

Gazette of the United States.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1791.

[Whole No. 195.]

ABSTRACT of the EXPORTS of the United States from the commencement of the Custom-Houses in the several States, which were at different times in August, 1789, to the 30th day of Sept. 1790.

SPECIES of MERCHANDIZE.		
EXPORTED.		
	Quantity.	Value.
ASHES pot, tons,	7,050	661,634
Ashes pearl, do.	1,548	177,459
Apples, barrels,	5,898	6,318
Boats,	8	372
Bomb Shells, tons,	10	100
Bricks,	870,550	2,617
Beer and Porter, casks,	472	4,612
Brandy, do.	97	3,016
Cordials, boxes,	236	637
Cordage,		5,739
Carriages,	220	28,017
Candles Tallow, lbs.	149,680	14,876
Candles Wax, do.	5,274	2,461
Candles Myrtle, do.	249	52
Cyder, barrels,	442	849
Cotton, bales,	2,027	58,408
Coffee, lbs.	254,752	45,753
Chocolate, do.	29,882	3,537
Cocoa, do.	10,632	950
Cassia and Cinnamon, do.	9,392	9,715
Deer skins,		33,009
Duck American, bolts,	77	777
Duck Russia, do.	220	2,200
Earthen and Glass Ware,		1,990
Essence Spruce, boxes,	115	600
Flax-Seed, casks,	40,019	236,072
Flax, lbs.	21,970	1,468
Furs,		60,515
Furniture,		8,351
Fishery,		828,531
Fish dried, quintals,	378,721	
Fish pickled, barrels,	36,804	113,165
Oil Whale, do.	15,765	124,908
Oil Spermaceti, do.	5,431	79,542
Candles, lbs.	70,379	27,724
Whale-Bone, do.	121,281	20,417
Buck-Wheat, bushels	7,562	2,572
Grain,		1,083,581
Corn, do.	2,102,137	20,900
Oats, do.	98,842	13,181
Rye, do.	21,765	1,398,998
Wheat, do.	1,124,458	47,024
Gunpowder, casks,	813	861
Gun Powder, lbs.	5,800	16,989
Gin, gallons,	13,025	450
Grindstones,	203	1,687
Hair-Powder, lbs.	12,534	1,392
Hats,	668	12,851
Hay, tons,	2,126	1,052
Horns,		7,878
Ironmongery,		91,379
Iron Pig, tons,	3,555	16,723
Iron Bar, do.	200	537,379
Indigo, lbs.	612,119	99,960
Horned Cattle,		8,628
Horses,		237
Mules,		10,038
Sheep,		5,304
Hogs,		3,704
Poultry, dozen,		463,229
Staves and Heading,	36,402,301	120,151
Shingles,	67,331,115	32,002
Shook Hogheads,	52,558	19,598
Hoops,	1,908,310	260,213
Boards,	46,747,730	1,505
Handspikes, dozen,	2,361	3,697
Casks,	2,423	95,308
Scantling, feet	8,719,638	128,503
Lumber of different kinds, do.		139,328
Timber of do. do.		5,302
Leather, lbs.	22,698	3,911
Logwood, tons,	264	1,760
Lignumvitz, do.	176	810
Lead and Shot, do.	6	18,531
Mahogany,		1,735
Medicine and Drugs,		28,156
Merchandize,		2,904
Molasses, gallons,	15,537	500
Muskets,	100	2,315
Nankens, bales,	11	1,962
Oil Linseed, barrels,	119	4,591,293
Flour, barrels	724,623	209,674
Bread, do.	75,667	302,694
Meal, do.	99,973	25,746
Peas & Beans, bush.	38,752	279,551
Beef, barrels	44,662	208,099
Pork, do.	24,462	19,728
Hams & Bacon, lbs.	253,555	48,587
Butter, firkins	8,379	8,830
Cheese, lbs.	144,734	6,009
Potatoes, barrels	5,318	1,598
Tongues, do.	641	22,936
Onions, Vegetables,		6,355
Hogs Lard, firkins		165
Honey, do.		272
Oysters Pickled, kegs		715
Pimento, bags,		6,100
Pepper, lbs.		169
Paper, reams		4,650
Paint, lbs.		8,875
Pitch, barrels		230
Raw Hides,		177
Raw Silk, lbs.		316
Rosin, barrels		100,845
Rice, tierces		370,231
Rum American, gallons		12,023
Rum Westindia, do.		213
Raisins, casks		31,935
Salt, bushels		2,319
Sago, lbs.		597
Soap, boxes		

Snuff, lbs.	15,350	5,609
Seeds and Roots,		2,135
Shoes and Boots, pairs	5,802	5,741
Sadlery,		5,541
Starch,		1,125
Sugar Loaf, lbs.	16,429	3,432
Sugar Brown, do.	33,358	2,237
Saffras, do.	49,504	555
Steel, bundles	103	978
Stones sawed,	170	550
Tallow, lbs.	200,020	20,722
Tobacco, hhd.	118,460	4,349,567
Tea, chests	1,672	121,582
Tar, barrels	85,067	126,116
Turpentine, do.	28,326	72,541
Do. Spirits, do.	193	1,032
Tow Cloth, pieces	67	1,274
Vinegar, casks	24	106
Wines, pipes	1,074	83,249
Wax, lbs.	231,158	57,597

To the north-west Coast of America, 20,194,794
 Amount of several Returns received since the 15th February, 1791. 10,362
 Dollars, Total, *20,415,966. 84

* One Quarterly Return from several small Districts are deficient.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

ON AGRICULTURE.

BEING on a journey some time ago, I put up at a very decent inn, and was not displeas'd to find my landlord dispos'd to entertain me with his conversation: He seem'd to be of a cheerful temper, and saw things on the bright side. After touching upon politics, which, next to the weather, is the first topic to scrape acquaintance with, he express'd his satisfaction that husbandry was beginning to prosper. It was a shame, he said, that freeholders should be so little ambitious to shew, by the skilful management of their land, that it was their own. But he was happy to find, that at last the spirit of improvement had reach'd them—they were getting into the practice of tilling no more land than they were able to manure so well as to obtain very great crops. This method was found to cause a considerable saving of labor, as well as a great increase of grain. He said that the most thrifty farmers in the village and neighbourhood, had agreed to meet at stated times, under the name of the Farmers' Club, and to communicate such useful observations as had occur'd to them. Some of the club were directed to procure seeds, by way of change, from distant parts; others agreed, from time to time, to make experiments, and to communicate the result to the club. One of their number, who was not at the last meeting, had sent his observations in a letter. My landlord finding that I was pleas'd with the letter, directed his son to make me a copy of it: If you think it will be useful, you may publish it.

GENTLEMEN,

BEING lame, I cannot, as usual, attend your meeting; but I send you, in writing, some observations, which I intend'd to have communicated in person.

Doubtless it was decreed that we should get our living by hard work. We have no cause to complain of our lot in this regard: It brings with it many blessings, and shields us from many evils. The scholar sits pale at his books, and even white bread turns sour on his stomach; the East wind deprives him of strength and spirits. We, on the contrary, swing the scythe, without faintness, in the dog days; and, in the winter, the management of the axe keeps us warm, though up to the knees in snow. But though it is ordain'd that we should work hard for our living, I cannot believe that we are to work hard and not get it. Yet, how many get but half a living, and go behind hand notwithstanding. What is the cause? Is it not the low state of the noble art of husbandry? To do all that is possible to be done to improve it, will require great estates, great skill, and a very long course of time, to establish new methods of practice. But some improvements are obvious, within the reach of every one, even the poorest farmer, and, if practis'd, would enable the poorest farmer to pay his taxes, and to live comfortably.

We find that the produce of land is greater or less in proportion to the manure that is laid on it. Indeed, new lands for several years, and intervals near rivers, will do without; but what I have remark'd is true, of almost all the old lands in the country. If we could find means to in-

crease manure, it would be better to do it than to buy more land; for an acre, well manur'd, will yield as much as two without manure—the crop is got for half the money; and in case of cold wet springs, or dry summers, it is not so likely to be cut off. All this you well know.

But perhaps you do not all know, because you have not tried the means of increasing manure by compost. I have tried it, and wish you to follow my example.

Adjoining the sty where your swine are shut up, which should be dry and warm, fence a yard for them to wallow in; twenty or thirty feet square will be large enough for half a dozen hogs; cover this in the fall or spring with mud, or any rich earth or grass sods; common loam should not be refus'd, if richer earth cannot be procur'd. The hogs, having no rings in their noses, will render this mud or earth, if not more than two feet deep, an exceeding rich compost in a year's time. They will keep it stirring and fermenting with their dung and urine, which will be incorporated with the mud, and thereby their whole strength will be sav'd; for the mud or earth will prevent the virtues of the dung and urine from being wash'd into the ground by the heavy rains, or evaporated by the sun and air—it not only saves them, but makes them stronger, by keeping them in a state of constant fermentation—the fermentation will be increased, and the whole mass will be improv'd by making this yard the receptacle for the weeds of your garden—throw into it your soap suds, brine, and all the greasy slop of the kitchen—you may add potatoe tops, which should be carefully sav'd for the purpose when you gather the potatoes—the stubborn corn-stalks, which rot slowly in the cow-yard, will soon consume in the hog-yard. Indeed any vegetable or animal substance may be added, for there is none which will not make manure when rotten. Half a dozen hogs, if confin'd to a sty, and such a yard, will make more than 20 tons of the best manure in one year. The manure should be laid in heaps to mellow with the frosts of one winter, and it will answer to put into the hills of Indian corn as well as horse dung.

It is not necessary to tell farmers how to use manure, nor how much the crop will be increas'd by it. You all know that my crops have been remarkably large, and I assure you that I have obtain'd them by manuring my grounds in the before-mention'd manner. The dung of hogs is fit for most purposes, but particularly for Indian corn, which is a great exhauster of the earth: It ferments more slowly than horse or sheep dung, and furnishes a steady supply to carry on the growth of this plant to the ripening of the ear. The dung of hogs, valuable as it is, is almost entirely lost throughout the country; and their urine, not less valuable, is totally lost and absorb'd by the ground. A thick layer of earth in the hog-yard, as has been observ'd, not only prevents this loss, but improves the manure.

I advise you, therefore, to make trial of this method without loss of time. Do the like in your cow-yards—spread a thick layer of earth there, gather all the litter and rubbish, weeds, leaves and straw, that you can, and let the cattle tread it into the mass; if it should get hard trodden, stir it with an iron bar, or turn it up to the air several times in the summer with a plough. A diligent farmer will be surpris'd at the quantity of his manure, and a skilful one will not be at a loss for methods to improve the strength of it. It will be his own fault if the compost is inferior in strength to dung which is unmix'd with earth or mud. This compost will improve by lying in heaps, expos'd to the frosts of the winter. Spread on grass land, it makes fine crops—and indeed it answers every purpose of dung.

Our farms will certainly grow worse, unless we try to increase their fertility by composts and artificial manure. Instead of wearing our lands out, and spoiling the earth we live on, it is time to turn our attention to the important subject of manure, after the example of England, where husbandry is greatly encourag'd. My own experience has taught me that we may get better crops, while the fruitfulness of our grounds shall be made to advance from year to year.

You see, gentlemen, that I endeavor to contribute my mite to the benefit of the club. No member wishes it success more heartily. God prosper the plough, is the daily prayer of your humble servant,

PETER THRIFT.