speak from experience for the benefit and instruction of many farmers, who, the past and present seasons, have had and are having “hopes deferred and hearts sick” with the result of their year’s labor on the farm. As your pages are amply filled I will be brief.

In this vicinity we still raise some wheat, and some very good crops of white wheat too; and have learned that in order successfully to compete with the midge, our land must be in *high condition, well manured, and sown early*,—say the first week in September. The earliest varieties—the Mediterranean and Soule’s—have alone withstood the ravages of the midge. Several other kinds which were raised here when the midge first appeared—such as the Hatchison, Garden and Flint varieties—have not been heard of since the first and second year of its prevalence, and are now among the things that were.

The Mediterranean wheat cannot be said to be a favorite among the farmers, but is raised rather as a necessity, where they do not consider their land strong enough to bring good white wheat.—It is more exempt from the midge than any other kind, but does not give a large yield to the acre—so that it has become something of a proverb that a half crop of white or Soule’s wheat is better than a full crop of Mediterranean.

In a recent number of the *Rural* I noticed a complaint that the midge was taking somebody’s barely also. They have done the same here, until we have learned at least to *try* and dodge them by sowing either *early* or *late*, say the first of March or first of April, or not until after the first of May. Fair crops of barley are raised here this year which, were sowed at or about both of these periods.

Such, Mr. Editor, has been the experience of myself and others in this vicinity since the appearance of the midge among us. Should you deem it worth publishing, and it should prove of benefit to any one, I shall feel amply compensated.

Yours,

H. WILLARD.

Cayuga, N Y. Aug. 8, 1857.

REMARKS.—The views of our correspondent, founded as they are upon experience, are valuable and suggestive. His suggestion as to good culture, manuring and early sowing—so that the plant may attain a strong, healthy growth in the fall—is undoubtedly correct, and worthy of adoption by all who would raise winter wheat in sections where the midge prevails. The plan has been successfully practised for years by some of the best farmers in Seneca, Cayuga, &c., and we advise our friends in other counties to give it a trial. The remark relative to varieties is also suggestive, and confirmatory of the testimony of good farmers in this section—some of whom aver that the Mediterranean yields so poorly that its culture is unprofitable. The hint as to the periods of sowing barley in order to escape the midge will attract attention, as the barley crop has become more important of late years, in many localities, than wheat.—*Ed. Rural N. Yorker*.

VERY GALLANT.—Fontenelle, at the age of 97, after saying many able and gallant things to the young and beautiful Madame Helvitius, passed her once without perceiving her. “See,” said she, stopping and addressing him, “how I ought to value your gallantries. You pass me without even looking at me.” “Madame,” said the old man, “If I had looked at you I could not have passed.”

Flowers that beautify the earth with colour and delight the passer-by with their fragrance are everywhere; the poison berry and the deadly nightshade are found only in the noisome marshes and untrodden swamps.