

of hills of each, so as to test their relative productiveness. The first and second columns give the quality, the third column the quantity.

Kinds.	May.	Oct.	Dash.
Buckeye	1	1	20
Maiden's Blush	4	1	23
Wild Mexican	2	1	17
Buckley	2	2	25
Meshannock	2	1	12
White Garnet Chili....	3	2	12
Red Garnet Chili....	4	2	20
Banff Cup	1	1	22
Black Diamond.....	4	2	20
Early Goodrich.....	3	2	20
Cuzco	5	1	23
Harrison	4	2	23
Calico.....	4	2	

The Early Rose under this treatment, or want of care, produced sixty pounds to each pound planted, and from one middle-sized potato of the Gleason variety, cut into eyes, I dug sixty-one pounds.

No rot observed, except in a very few potatoes of Meshannock, Mexican, Buckeye, Early Goodrich and Early Rose.

With manure, the relative quality and productiveness of some kinds would possibly have been different.

Of the above varieties the best late appear to be in the order named, Banff Cups (or Rough-skinned Cups), Carters or Buckeyes, Meshannock, Mexican, Buckleys. The best early, Early Rose, Early Goodrich, Buckley, Mexican, Black Diamond.

The most productive Gleason, Buckleys, Early Rose, Harrison, Cuzco, Maiden's Blush, Banff Cups, Red Garnet Chili, Buckeyes, Early Goodrich, Black Diamond, Mexican.

The conclusion I have arrived at is that a perfect potato has yet to be found. By perfection I mean best in quality at all times, most productive, of good form and size, and not liable to disease. The Buckeye, or Carter, would come pretty near it, but for the hollow heart.

Beet Sugar in Illinois.

A succession of disasters and disappointments has attended the experiment of making sugar from beets, which has now been for several years carried on at Chatsworth, Illinois. The originators of the enterprise were Germans, and failed in their first attempts by not adapting their operations to the conditions of the new country. They were, moreover, it is asserted, possessed of more capital than practical knowledge of the business, and expended their means without judgment. The concern was next taken up by a company of enterprising men in Springfield, who invested large sums, and employed new superintendents. Notwithstanding the new energy thus evoked, the results of last year's operations were not remunerative. At the commencement of the present year, the proprietors started afresh

with new vigour and sanguine anticipations. With good seed obtained from Germany at a cost of ten cents a pound, 750 acres of beets were planted. But when the plants were finely above ground, a remarkably violent rain set in, doing immense damage. This vast breadth of beets, on a soft and mellow soil, was flooded with water from three to twelve inches deep, and as a consequence, the top soil moved and shifted badly, drowning the young beets in mud, and fully five hundred acres were totally destroyed. They have now only about two hundred acres, and these, as may be supposed, will yield no more than half a crop.

The lack of water has been another great difficulty which has hampered the enterprise. Last year operations were commenced for boring an artesian well, and this undertaking has been conducted under peculiar difficulties, with remarkable perseverance. According to the report of Mr. M. C. Mecker, who visited the works recently, the workmen had drilled to a depth of 1,250 feet. The cost of sinking thus far had been about \$5,000.

Notwithstanding past discouragements, those engaged in this work are resolved to prosecute their design, under the conviction that ultimately success will crown their efforts. It is well known that the difficulties under which this branch of industry was inaugurated in France were so great that the whole power of the government seemed necessary to overcome them; but these obstacles having by that means been overcome, and all the necessary conditions having been well fixed and known, beet sugar is now produced both in France and Germany in enormous quantities, at a cost defying competition from any quarter. Should any parties contemplate a similar experiment in this country, they will do well to study carefully the history of the undertaking at Chatsworth.

Flax is very generally raised in Minnesota this year. The common reapers are used in harvesting it.

The farmers in Kansas are boasting of their enormous potato crop the present year, and a local paper rejoices with them because they are "excellent food for horses and cattle, and splendid for railroad labourers."

There is an extraordinary dearth of peaches this year in France. The market gardeners of Montreuil, the great source of their Paris supply, estimate the deficiency of their products, as compared with an average crop, at £80,000.

The *Nebraska Agriculturist* says that hedges of different sorts are growing luxuriantly in that State, and adds:—"The osage, of course, is here in all its glory. But in beauty it is far surpassed by the English hawthorn, which has proved a hardy and vigorous grower. It is the only one we have ever seen in Nebraska, and it is a model of fence prosperity and beauty."

Every time the farmer in his walks afield pulls up a weed, he destroys what will be thousands if neglected.

Vegetable raising pays well in the vicinity of Portland, Maine. Mr. J. B. Sawyer, who lives at Cape Elizabeth, two miles from Portland, has sold this season \$6,000 worth of vegetables from his place containing fifteen acres. He made a beginning eleven years ago, in debt for his land.

CANADA THISTLES.—Would it not be well for our local Parliament to pass a short Act imposing a penalty on every landowner who allows a Canada thistle to go to seed on his premises? To be of any use, the penalty must be high, and recoverable against the land, failing other goods, before a magistrate, on complaint and proof by the pathmaster or any person owning land in the vicinity. The fine might go to the township, or to form a fund for improving the roads. Such a law has been passed in Illinois, imposing the high penalty of \$75 on every person who shall allow Canada thistles to mature and produce seed on his premises; and unless something is done here to stop the spread of this noxious and troublesome weed, many sections of country will become overrun with it beyond redemption.

NEW APPARATUS FOR UNLOADING HAY, &c.—We had recently an opportunity of witnessing the operation of a new contrivance for unloading hay, straw, or grain. The invention is Miller's Patent Hay-sling, and as its name implies, is worked on a different principle from the common horse-forks or elevators. It is, in fact, appropriately designated a sling, being made of ordinary ropes stretched by cross bars of wood, the cords converging at each end to an iron eye or loop, through which the pulley rope passes by which the load is raised. This sling is in two parts, the centre bars being connected by a very simple contrivance, and when it is desired to deposit the portion hoisted, a slight jerk on a small cord disconnects the centre bars, and the load drops between them. Three of these slings are intended to be used with each load, the first being placed on the bottom of the rack, and the hay pitched on to it, till about a third of the load is gathered; a second sling is then laid on this portion, and another third of the load in like manner laid on it, and so on with the remaining third, which is deposited on the last sling. In unloading, each of these portions is lifted, and dropped in succession in the mow. When returning to the field, the slings can be hung on to the rack. The contrivance is quite simple, not liable to get out of order, and apparently easily managed. It is applicable to any kind of straw, to loose barley, or grain in sheaves. In this last particular, the inventors claim, it has the advantage over horse-pitchforks. There is no doubt that, if the makers will offer this labour-saving appliance at a sufficiently low price, it will secure a share at least of the favour and patronage of farmers.