

—a most beautiful sight to see. An apartment some 36 feet by 20 feet in height—the roof supported by pillars—provides marble shelving all around it and marble tables in the midst, on which the white milk dishes stand. The floor, wall, ceiling are all of porcelain—either Minton's tiles as on the floor and roof (the latter presenting an openwork for ventilation), or white porcelain as on walls, or embossed and coloured porcelain as in corning and other ornamental parts. The whole is as perfect a combination of form, colour, and lustre as was ever provided for the purpose which it serves, and which is observed in the design throughout. The utensils are of the best common kind—common barrel churn, &c.

Hard by is the aviary and poultry house—a subdivided range of shed and wirework caged-in-yards, in which the various breeds of poultry and kinds of farm-yard fowl are kept.

You regain the Shaw Farm and the residence of Mr. Tait by a walk through the now deserted grounds of Frogmore House, beautiful in the magnificence of its timber trees, the smoothness of its grassy glades and slopes, and the mixture of its groves and mounds and ornamental water; interesting, too, for the mausoleum newly erected in their midst, where lies the body of H. R. H. the late Duchess of Kent; soon, however, to be more sadly interesting still for another resting-place soon to be provided, where the remains of the late Prince Consort will lie in the midst of scenes of quiet beauty, and close by the scenes just visited of intelligent activity, both of which he loved so well.

Alsike Clover.

Trifolium hybridum or Alsike Clover, is a species which appears to a certain extent, to combine the properties of the red and white clovers. It was considered by Linnaeus to be a hybrid, and is cultivated to a considerable extent in the district of Alsike, in Sweden, from whence it derives its name; and was, we believe, first introduced into this country about 1834 or 1835.

It has for the last few years engaged the attention of agriculturists in Scotland and various parts of England to a considerable extent; and its reputation is now so firmly established, that we think it is likely to become much more extensively sown this season than ever it has been before. Its chief advantage consists in its succeeding on land which, from repeated sowings of red and white clovers, has become cloversick.

The treatment required for it appears to be very much the same as for other clovers. Our practice and that of our neighbours, on clay land, has been to drill about eight or nine pounds of seed an acre, on barley or wheat, about the first week in April, care being taken that the seed is not deposited too deep in the soil. After harvest, if it has been a growing season, we let our sheep occasionally run over

it, for a month or two, if the weather is fine, in opinion being that the treading of the stock consolidates the land, and is of great advantage to the Alsike, giving it firm root-hold. About the middle of October, it should be dressed with about six or eight loads of farm-yard dung, short as can fairly be got. In the spring, it requires the usual bush-harrowing; and when it has made a fair growth, the sheep may again be put on to it, and allowed to remain until the first week in May, if intended for seed: if not it can be depastured, as other clovers.

We are decidedly of opinion that it should not be fed later than the first week in May, if for seed. Still, we have seen it fed until June; but the advantage appears doubtful, as it shows that harvesting of the seed too late on in the season and if dry weather sets in there is some difficulty in getting it to make a good start. Last year a considerable quantity was left for seed and the yield is said to be good, the quality fine, and the price more moderate than it ever been before. It generally plants well; last season was an exception, a large part of the land sown having missed plant altogether. It has been ploughed up for beans, mainly for we consider, to the inferiority of last year's crop. In ordinary seasons, even when thin in spring, it tills very much and fills up in a remarkable manner.

When required for mowing, it is left in the same way as red clover, and on land in good fair condition will cut two tons of hay an acre. The feeding qualities of the hay are said to be considerable, but we have seen no analysis of value compared with ordinary clover hay.

Some difference of opinion is entertained as to the comparative merits of this variety and red clover for the depasturing of sheep; it being affirmed by many growers that sheep will leave other kind of grass or clover to feed on than the Alsike whilst others consider that its principal merit consists in its succeeding so well on cloversick & its perennial habit and fibrous root being so similar to the red or white clover. When it has been grown, it has invariably been found excellent preparation for wheat; and we have no doubt it will shortly become sown quite extensively as either red or white clover, and prove a most valuable acquisition to our artificial grasses. The more it becomes known, the greater will be its cultivation; the high price that the seed has previously borne, and its scarcity, have hitherto prevented its more extended use.—*Mark Lane Express.*

How to choose a good potato.—An opinion of a Scottish paper gives the following rule:—"The finest, mealiest, and most nutritious potatoes are always denser and heavier than soft and waxy. By taking advantage of the difference in their special gravity, the light inferior potatoes are made to swim on the surface of a solution of salt, while the heavy good sink to the bottom."