

advisable, of isolating and segregating such animals as may have been exposed to the disease of Sheep Scab. And such Veterinary Inspector, or other person duly authorized as aforesaid, shall alone have the power to order the removal of such animals, as he may consider advisable, to or from such selected places.

4. Such duly appointed Veterinary Inspector or other officer acting under the direction of the Minister of Agriculture, may, under the provisions of Section 14 of the Act aforesaid, order any animal found to be affected with Sheep Scab, or in contact with animals so affected, to be slaughtered; a compensation to an amount not exceeding two-thirds of the value of such animal before it became affected, to be paid to the owner thereof, but such compensation never to exceed the sum of four dollars for any one animal.

5. The value of such animals is to be, in all cases, appraised by a Veterinary Inspector, or other person appointed for that purpose by the Minister of Agriculture; but no compensation whatever is to be allowed in any case in which it is found that fraudulent attempts at concealment of such disease shall have been made; or in any case in which such animals shall have been removed from any place declared to be infected under the provisions of the Act aforesaid.

6. Any market, or railway yard, or pen, or wharf, or part or parts of such, or other place where sheep are exposed for sale, or where, or in which, they may be placed for the purpose of transit for removal to market, or from the Province, for the purpose of exportation, shall, in the event of any animal affected with the disease of Sheep Scab being found therein, by a Veterinary Inspector, or other person duly appointed by Order in Council, and acting under instructions from the Minister of Agriculture, on a declaration to that effect made by him, be held to be an infected place within the meaning of the Act aforesaid; no animal being allowed to be removed from such infected place, except on order of such duly appointed Veterinary Inspector, or other person aforesaid, under a penalty of two hundred dollars.

7. All sheds, out-houses, or places used for sheep affected by "Sheep Scab" must be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected under the directions of a Veterinary Inspector or duly appointed person.

His Excellency has been further pleased to direct that the Minister of Agriculture be, and he is hereby authorized to give effect to the foregoing Regulations, as well as generally to the provisions contained in the first seven sections of the Act before mentioned.

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EARLY TOMATOES.

EDS COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—The truth of the old adage that "whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well," is exemplified in the efforts of well meaning amateurs to find fault with methods of culture, which the experience of practical men long ago settled as the most profitable. These people conclude from a single experiment, but half carried out, that they have discovered that men who have been pursuing certain systems of culture in a thorough manner have been wasting time and labor thereby. What I mean is well illustrated by a contribution to the March number of the American Garden, in which the writer says that he made an experiment to test the difference between hot-bed tomato plants and those from seed sown in the open ground. He states that he sowed seed

in a hot-bed the last of March, and in the open ground 28 days later. The plants from the hot-bed, he says, drooped when planted out, and were pale in color, while the plants from the open ground were strong and robust, and grew right off. The hot bed plants produced their first ripe fruit on the 19th of August, and those raised outside, on the 21st of the same month. So the writer concludes that it does not pay for the trouble to raise tomato plants under glass.

Now, from the writer's own statement, I propose to show that it was his own fault that his hot-bed plants were no better. The writer in *The Garden* does not give his location. I will simply give my own practice, by which I get ripe tomatoes by June 25th, in Northern Maryland, in a location 600 feet above tide, on heavy limestone soil. In this same location, plants from seed sown in the open ground, will not ripen before the middle of August. My experience has satisfied me that we seldom get ripe tomatoes in less than four and a half months from the time of sowing the seed. So to get tomatoes ripe in June, I must start February 1st, to sow the seed. This is too early a date to use a hot bed for such tender plants, and, in fact, the old style hot-bed is a structure for which I no longer have any use. I sow my tomato seed in shallow boxes, in a greenhouse, about February 1st. As soon as the plants are large enough to handle, I transplant them to other boxes at about two inches apart. When they have made two sets of rough leaves, I cut them all back to the seed leaf. They will soon break strongly, and generally with two shoots. By the time they are well started in growth, it will be the last of March. They can now go into cold frames, and accordingly I put them in the frames six inches apart each way. Whenever the weather will permit, I keep the sashes stripped down, and endeavour to make them grow stout and bushy, and for a week before planting out keep them uncovered entirely. I usually plant them in the open ground about May 1st. The plants lift from the frames with a mass of soil about their roots, and never think of wilting. This method of growing the plants is troublesome and expensive, but a difference of two months in getting ripe tomatoes is worth a good deal of trouble, and to a market-man will be worth more than all the rest of the season.

The trouble in the first place with the writer in *The Garden*, was that he did not sow his seed under glass early enough; in the second place he did not transplant them, so as to have them grow stocky; in the third place he set them out with all their original top on; in the fourth place he did not air them sufficiently to get them hardened off, as was shown by their pale appearance and wilting. Plants grown, as he grew his, are certainly worth less than plants grown outside. Doubtless many of your readers have seen hot-bed plants, that have not been cut back, set out with clusters of blossoms near the top, and the owner congratulates himself that he is going to have early fruit from these blossoms, but the fact is that these clusters of blossoms are always out-stripped by shoots, which put out below, and the earliest ripe fruit comes on blossoms close to the roots. Now heading back, the original top starts these side-shoots earlier; hence, earlier fruit.

By my method of treating the plants, I always have tomatoes, in a very unfavorable soil and location north of Baltimore, two weeks earlier than the market growers in the sandy soils south of the Patapsco. These growers usually get \$5 per crate for their first tomatoes, as they are so much superior to the stale Southern tomatoes. How much two weeks additional of high prices would be worth to the man who would take the extra trouble and expense with the plants, I leave to experienced gardeners to estimate. My object is to answer the objections of those amateurs who are constantly telling us that hot-bed tomato plants are no better than out-

(1) It is a scandalous shame to see sheep, as I see them every day, roaming loose all about the country, with half their wool off their backs from this loathsome disease.
A. R. J. F.