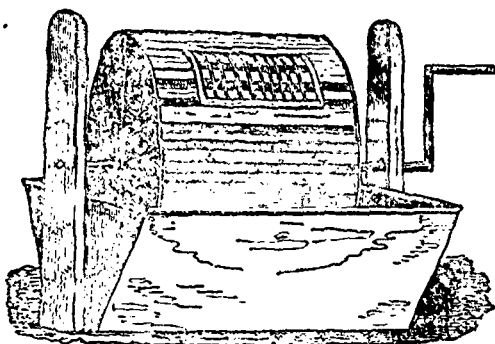


A POTATO WASHER.



We copy the above sketch of a potato washer from the English Agricultural Gazette, which describes it as simply a churn-like cylinder, with open bars placed at such a distance as to prevent any of the potatoes from falling through, except very small ones. As it revolves, the lower part passes through a trough of water, and thus washes them. The cylinder may be easily unshipped from the frame anytime desired. We have seen something similar to this in our country, and it was found very convenient, especially where large quantities of potatoes were used. Potatoes, and indeed, all roots, before being fed to stock, ought to be well washed.—*Am. Ag.*

Experiments in growing Indian Corn.

Ed. Cultivator.—One and a half miles north of this village, is an extensive black ash swamp, three miles east and west, averaging three-fourths of a mile in width. Three years ago, a road was made across the width of this swamp, by laying logs crosswise compactly together, and covering them with muck taken from ditches, cut three feet deep on each side of this causeway. Judge Clark and other proprietors of this swamp, cut a ditch six feet wide at top and three deep connecting with the ditches of this road, running east $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the termination of the swamp at Black Brook. This season Judge Clark tried the experiment of growing Indian corn on a field of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, directly at the junction of the road and the main ditch. The black ash and elm trees had been cut off three years; a few turneps were grown on it the first season; last season a crop of potatoes, which were much injured by the rot. It was now plowed once as well as the stumpy incumbered ground would admit, and planted im-

mediately after it was plowed, 24th May, with Dutton corn in hills three feet each way. Some practical farmers predicted that if the season was wet, "the crop would be drowned,"—if dry, "the muck would dry up, and the corn wither."

I went over the field early one morning after the second hoeing, and the ears had commenced forming, in the height of the great drought of the past summer. Instead of finding the soil dry and thirsty, the whole loose peaty mass was redolent of moisture. It appeared to me that during the past very warm night, the hydrogen of the decomposed surface had united with the oxygen of the air, thus forming water, by a sort of capillary attraction, not less than by chemical affinity. Had the surface soil been less porous the union of the two gases could not have taken place, at least to the same extent. Had not the peaty surface been in a fine state of decomposition, the like result would not have been produced, the corn would have been slender, the leaves curled, the farmers' prediction fulfilled. Had it been a wet season the ditches would, by taking off the surplus water have prevented the "drowning" of the corn; but the decomposition of the peaty mass would have been so much retarded, by the absence of solar heat, that the farmers' prediction would have been in effect fulfilled; less however from the effect of the incumbent water than from the lack of solar heat. The surface soil of this swamp is nearly four feet deep, resting upon a compact silicious clay, of a light grey color; this corn yielded 140 bushels of sound ears to the acre.—*Alb. Cult.*

To Prevent Cold Feet.—Wear worsted or lambs' wool stockings, and on going to bed at night, rub your feet and ankles with them until warm.