

GARDEN PEAS.

Prepare for an early crop as soon as the frost is out of the ground. Select a warm sheltered situation,—well manured. For later crops sow suitable varieties in succession.

The *Horticulturist* recommends the following,—*Prince Albert*, for the best early pea. It is a variety of the old "Early frame," but earlier and a better bearer.

Champion of England, a first rate marrow-fat pea, very large and of excellent flavor. It comes early and is a plentiful bearer.

Knight's Tall Marrow, a later variety, bearing a long time and very productive. It is more prolific than *Knight's Dwarf Marrow*, and is well suited to strong soils.

GOLDEN STRAWED WHEAT.

Published by authority of the Board of Agriculture
Halifax, N. S.

We have much pleasure in publishing the following authenticated statement of the productive and safe qualities of the "Golden Strawed" Wheat: This variety of early wheat was imported from the United States, and sowed in Windsor, by Mr. James O'Brien, shortly after the first attacks of the wheat fly. It did not arrive in Windsor till late in the season, consequently no correct opinion could be formed of its properties, though its luxurious growth attracted the general attention; it matured sufficiently for the purpose of seed, and the following year several farmers who had formed a correct opinion of its early and productive qualities, procured samples, and sowed them about the 10th June,—thereby escaping the season of the fly's existence. The straw being of a compact texture, and covered with a glazed cuticle is impervious to moisture, consequently resists 'rust,' to which late sowings of soft strawed wheats are so liable. It is more productive than the black sea wheat and rather earlier. The following returns obtained from the golden strawed wheat, give evidence of the productiveness this season. In one instance, it yielded 22 bushels after 1 bushel sown; another instance gave 17 to 1; and a third gave 14 to 1; all the excellent quality weighing in some instances 64 lbs. per bushel. Our informant who is a judicious farmer, says: "In cultivating the golden strawed wheat, we have nothing to fear from the fly if we sow during the first week in June; the crop only requires three months propitious weather to mature it." And he adds; "had we adopted this variety, and understood the theory of late sowing in time, we would long ago have starved out the fly, in place of being starved out by it."

This subject ought to engage the attention of our local Societies, and if they manifest a disposition to introduce this valuable variety of wheat more generally, we shall lend our assistance in procuring seed.

J. IRONS, Sec'y B. B. A.
Halifax, Jan., 1851.

INTERESTING PHYSIOLOGICAL FACT.—It is remarkable, as among the millions of other proofs of the wisdom and provident care of the Supreme Being, that in the milk of a female, who has a fractured limb, the lime is reduced in quantity until the fractured bone is again united. The eggs, also, of a fowl, which has a broken limb, are without shells until the broken parts are again united.

AGRICULTURE IN SWITZERLAND.—Dr. J. V. C. Smith, the editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, has been travelling in that mountainous region of the world, and in one of his letters, notices some of the agricultural products of localities where the best efforts of the husbandman produce but a poor return in grain or potatoes. Hence the production of crops unknown to American farmers. One of these is poppies, which are grown by thousands of acres; not for opium, but the seed, from which a beautiful transparent oil is produced, which is much used in house painting, and is considered far superior to linseed oil, because it is almost colorless, and when used with white-lead, does not turn yellow like the oil of flaxseed, when exposed to the light. Poppies can be grown upon soil too sandy and light to produce flax. Why should not this new crop be sown in this country? Who will try it?—*American Agriculturist*.

GREAT AGRICULTURAL MOVEMENT IN GROWING FLAX IN ENGLAND.—A company comprising many of the leading nobility and land owners, is seeking from government a Royal Charter to give encouragement to agriculturists and farmers to bring into immediate cultivation, at least one hundred thousand acres of land, for the production of flax straw; which substance the promoters of the charter have, (by new and peculiar processes never hitherto adopted,) the power to convert into a fit state to hold competition with the best flax imported from foreign nations, without the aid of steeping, kiln-drying, nor mill scutching. The machinery by which the fibre is separated from the stalk, without steeping, is of a very simple and inexpensive kind, requiring no previous knowledge to work it. The unsteeped flax is uniform in strength, and free from stains, so that all after processes of manufacturing and bleaching may be conducted with a facility and exactness not hitherto attainable.—*Agricul. Gaz.*

REMEDY FOR THE GRIPES IN HORSES.—We need never loose a horse by gripes, provided we administer, when first attacked, 1 oz. each of spirits of nitre and paregoric, in a quart of warm water.

PIGS AFFECTED BY COLD.—Fine-bred pigs, having little hair, must have a much warmer temperature than sheep. When pigs huddle together, it is a sure sign that they are not warm enough. Cold, stopping the circulation in the skin, drives the blood to the internal organs, and causes inflammation.—*Amer. Agricul.*

ANCIENT FARMING.—It is stated in an article on this subject, in the July number of the London Quarterly Review, that the average product of wheat in the home provinces of Rome, in the time of Varro, was 32 bushels to the acre, far more than the present average in Britain, and probably three times as much as that of the United States.

THE OBJECT OF MIXING CHARCOAL DUST WITH FRESH URINE.—Ammonia is the product of the putrefaction, which soon takes place in the urine; and the propriety of adding charcoal dust to the fresh liquid depends on the advantage of retaining the volatile products of that decay from its earliest stages.

PLOUGHING IN EGYPT.—An American traveller writes from Egypt: "To-day I saw a buffalo and camel yoked together, ploughing near the river. I have seen two cows drawing by the horns in Belgium an ass and a cow in Switzerland, but this team beats all others for ludicrous effect. A pole full twelve feet long is laid across their necks, they being all of nine feet apart; in the middle a rope is made fast, attached to the aplogy for a plough. Our friends at

the agricultural warehouse in Quincy Market would be astonished, were they present, to see how a furrow can be turned up with such a strangely trooked stick, and about as well as it could be done with one of their beautiful, costly patent ploughs."

Scientific.

FROGS IN STONES.

We have several apparently well authenticated instances on record of frogs and toads having been found enclosed in masses of rock, to the interior of which there is no perceptible means of ingress. It has been the fashion, however, with naturalists, to dismiss all such cases on the assumption that there must have been some cleft or opening by which the animal was admitted while in embryo, or while in a very young state; no one, as far as we are aware, believing that the sperm or young animal may have been enclosed when the rock was in the process of formation at the bottom of shallow waters. Whatever may be the true theory regarding animals so enclosed, their history is certainly one of the highest interest; and without attempting to solve the problem, we present our readers with an instance taken from the Mining Journal, of January 18th, 1845:—"A few days since, as a miner, named W. Ellis, was working in the Penydarran Mine Works, at forty-five feet depth, he struck his mandril into a piece of shale, and to the surprise of the workmen, a frog leaped out of the cleft. When first observed, it appeared very weak, and, though of large size, would crawl only with difficulty. On closer examination, several peculiarities were observed; its eyes were full-sized, though it could not see, and does not now see, as, upon touching the eye, it evinces no feeling. There is a line indicating where the mouth would have been, had it not been confined; but the mouth has never been opened. Several deformities were also observable; and the spine, which has been forced to develop itself in angular form, appears a sufficient proof of its having grown in very confined space, even if the hollow in the shale, by corresponding to the shape of the back, did not place the matter beyond a reasonable doubt. The frog continues to increase in size and weight, though no food can be given to it; and its vitality is preserved only by breathing through the thin skin covering the lower jaw. Mr. W. Ellis, with a view of giving his prize as much publicity as possible, has deposited it at the New Inn, Merthyr, where it is exhibited as "the greatest wonder in the world—a frog found in a stone forty-five feet from the surface of the earth, where it has been living, without food for the last 5000 years!"—*Chambers' Journal*.

DESCENT IN A DIVING BELL.

The Bunker Hill Aurora, states that Capt. Taylor afforded a highly interesting exhibition, on board the Spitfire, while lying near the Navy Yard a short time ago. A number of gentlemen had been invited on board, and about fifty were present, including Commodore Nicholson, Collector Morton, Mr. Parmenter, Capt. Sturgis, Hon. Benjamin Thompson, and others. One of Capt. Taylor's men first went down in the submarine armor and explored the bottom for some time, being fully supplied with air from the air-pumps. After he was drawn up, Capt. Taylor taking a friend with him, went down in one of his new copper Diving Bells, which he had just been making for the government. They descended to the depth of about forty-five feet, and remained on the bottom about half an hour. While there they sent up a message, written on a piece of board, for a bottle of Porter, which came down, with a corkscrew and tumbler, and each gentleman "took a drink." At one time there was about a foot of water in the bell while Captain Taylor permitted the air to escape at the top of the bell so as to keep it fresh; by turning the stopcock, the air was condensed, and the water expelled to within an inch of the rim of the bell. The experiment was completely successful and highly satisfactory. A strong tide was running, but the bell was so constructed that it was but slightly affected by it. The bottom was thoroughly explored, for a circumference of twenty feet around the spot where the bell descended. Various kinds of fish were seen and could have been taken with a spear. The atmosphere inside the bell was warm, but the heat was not oppressive or disagreeable. In descending, the pressure of the air on the tympanums of the ears was rather painful; but this