PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

JOURNAL OF COMMERCE.

SEED POTATOES.—On page 86 of the present volume of this Journal, an anonymous article on seed potatoes appears, the writer of which I consider a man of correct observations. His theory corresponds with my practice. I have on one occasion, when I first commenced farming, taken the largest potatoes for seed, and had as poor a crop as I ever had, the soil, climate, season, the soil and cultivation being alike. Potatoes of a size that it will take from ten to sixteen to a pound will be found to be the most advantageous for seed; they will answer fully as well, if not better than larger ones. Potatoes of that size cannot be sold in market for family use, while large ones can. My experience in the potato culture has fully convinced me of the impropriety of the large seed theory; for why is it that large potatoes are cut into small pieces and planted. It is both a saving of labor and money to sell the large, and plant such as recommended above. Potatoes of that size are just as ripe as those weighing a pound apiece, if planted and taken up at the same time. I am willing to pay the chemist for his trouble, if a potatoe of an ounce is not similar in every respect to one of a pound in proportion, but then I claim the right to furnish the potatoes for the experiment. J. S. KELLER.

Orwigsburg, Schuylkill Co., Feb. 5, 1856.

Farm Jour.

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