

M. Guillerez's plants grew, we believe, to two and even three feet in height—a luxuriance seldom attained in France; and yet his experiments could hardly be said to have been made under circumstances the most favorable for the growth of the plants. A dry warm soil is requisite for the lentil. This gentleman, however, sowed his at Queensferry in heavy garden-ground, manured with sea-weed and common manure. He put in the seed at various periods, some two months earlier than others, without experiencing any sort of advantage from anticipating the stated period for sowing; and, on the whole, has arrived at the conclusion, that in this country the best time for sowing is a little later than that for peas—about the middle of March. There should be from one to one and-a-half bushels to the acre; with probably a row of horse-beans between every row of lentils, to prevent their falling, and to save the expense of propping, which is never incurred by the foreign farmer. In other respects their treatment, harvesting, &c. are similar to those bestowed upon the pea. The plant is of a close branching habit, producing from 100 to 150 ternio and a considerably greater number of pods. M. Guillerez counted 131 on a single stalk, and has found his pods to contain from 1 to 2, and occasionally 3 seeds each. In garden they may of course appear in pretty thick rows, 18 inches or 2 feet apart, and 5 inches distant from each other. Their appearance in this situation is improved by their being propped.

There are three cultivated varieties of the lentil—the lentil of Provence, as large as a pea, with a luxuriant straw, better adapted for culture as a tare than as a grain for human food; the yellow lentil, less in size, easily unhusked, and convertible into flour, serving as the base of the preparations so much and so long puffed in the newspapers; and the small brown lentil, the best for use, the most agreeable in flavor, and preferable to all others for haricots and soups. The two last-named varieties are those which have been grown, and their seed ripened, in the open air at Queensferry.

It was a pleasant sight to see this novel and agreeable-looking product in bloom at Queensferry in the middle of June, covering the drills with a profusion of delicate white blossoms. There was even a peculiar charm in the fairy-like tracery of its soft green foliage. In the beginning of August it was properly podded, and within a few days of being ripe. In short, the experiment, on however limited a scale, was entirely successful, and it is to be hoped that the prosecution of an object so desirable will not be lost sight of. It is always to be remembered that such an addition to our resources must be of essential importance to the poor, whether as a substitute for the potato crop or not; for a pint of the meal, or of the len-

tils entire, simply unhusked, will produce at this moment two large and substantial family dishes, at a cost of sixpence; and if cultivated in our own fields, at a much less expense. This vegetable, so generally used in France in boarding-schools, in the army, in large families, and in hospitals, is one of the most nutritious and succulent serials in existence—cheaper, more wholesome, and more susceptible of digestion and assimilation as human food, than any description of peas or beans—making delightful soup, very savoury to the taste when cooked with ham, or when its farina is used for puddings or purée with any kind of meat. In short, it wants but a knowledge and appreciation of its qualities among us to create a demand which our farmers, having now been shown the way, will greatly advance their own interests in studying to gratify. *Chamber's Journal.*

HINTS TO FARMERS.

(FROM "STEPHEN'S BOOK OF THE FARM," PART 4TH, NEW EDITION.)

Let the farmer never fail to try every experiment suggested, the object and importance of which have been sufficiently explained to him. He may much more safely follow such objections than adopt the recommended practices, of an unreasonable nature, of non-practical men. For example, when the farmer is told that cattle thrive better when lodged on bare deal boards than on comfortable straw, and that they are more healthy on such boards, with their urine and dung exposed below and behind them, even although under the process of deodorisation, than when these are absorbed and hidden in the straw, let him not believe it; because he knows that when he is himself comfortably lodged, he is better in every respect than in a contrary situation. He may probably be recommended to cut all his straw into chaff, for the purpose of giving the whole of it in fodder to his live stock, with the view of increasing the size of his farm-yard dung-heap. Let him not give ear to such persuasion; because, if Liebig be correct in his views of the mode by which the animal heat of the body is maintained, no less than 60 per cent. of the carbon of the straw will be breathed away in carbonic acid gas into the air. When he is told that it is better, in every respect, for sheep to be tied by the neck in a house than at freedom in the open air, let him give no credence to it, because he knows that confinement and restraint are quite contrary to the nature and habits of that animal. When liquid manure is so strongly recommended to him, that, in order to obtain it, the cattle must be confined in byres instead of hammels, let him doubt the propriety of the recommendation, because he knows that it has been ascertained