

Below we give an account of the process adopted by Mr. Woodward, who obtained the premium from the State Agricultural Society, in 1846 for the best article of maple sugar. The statement says:

"In the first place, I make my buckets, tubs and kettles all perfectly clean. I boil the sap in a potash kettle, in such a manner that the edge of the kettle is defended all around from the fire. This is continued through the day, taking care not to have anything in the kettle that will give color to the sap, and to keep it well skimmed.—At night I leave fire enough under the kettle to boil the sap nearly or quite to syrup by the next morning. I then take it out of the kettle and strain it through a flannel cloth into a tub, if it is sweet enough; if not, I put it in a caldron kettle, which I have hung on a pole in such a manner that I can swing it on and off the fire at pleasure, and finish boiling, then strain into the tub, and let it stand till the next morning. I then take this and the syrup in the kettle, and put it altogether in the caldron, and sugar it off. To clarify 100 lbs. of sugar, I use the whites of five or six eggs, well beaten, about one quart of new milk, and a spoonful of saleratus, all well mixed with syrup before it is scalding hot. I keep a moderate fire directly under the caldron until the scum is all raised: then skim it off clean taking care not to let it boil so as to rise in the kettle before I have done skimming it; when it is sugared off, leaving it so damp that it will drain a little. I let it remain in the kettle until it is well granulated; I then put it into boxes made smallest at the bottom, that will hold from fifty to seventy pounds, having a thin piece of board fitted in two or three inches above the bottom, which is bored full of small holes to let the molasses drain through, which I keep drawn off by a tap through the bottom. I put on the top of the sugar in the box, two or three thickness of clean, damp cloth, and over that a board well fitted in, so as to exclude the air from the sugar. After it has nearly done draining, I dissolve it, and sugar it off again, going through the same process in clarifying and draining as before."—*Gen. Farmer.*

#### MODES OF PLOUGHING.

Mr. Levi Durand, of Cerby, Ct., makes some useful remarks on ploughing, in the *Country Gentleman*. The advantage of what he calls the "gee about" system are very considerable on some land. By the other mode of turning,—that is, turning to the left instead of to the right,—the team treads on the ploughed land, unless headlands are left to be ploughed after the body of the lot is finished. By turning to the right, the ends may be ploughed as the work goes on, saving the time lost in crossing the lands, and leaving the soil light and pliable, a matter of

great importance in soils liable to pack closely. Mr. Durand gives the necessary directions, as follows:

"A still better plan we think would be to commence in the middle of the field; this could easily be found by pacing and staking. Here plough a furrow, say two rods in length, then turn back another furrow the same length. After you have ploughed six or eight furrows this way, you could commence ploughing across the ends of the land. Ploughing in this way, you would of course turn your team to the right, a 'gee about,' and so on until the field was finished.—The particular advantage of ploughing in this way is, that your team is all the time treading on the sward or unploughed land, while ploughing the other way or 'haw about,' you are constantly driving your team on at the ends on to the ploughed ground. If you have 'double team,' as is often the case in ploughing a heavy sward, then the ploughed ground at the ends of the land becomes trod very hard, and the soil is made almost as unfit for cultivation as though it had not been ploughed at all.

"Another advantage of the 'gee about' system of ploughing is, you can plough your whole field without leaving any middle or dead furrows, which is quite an object of consideration, especially in ploughing sward land. In ploughing mellow lands, the dead furrows are not of so much consequence, as they can be easily drawn down by the harrow in cross harrowing. The same system of ploughing without leaving dead furrows, can be done by using the side hill plough, by commencing at the side of the field, and ploughing forwards and backwards until the field is finished, leaving the headlands to be ploughed last.

#### RAISING CALVES—A NEW METHOD.

WHILE on a short visit to the farm of M. Crowell, of this town, a few days ago, our attention was drawn to a plan of raising calves for early sale, which to us, in this section of the country, has the appearance of novelty, and seems worthy of the consideration of stock growers.

Mr. Crowell took his calves (all heifers) last spring, and commenced feeding on sour milk to a few days old, keeping them on the same kind of food during the summer, taking good care to feed them uniformly, but not very abundantly, so as to keep them growing thickly without for