

A SIMPLE AND EASY METHOD, TO CLEANSE SEED FROM THE
SMUTTY POWDER.

Take two Casks or Puncheons, open at one end, pour into the one common water, such as is to be met with where one lives, and in the other slake some lime with boiling water in the usual manner; then take one or two baskets, not too closely worked, and with long upright handles. The Baskets should be made to enter easily into the casks, and to contain about one bushel of grain each;

Put into one of the baskets about half a bushel of grain, and then dip it into the cask where the common water is, stir the grain well with the hand, or with a little wooden shovel, raising and falling the basket several times, this operation cleanses the seed thoroughly; the smutty grains that have not been bruised, swim, and are to be taken off with a skimmer, and the water, when it becomes foul, must be changed; the grain in the basket being thus perfectly cleaned, the basket must be hung up to drain, after which, it is dipped into the cask where the lime is, and which must first be well stirred up from the bottom, for the lime precipitates itself very soon, and without this precaution, the seed would not be sufficiently limed, the basket must be dipped two or three times into this cask, afterwards it is hung up to drain, for a few minutes, and then the grain thus washed and limed is laid in a corner of the granary where it soon dries, and is fit for sowing the next day, but in case it should remain there several days before used, it will be very necessary to stir it with a shovel in order to prevent accidents.

OBSERVATIONS.

This preparation of the seed, is neither expensive, tedious nor difficult; myself and three more prepared last year in this manner fifteen septiers, which weigh about 270lb each, we were only four hours in washing and liming the whole, 'tis true I made use of two baskets, one of which was draining, whilst we dipped the two others, which forwarded the business. I sowed these 15 septiers on a piece of ground, and had scarcely any smut in it, this produce will supply me with all the seed I shall want this year to sow one hundred acres or one hundred and sixty arpents of ground. I shall also wash after the above manner, fifteen septiers of this harvest which I shall sow by itself, so that the grain produced from it, may furnish the seed for 1762. continuing this process for some years, I am persuaded I shall never have any smutty grain, the seed will be so very clear; and should it even be necessary to continue the same process for some years, yet it is so easy, and of such little expence, that no careful Farmer ought to neglect it, tho' in all probability it would not be necessary for more than three years. An example quoted by a Farmer of the subdelegation of Andeley is a proof of it; He asserts, that having the good fortune to have grain perfectly clean, for more than twenty years that altho' he has not changed it, he has not had a single Ear of smutty wheat, although his neighbours grain has been often smutty; he