

versing each course so as to have the heads of the bundles out. Here it may remain until stripping season is over or the crop stripped. The first good drying spell of weather after the stripping get the smoothest and smallest sticks upon which the tobacco was hung, and hang up the tobacco to dry, carefully shaking it out when hung so as to secure a uniform drying. When the weather again becomes moist enough to bring the tobacco in case, take it down and carefully bulk it away as before directed, only taking more care to straighten the bundles and make the bulk much wider; this is done by lapping the bundles over each course, similar to shingling a roof, the bulker having his knees upon the bulk, carefully laying down the tobacco as it is straightened and handed him. When the bulk is finished, weigh it down heavily with logs or some heavy weight. Care must be taken that the tobacco does not imbibe too much moisture, or get too high in case before it is bulked, as it will injure. So soon as the tobacco becomes soft enough to handle without breaking, it may be put in bulk, and should the stems break a little under the pressure of the bulker's knee, no material damage will be done, provided the leaf does not crumble. A little attention will soon teach the most ignorant the proper order for safe-keeping. The tobacco will be safe in bulk, and will wait the planter's convenience to prize it in hogsheds.

In pricing, the different qualities should not be mixed, and if the planter has been careful to keep them separated, no trouble will be had in assorting them when ready to prize. In packing in the hogsheds care should be taken to have every bundle straight, and every leaf to its bundle. From a well-packed hoghead, any bundle may be drawn without injury or interruption to others. The usual way of packing is to commence across the middle of the hoghead, placing the heads of the first course of bundles about eight or ten inches from the outer edge and running the course evenly across; the packer then places the bundles of the next course in the same direction, the heads against the side or edge of the hoghead, and follows the circumference until the heads of the two courses come in contact; after that course is completed, he finishes the other side by placing the heads against the cask as before, so as to have three courses across the cask, the bundles all laid in the same direction, and the next layer is reversed, carefully placing each bundle as it is thrown or handed him. When filled it is subjected to the press or screw and forced down.

Our hogsheds are from thirty-eight to forty-four inches across the head, and fifty-six to fifty-eight inches in length, and from 1,800 to 2,000 pounds can be easily prized into them. If the tobacco is large, rich, and oily, the harder it is pressed the better, and the better price it commands. These remarks are particularly applicable to those heavy descriptions of tobacco grown in Virginia as heavy shipping leaf, and

in the West as Clarksville tobacco, where the soil and climate are peculiarly adapted to the production of this description of tobacco. In climates not so well adapted and soil of a different character, the same variety of the weed will assume a different character, being of a finer or coarser texture, as the case may be, light and bulky, and destitute of oil and substance. Tobacco of this description should be managed as before directed, but prized lightly in the casks so as to admit of a free and open leaf, such being mostly required for cigar leaf.

There are several varieties of the weed, but as they all partake more or less of the same essential qualities under the same circumstances, it is unnecessary to enumerate them; the difference being more in the choice or fancy of the planter than any material difference in the growth and product of the variety, all requiring the same labor and attention, and the same cultivation and management. Climate and soil have very much to do in forming the definite character of the tobacco, and seed of any variety taken to another climate and a different soil may produce a very different article, and observation and experience alone upon the part of the planter can determine the best method of improving its character whilst becoming acclimated.

L. J. BRADFORD.

Augusta, Feb 2, 1863.

## ON TURNIP CULTURE.

EDITOR OF THE AGRICULTURIST. Dear Sir, —Your correspondent B. N. B. wishes to learn the experience of some of your readers in regard to the turnip crop of the past season. And as I have the pleasure of reading your Journal, it may not be out of the way to give here the benefit of my humble experience.

I sowed one acre of turnips last season; one half of them I sowed on the flat surface, in rows 22 inches apart, and thinned out, from 10 to 12 inches in the row. On this half acre, I put twenty wagon loads of well rotted manure, in the fall, and plowed it in, and in the spring, I plowed it three times, and harrowed it in; by so doing I thoroughly incorporated the manure into the soil. I then sowed one hundred pounds of salt upon it, and then rolled it with a heavy roller, and marked it into rows as above stated. I used a piece of three inch scantling for a marker, with a handle in the centre, and a brace on each side to guide and to strengthen it. In this three wooden teeth, one inch in diameter are set 22 inches apart—teeth six inches long. One man works this, thus opening two rows at a time, as one tooth must be kept in the last made drill to keep your rows straight. From off this half acre I harvested twenty two-horse wagon loads of turnips. On plot No. 2 I applied thirty wagon loads