

The corn of this variety would not probably ripen, but the immense quantity of young green succulent sprouts would, I think, amply compensate for this want. One great advantage attending this course of husbandry is the great quantity of the richest kind of manure thus formed. Of course the yard or stables where the cattle are fed, are always well littered with straw, and the result is soon shown on the farm.

My informant states that the quantity of green corn thus grown on an acre is enormous, and the cost (except for seed) very little. Some months since I travelled on the railway with a cattle and corn farmer from the State of Maine, and he described a very similar course pursued in that State by himself and his neighbours, who depend altogether on raising cattle and making butter for the city of Boston market. He always milked fifty to seventy-five cows, I ought in early spring from Canada and elsewhere, and when winter came on they were always, with few exceptions, driven off to other markets for fattening purposes. Vast herds of these cows go to New York, and are fattened on distillery slop. This food when fed hot is very stimulating, and cows that only gave in the month of November, on farm-feed, say half a gallon of milk daily, when put on distillery slop and warmly housed, at once often raise their quantity to two gallons a day, and being strippers, the milk is exceedingly rich.

Wintering over such cows does not seem profitable with the farmers in the State of Maine, who prefer buying in the spring, and selling in the fall; and I am credibly informed that the extra condition in which the animals are in the fall, on the before-mentioned food, principally formed of green corn, enables them to bring almost as much, as strippers, as they cost when fresh calved. C.

Drying Roots.

A new patented process of preparing roots for cattle feeding, by which it is claimed that they are doubled in value at a small cost, has been brought out in England. The principle of the process consists mainly in drying out a portion of the water contained in the roots, and so rendering them more concentrated, while the heat used in the process (the mode of applying which makes the patent) partially cooks the roots, and so makes them more easily digestible. By thus getting rid of a portion of matter (water) of which there is an excess beyond the actual needs of digestion, the roots are rendered much more valuable to feed to fattening animals, as being less bulky in weight, while more concentrated in substance, more can be consumed by the animal in a given time, and so the process of feeding rendered shorter, without the necessity of using expensive foods, such as meal or oil cake, to quicken the process of fattening.

The thing could easily be tried here, on a small scale at first, and if found successful and profitable, those of our farmers who make the fattening of cattle or sheep during winter a part of their routine, could easily enlarge upon the primitive method we propose to give, which is nothing else than to try the baking of a few bushels at a time in one of those brick bake ovens so often found on Canadian farms.

The roots need not be subjected to great heat, but put in after the batch of bread is out, and left in till the oven cools, keeping the door shut, but allowing egress by the chimney to the vapour evolved. A slight blackening of the roots, provided they are not burnt, would not hurt them. All the valuable flesh and fat-forming elements in the roots would still remain, as does the starch and gluten in the loaf after being baked. It is said that in the experiments tried in England it was found stock would eat greedily of dried mangels and turnips, and fatten much more rapidly than on the raw roots.

Waste of Forests

There has been, with very few exceptions, a wanton waste of the forest resources, not only of our own country, but of the entire world. Man has come to regard his early cradle, the forest, as an enemy, instead of as a benefactor. In England the prudent care of our forefathers to watch the growth of our forest trees - to secure a perennial supply of oak for our ships, as well as of yew for our bows, is altogether forgotten. The forest rights of the Crown over a district that has been wooded since the time of Julius Caesar, the forest of Epping, have been so purposely neglected, that it has needed the very unmistakable expression of public feeling to elicit from the Solicitor-General anything more than a joke upon wolves and bears. The 100,000 acres of forest, under the administration of the Woods and Forests, has been so admirably managed, as to arrive at the result of a rental at the rate of three shillings and six pence per acre. The wooden walls of Old England are now so much an affair of the past that it may be said that we only regard timber as necessary to ornamental landscape, or as a material for lucifer matches. It is in this country and its dependencies, and in those of our American descendants, that the laws of Nature as to the clothing of the earth with timber have been the most persistently broken. But we are far from being alone in our folly. To whatever part of the world we turn we see indications that waste and destruction bring their own vengeance in their train. Of the effects produced upon climate by the denudation of the soil there is no room for doubt. To a certain extent the influence of human labour in the thinning of forests is beneficial, but the limits between culture and destruction are rarely maintained. The

increased aridity of Palestine, of Spain, and of the South of France is well known. In the former case it has been partly caused by the cutting down of the olive, a barbarous incident of warfare, merely forbidden by ancient law. In the last-named country it has been the need of fuel that has led to the denudation of so many districts, and the double evil has ensued, first, that the humidity of the climate has been reduced to a formidable extent, and secondly, that when rain does fall, in any unusual proportions, the absence of the great natural absorbing power of forest districts allows the entire product of the rainfall to be discharged at once by the natural drainage, thus causing those floods which have proved so formidable in their ravages within the last few years. The denudation of the forests of England is by no means a new grief. More than two hundred years ago Mr. Evelyn complained of the rapid extirpation, "root and branch, of all those goodly forests and woods which our more prudent ancestors left standing for the ornament and service of their country." On the confiscation of the Church lands in 1536 immense forests were cut down, and during the civil war that commenced a century later many Royal forests, as well as private woods, were entirely swept away. In France there yet exist 2,700,000 acres of State forest, earning a gross revenue of £1,710,000, and a net revenue of £1,240,000 per annum. Bavaria contains nearly 2,000,000 acres of forest; Prussia, upwards of 5,000,000; Austria no less than 13,000,000 acres, realizing an annual export value of £3,000,000 sterling. In France and Germany exist schools of forestry in connection with the service of the State, and men of a superior class of intelligence are carefully trained in these establishments for the scientific management of this important part of the national property.—*Bühler*.

Gentleman Farming

Very pleasant to talk about. Why don't one hear of gentlemen printers, gentlemen merchants, gentlemen doctors, and gentlemen everything else? The great popular mistake of those who talk of gentlemanly farming is, that they suppose the practical farmer to be a boor of necessity, and that his calling is a vulgar one, unfit for an educated mind, yet when sublimated by intelligence, education and rational associations may be made respectable! "Gentleman" farming is a rank humbug, as any other profession or trade would be, followed in the same fashion—that is, by hanging out a sign, furnishing the shop, store or office with its stock-in-trade, and then leave it to the clerks and shop boys to take care of, while the principal goes about talking politics, or spending his time in the bar-room, or fooling it away in other nonsense.—*Boston Cultivator*.