FATTENING HOGS.

Some time ago, we have seen a report of an experiment made in fattening four young hogs. The experiment commenced on the 1st of December. The hogs were weighed, and two that were to be fed of raw Indian corn, weighed together 185 lbs., and had each daily, one gallon of shelled corn, weighing 7 lbs. The other two hogs weighed together 173 lbs., and had each daily, five pints, or 3¼ lbs. of good Indian corn meal, made into hasty pudding by being boiled in water. The hogs were fed twice a day.—The meal when made into hasty pudding, weighed about 30 lbs. The pudding when given in the evening was warm, but that given in the morning, having to stand over for the night, was cold. The hogs were killed and dressed on the 4th of January. Previous to killing, they were weighed, and those fed on the raw corn had together only gained 25 lbs., while those fed on half the weight of cooked meal, had gained 44 lbs. The experiment continued 34 day. The two hogs fed on raw Indian corn, consumed together 8½ bushels, weighing 476 lbs., and increased in weight 25 lbs., giving scarcely 3 lbs. of pork for a bushel of corn consumed. Those fed on the hasty pudding, consumed 5 bushel and ten quarts of cornmeal, and increased in weight 44 lbs. Weight of meal consumed 238 lbs.; hence giving one pound of pork for five pound of meal consumed, or about 8 lbs. of pork for the bushel of cornmeal consumed. This experiment is not very encouraging to farmers.

The following report is from *The Quarterly Journal of Agriculture* :—

"Fattening of Swine.—M. Bengtrapp, in his work on the fattening of swine, mentioned several experiments which serve to show the fattening powers of boiled carrots, potatoes, and some others. He brought up separately, five couples of pigs, and obtained, after a certain length of time, the following results :—

Couples.	Food.	Increase of weight.
1st.	got 103 gallons peas.	22 st. 7 lbs.
2nd.	531 do. balls of wheat.	24 7
3rd.	180 do. buck-wheat.	26 12
4th.	184 do. potatoes.	20 4
5th.	328 do. carrots.	28 2

"These results of the experiment are unsatisfactory: because it is not mentioned whether the pigs were all of the same age and weight, nor is it stated whether the quantity of food marked in the table was as much as the pigs could consume. We have always believed that peas were the most nutritive food that could be given to pigs, and this experiment confirms the belief, as may be seen by comparing the relative increase of weight obtained from the various kinds of food, viz.: 103 gallons of peas gives an increase of 22 stone 7 lbs., or over 3 lb. of increase of pork from 1 gallon of peas; whereas from boiled carrots 28 stone 2 lb. of increase were only obtained from 328 gallons, or near 1¼ lb. from one gallon, giving the advantage to the peas in the ratio of about 2½ to 1. The next most nourishing food is buck-wheat, which gives over 2 lb. of pork from one gallon. Boiled potatoes are next, giving 1½ lb. of pork from one gallon. And the lowest quantity of pork obtained was from the balls of wheat, which is as low as about ¾ of a lb. from one gallon. Flour would, no doubt, fatten better than wheat, especially if the feeds were made into small dry balls of dough."

The above experiment will, when compared with one made in the United States, in fattening hogs on Indian corn, serve to show that the latter food is far inferior to the food given in the experiment made in France in fattening hogs. We certainly have some doubts of the accuracy of the French experiment, that the results obtained from the food was too large. We copy it, however, as we have found it reported, altering only the French measure and weight into English, which we think we have done accurately. The Dicalitra,—a French measure—we have calculated to be about nine quarts Imperial measure.—There is such a great difference in the reported results obtained from experiments, that we place very little confidence in most of them, unless where the parties are known to us, and the experiments carefully made. The breed of animals will have a great influence on their fattening properties, and therefore, in all cases of experiment, the particular breed should be described, and their shape and properties. There will often be found a great difference in the aptitude to fatten in animals of the same breed. We have scarcely ever seen what we would consider a satisfactory reported experiment. Some most essential points are invariably omitted. Hence we are not often capable of obtaining much useful instruction, that can be relied upon, from reported experiments made in any branch of farming, and we think it greatly owing to such experiments being made by individuals who are not generally practical farmers.

RECEIPT FOR DIPPING FIFTY LAMBS.

One ounce of arsenic to 5 lbs. of soft soap, boiled in 9 gallons of water, then mixed with about 15 gallons or more of cold water, to make it the proper strength, which is ascertained by dipping in a live sheep-tick, and afterwards putting it on the palm of the hand; if it lives about one minute, and then dies, it proves the mixture to be of a proper strength. The dipping trough should be on the inside, 3 feet 6 inches long at top, and 2 feet 9 inches at bottom. Width at top 1 foot 10 inches; at bottom 13 inches; depth 22½ inches. A lid to fall back, which is supported by two legs, high enough to keep it in a slanting position; on this the lamb is laid, after having been in the mixture, and rubbed for a minute; and as rails are fastened to the lid, all that runs, or that is squeezed from the lamb's fleece, returns to the trough. It is scarcely necessary to observe, that the utmost caution must be taken to prevent any accident arising from the use of so large a quantity of so deadly a poison. The vessel used for boiling it, should not be used for any other purpose.—One boiling vessel might do for the use of a whole parish. The time of dipping the lambs in England is when the ewes are shorn, and when most of the ticks in the flock will be destroyed.—*Hallyard's Practical Farming and Grazing.*

THE ROYAL ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Mr. Miles, M. P., presented to the English Agrtcultural Society, a tabular view of Manures, with an account of their properties and modes of application, drawn up for the use of the agriculturists, by John Robinson, M. B., Lecturer on Agricultural Chemistry and Rural Economy. The author prefixes to his enumeration of manures, an introductory illustration of the two principles on which his theory is founded. The first principle is, that whatever proximate elements are found by analysis in any particular plant, must be again provided for it in the manure which is applied to promote the growth of another individual of its species: and the second, that no substance cannot act as a manure, which is either not applied in a liquid state, or capable of being dissolved by the plant before taken up by it into its pores,

Mr. Robert Rigg, F. R. S., addressed to the Council of the Royal English Agricultural Society, a communication on the conditions under which experiments in agricultural science should be made. Mr. Rigg, in this paper, observes :—"Fully persuaded as I am that the reason why agriculture has not derived much benefit from chemical science is, that the experiments upon which the chemical philosopher has based his theories, have not been made in a manner sufficiently practical, that they have been imperfectly examined, that analogy has too frequently supplied the place of inductive evidence; and that the knowledge derived from practical experience has not been sufficiently recognized: and am fully convinced that almost every farming operation will derive benefit from the evidence sought out of well directed experiments, when carefully examined in all their parts. I trust that no endeavour will be wanting on the part of the leading members of our very important society, to induce scientific and practical men to make experiments which have a reference to the discovery of principles applicable to agriculture; that they will use their influence in impressing upon each experimentalist the necessity of attending strictly to what is taught only by each experiment, and not entangle the experiments with existing theories."

The foregoing observations are calculated to instruct experimentalists in Canada as well as in England. Vast benefit may be derived from experiments conducted carefully, and reported exactly as they have been conducted, with the results obtained. Unless this is done, experiments will be useless. We have scarcely ever seen a report of an experiment made in agriculture, that something would not be wanted to enable us to form a correct and clear estimate of the true results of the experiment.

A pleasant and cheerful wife is a rainbow set in the sky, when her husband's mind is tossed with storms and tempests; but a dissatisfied and fretful wife in the hour of trouble, is like a thunder cloud charged with