

# Gazette of the United States.

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[Whole No. 257.]

FROM THE QUEBEC HERALD.

### AGRICULTURE.

Experiment to determine whether it is best to plant large or small cuttings of Potatoes; in a letter from the Rev. Mr. Cochran to the Secretary of the Agriculture Society for the County of Hants, dated Windsor (Nova-Scotia) February 12, 1791.

S I R,

IN the Nova-Scotia Magazine, † for Dec. 1789, there appeared some extracts from an Essay on Potatoes, published among the papers of the Bath Agricultural Society, for 1788. In these a prodigious difference is noticed, between the produce from large cuttings and that from small, in favor of large ones, as nine to one.

That a considerable difference of produce might escape the observation of mere practical farmers, who seldom make comparative experiments, is readily to be supposed, and that, therefore, it might still be a disputed point amongst them, whether large or small cuttings are most profitable, as the author who relates those experiments asserts it is, and as we know it to be here: But we can hardly suppose that any farmer, who should see one acre in his neighborhood's field produce as much as nine in his own, would continue inattentive to the advantage of using larger seed.

In the extracts, where this amazing disproportion of produce is mentioned, it is not stated what proportion the cuttings, used in the one and in the other case, bore to each other. Probably there was a greater difference than between those which are commonly used here. However if the loss by planting small cuttings should only be one half, or even one fourth part of that mentioned above, still it would be an object highly deserving the attention of farmers. I thought therefore, it might be a useful experiment, to try two or three different sizes of cuttings, near to those usually planted in this neighborhood, and to mark the difference of produce, if any.

For this purpose, in the second week June last, I took an equal number of cuttings, of three different sizes; the largest (No. 1.) were somewhat larger than those usually planted here. The second size, which I shall call No. 2, was less than one half of No. 1. The third size (No. 3.) was about one third of No. 2.\*

I planted 100 hills with each size, four cuttings in each hill. The land, manure, and cultivation as nearly alike as I could make them.

From the first appearance of the plants a striking difference, in favor of the largest size, was observable. Many of the hills from No. 1. had ten, twelve, or fourteen stalks, strong and healthy. Those from No. 2. much fewer and weaker. Those from No. 3. in many instances had not more than four stalks, and those small and feeble. The difference, though still very perceptible, was not so great towards the end of the summer, as at the beginning.

In the beginning of November they were all taken up and the produce weighed

No. 1. produced	280 lbs.
No. 2.	240 1/2
No. 3.	168

The medium weight of a bushel, upon several trials, was found to be 61 lb. Therefore the produce of No. 1. was something above four bushels and a half; and the difference between No. 1. and No. 3. nearly two bushel. This is very considerable. If an acre, planted with cuttings such as No. 1. would produce 200 bushels by planting such as No. 3. the farmer will lose 80 bushels. In four acres the loss will be 320 bushels; in eight acres, which many farmers plant in a season, it will be 650 bushels!

I am informed, that some farmers in the province plant only the eyes of their potatoes, and give the rest to their cattle or hogs. With these the loss must be still greater.

I design to pursue the subject farther, and may hereafter communicate the result to the Society. Meanwhile, with the greatest respect for you and them

I remain, Sir, your most obedient,  
And most humble servant,

WILLIAM COCHRAN.

\* Vol. I. page 454.

† The cuttings of each size were weighed, and the weight noted at the time of planting, but the memorandum has been mislaid. However, although I cannot recollect the absolute weight, I am certain the proportion to each other was, very nearly, as above.

### A P U N.

IT is said that one characteristic of a pun is, that it cannot be translated.—The following is an instance of a pun, which, if not translated, is no pun.

Harry Erskine, the Selwyn of Edinburgh, puzzled the little wits of his acquaintance, by inscribing on a tea-chest, the words

T U D O C E S !

It was some time before they found out that the wit of this lies in the literal translation—THOU TEACHEST!

Another, something different, is to be seen on an old sun-dial, in a village in Kent.

The inscription is, "WE SHALL!"—On enquiring of a rustic wit in the neighbourhood, he informed us that the sentence is to be completed thus:—

WE SHALL DI-ALL!

### EXTRACT.

MEN are qualified for civil liberty, in exact proportion to their disposition to put moral chains upon their own appetites; in proportion as their love to justice are above their rapacity; in proportion as their soundness and sobriety of understanding is above their vanity and presumption; in proportion as they are more disposed to listen to the counsels of the wife and good, in preference to the flattery of knaves. Society cannot exist, unless a controlling power upon will and appetite be placed somewhere; and the less of it there is within, the more there must be without. It is ordained in the eternal constitution of things, that men of intemperate minds cannot be free. Their passions forge their fetters.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

### A RURAL SCENE,

IN ESSEX COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY.  
Written May 1789.

HERE Nature's beauties captivate the sight,  
And fill the bosom with refin'd delight—  
Extensive landscapes, dress'd in vivid green,  
And trees and blossoms beautify the scene—  
White fragrance waftions in the swelling gales,  
And woodland music echoes thro' the vales—  
And crystal rills meandering purr along,  
Heightening the concert of the woodland song.  
Enamell'd meads, with growing verdure bright,  
And lawns, and forests open on the sight—  
Where flocks, and herds, and flocks commixing rove,  
Or graze the plain, or browse the leafy grove.  
Here hills and vallies, clothed with verdant grain,  
In waving grandeur imitate the main.  
Fair Newark there erects her foiry pride—  
Where science, art, and industry reside,  
Hail, feat of friendship, social joy, and health,  
Refinement, virtue, competence and wealth—  
Whose growing structures opening to the day,  
Genius and taste, and elegance display.  
Here bending orchards, and the fertile field,  
A copious increase to the farmer yield—  
For smiling plenty triumphs o'er the soil,  
And amply pays the cultivator's toil.  
The mild Passaic winding by thy side,  
Lures social commerce on its glassy tide—  
"No watery gleams thro' happier vallies shine,  
"Nor drinks the sea a lovelier wave than thine."  
A lofty mountain rising on the right,  
Unfolds sublimer prospects to the sight—  
From whole majestic summit, veil'd in blue,  
York's splendid turrets dimly rise to view.

FROM THE NEW-YORK DAILY ADVERTISER.

### ADVICE TO COUNTRY TAVERN KEEPERS.

AS a great deal of custom is necessary to make good markets and good inns, and as there is but little travelling, except on public roads, the question is, how shall travellers on private roads, where there is but little travelling, make provision for entertaining gentlemen well, without suffering great losses. I speak not of provision for Country people, for these are willing to take cider and pot-luck, or the common fare of the taverner's own family; but I speak of provision for people who have been accustomed to a city life and better cooking and liquors. It appears to me that provision for the latter may be made, without needless waste.

You cannot, for example, buy a pipe of Madeira wine of the first quality—but you can keep a gallon or two for many months, and when gentlemen find a glass of good wine in the country, they are willing to give a good price for it. But I would recommend it to you to be more careful in the choice of your wine. Few of you are judges of wine; and when you purchase, the wine sellers turn you off with any adulterated mixture they please. After a great number of experiments, I can safely declare, that nine times out of ten, the wine I have called for in Country Taverns has been a mixture of Cider, Molasses, and a little real wine; or brandy and wine, and not unfrequently with a strong tincture of Sugar of lead. Such mixtures pass, in the country, for Malaga, or other sweet wine. To avoid impositions in purchasing wine, get some gentleman who has always been used to wine to choose it for you, and keep a little of the best quality for such passengers as are willing to pay for it.

With respect to spirits, the same advice is necessary; but of the quality of spirits you are better judges, and therefore less liable to imposition. Keep also a little of the best kind of teas, as Hyson, Gunpowder, or Souchong; and good loaf Sugar. A small quantity of each will serve you for perhaps five or six months. Most passengers will not want these articles; they will not be able or willing to pay for them, but a few will wish for them, because they have always been accustomed to them; and you must make a difference of price between a breakfast or supper of Bohea tea and fried pork, and one of hyson tea and loaf sugar.

With respect to meat, there is no difficulty, if you will have a little foresight. You cannot indeed have fresh meat every day, and gentlemen do not like boiled pork and cabbage, cooked and dished together. But if you will every winter provide a number of good hams and beef's tongues, you may, in the warmest weather, spread a table that no gentleman will find fault with.

In cooking take a word of advice. Use the Gridiron instead of the Frying pan. Do not roast or broil meat until it is as dry and tough as foal-leather. Meat slightly done, is both more palatable and more healthy. Do not boil meat and vegetables together, unless you put the vegetables in a bag. Do not bring upon table different kinds of meat in the same dish; nor meat and vegetables in the same dish. Let each be brought on in a separate dish. Do not kill a fowl and put it warm over the fire. A fowl is tough and good for nothing, unless it has been killed 24, or at least 12 hours. When you bring on liquors, endeavor to give every one a separate glass. If you have not enough in the house, you will be excused; but gentlemen do like not that all the company should drink out of the same glass.

Endeavor to accommodate different companies with different rooms. Nothing is more disagreeable than to crowd a number of strangers into the same room; or to oblige travellers to sit down with grog drinkers in the bar room; furnish yourselves if possible with beds enough to give every lodger one to himself. It is a monstrous indecent, as well as unsafe practice for persons, perhaps total strangers, to sleep in the same bed. It is an affront to a man to request it. And a word to you about keeping your beds clean: Give every decent man a decent bed. Every one ought to have clean fresh sheets—it is an imposition to ask a man to lay on sheets, that have before been slept in by you know not who; you say, it is a great trouble; very well, then make your lodgers pay for the trouble. Those who expect clean beds are willing to pay for them. In the hot months, take special care that the beds are not infested with bugs. This is an article of advice very necessary for many of you. It is a filthy intamous negligence which suffers these animals to trouble your lodgers. Nothing is more offensive to travellers, and nothing does more toward injuring the reputation of a tavern.

I trust you will take these hints in good part; for they are meant for your benefit, as well as for those who travel.  
I am, your friend P. Q.

A L G I E R S, July 15.

BABA Mahomet, Dey of Algiers, died the 12th instant, in consequence of a dysentery, at the age of 80 years, and in the 25th of his reign. Cid Hassan, his prime minister, a man about 50, was immediately proclaimed by the militia, and the election was made without tumult. The three first officers of the Regency had each pretensions to the sovereignty, but they very willingly resigned them, and were permitted to pay their respects to the new Dey. One of the three, the only aga of the Spahis, was arrested and taken into custody the moment they were going to enter the palace. His rival ordered him to be banished to a fort twelve miles from the capital, and confiscated his estates.

The reign of Baba Mahomet was remarkable for its brilliancy, utility, and tranquility. It is to be hoped that that of Cid Hassan, who appears to be favorably disposed towards France, will not be less glorious. He seems eager to ratify the capitulations.

R A T I S B O N, August 9.

The majority of votes at the Diet was decidedly for force being employed against France; but as in this majority there are some states which cannot properly be reckoned in the number of the powers, there can be no doubt that the result will be sent to Vienna by the principal Commissioner, the Prince de la Tour et Taxis, with proposals to open the negotiations in form.

L I S B O N, August 2.

The like apprehensions which have long been entertained by the Court of Spain, of a revolution in that country, at present pervade the breasts of our Ministry: several decrees, intended for the suppression of public meetings of almost every description, have been lately issued, but they are calculated to ferment, rather than suppress any wish in the Portuguese to effect a revolution.

P A R I S, August 17.

The exiled Princes, seeing the impossibility of proceeding by means of force, have had recourse to negotiation; but the dull proceedings of an Imperial Diet, will but ill accord with the mercenary disposition of this country.

The laws begin to operate with dispatch and uniformity. The Provisional Tribunal of the High Court of Orleans has just discharged the famous Aristocratic Thonard, commonly called Riolle, for want of evidence of his criminality.

The Club of the Jacobins has received some very considerable additions in point of numbers and respectability of late.—Many more of the Deputies to the Assembly have joined it. Among the number are M. d'Orleans and his son.

The people in Paris are now most seriously alarmed, and begin to exclaim against the Ministers for not having the frontiers in a state of defence. Notwithstanding all the boasting in the National Assembly, a foreign army may march into the kingdom almost unopposed. An immense body of men have arms in their hands, but few of them know how to use them.

At Neuilly, close to Paris, a nocturnal Assembly is held, of Chevaliers of St. Louis, refractory Officers, and other friends to the King. These cabals and preparations, must certainly lead to something serious, and before the present month is at an end, what that is will appear.

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

AUGUST 16.

M. Delessart, in the name of the Minister of the Marine, informed the Assembly of the death of the Dey of Algiers, and of the amicable disposition of his successor towards France, as he had requested that the ambassador who was to announce his inauguration to the Porte, might be conducted by a frigate of their nation.

The Assembly authorized the Minister of the Marine to withdraw one of their frigates stationed at Corsica, and to employ it on this service.

August 20. A report was read from one of the commissioners sent into the departments of the Upper and Lower Rhine, stating that that part of the frontiers was in a very respectable state of defence, and that the reports of war, which had been so industriously circulated throughout the kingdom, are not to be credited.