

SUNBURY AMERICAN AND SHAMOKIN JOURNAL.

Agriculture.

[From the Ohio Cultivator.]

CULTURE OF SWEET POTATOES.

Mr. R. Shantz, of Circleville, is the most successful cultivator of sweet potatoes within our knowledge; he also succeeds perfectly in preserving them through the winter for seed this spring, and proposes, also, to sell plants to all who may desire them, in this region of Ohio.

The following are his directions for growing and preserving sweet potatoe:

DIRECTIONS FOR SPROUTING.—Put up boards edgewise like a box. Fill in fresh stable manure, 18 inches deep. On this lay three inches of good light black mould; and on this lay your potatoes so close as almost to touch. Cover them with the same kind of mould two and a half inches deep. Keep the bed quite wet while the potatoes are sprouting. When the plant is six inches long, place you thumb and finger on the potato, and pull the plant, but be careful not to disturb the potato. Keep them well covered while sprouting, and be careful to replace all the dirt removed from the potato when pulling the plants. Water your bed night and morning while sprouting. Be careful not to let your bed get too hot, or the potatoes may scald. Try the heat of the bed by feeling below the potato, if too hot, cool it by watering more freely.

DIRECTIONS FOR KEEPING.—You may keep them through the winter in boxes of one bushel each, by covering them with dry sand and keeping them in a cellar where the temperature must be kept to near a summer heat; if it falls below this point they will not keep; and any one can keep them at this point.

DIRECTIONS FOR PLANTING AND RAISING.—Put two plants in the hill; if the hill is small one is better than two. Set them four inches apart, and make the hill a little hollow, so as to hold a pint of water. Set the plant half its length in the ground; do not wait for rain in order to plant. If the weather is dry, plant them in the evening and a pint of water in each hill; the water should be as warm as rain water. It is better to plant in a dry time than when the ground is too wet, for when the ground becomes dry it will bake and retard the growth of the plant. The plant may be planted in ridges, and when they are thus planted, put them ten inches apart. At the first plowing, scrape the weeds and grass from the hills and draw up but little dirt the first time you work them, for the hills will warm through better when small. Hill them up the last of July or the first of August. If the vines have grown across the furrows turn them to the opposite side of the hill, hoe the side left, then turn them back. Never wind the vines upon the top of the hill; it will prevent the sun from warming it as much as it requires to the full growth of the plant. The vines should not be cut off if they grow very rank. Pull them loose from the hill and drop them down again; this is to prevent the little sprouts from growing and encumbering the hill with a load of stringy potatoes.

Any quality of soil that will produce good corn will produce good sweet potatoes.

The plants will be ready for delivery; and may be planted any time between the tenth of May and the first of July.

Plant early and dig before the first frost. If the vines are frosted the potatoe becomes watery and will not keep any length of time.

H. STANLEY.

Circleville, O.

BOILING POTATOES.

The accompanying recipe, which we find in an exchange paper, is valuable if its application has the effect claimed for it:

The following method of dressing potatoes will be found of great service at this season of the year when the skins are tough and potatoes are watery: Score the skin of the potatoe with a knife lengthways and across quite round, and then boil the potatoes in plenty of water with salt, with the skins on. The skin readily cracks where it is scored, and lets out the moisture, which otherwise renders the potatoes soupy and wet. The improvement to bad potatoes by this method of boiling is very great; and all who have tried it find a great advantage in it, now that good potatoes are very difficult to be obtained."

ARABIAN CATTLE.

Lieut. Lynch brought with him, from Syria, a male and female of the beautiful Khaisi breed of cattle, which he presented to the State of Virginia. The Legislature of that Commonwealth, in turn, presented them to the Governor, to dispose of at his discretion, to that farmer within the State, whom he should judge as most likely to secure the propagation of the breed. Governor Floyd, accordingly, gave them to Col. James Castleton, of Clarke county. The cattle were lately exhibited at Washington, D. C., and a spectator thus describes them in the N. Y. Herald:—

"The khaists are, respectively, eighteen and sixteen months old, and weigh the bull 950 pounds, and the heifer 650. The bull is 4 feet 10 inches high, and 10 feet 4 inches in length, from the nose to the end of the tail—the heifer of a proportionate size. They are the most beautiful animals of the cattle kind we have ever seen. Their limbs are as delicate as those of a gazelle, yet strong and well set as those of a race horse. Their heads have something of the elegance of outline of a deer; their nostrils are as thin and flexible; their feet are broad and flat, yet delicate; their tails, thick and flat at the insertion, taper down to the thinnest almost of a whip lash, ending in a long tuft of silky hair. They are of a deep shining bay color, and their horns, which are just sprouting, are black as those of a buffalo. When full grown, they are said to stand seven feet high, and the cows are said to yield three half bushels of milk a day."

The stock of the valley of Virginia, it is believed, will be much improved by the introduction of this new breed. Col. Castleton values the pair at \$10,000.

THE DIFFERENCE.—Disease has depopulated the earth three times, supposing the population to have always been the same as now; war has depopulated it nine times, and then reserved victims enough to manure a continent.

Summer Arrangement.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAIL-ROAD, FROM PHILADELPHIA TO POTTSVILLE.

CHANGE OF HOURS, and TWO TRAINS DAILY, each way, except Sundays.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, April 23, 1849

two trains will run each way, daily, between Philadelphia and Pottsville.

MORNING LINE—ACCOMMODATION,

Leaves Philadelphia at 73 A. M., daily, except Sundays.

Pases Reading at 10:45 A. M.

Leaves Pottsville at 73 A. M., daily, except Sundays.

Pases Reading at 9:10 A. M.

The above Line stops at all way stations on the road as formerly.

AFTERNOON LINE—FAST TRAIN.

Up Train.

Leaves Philadelphia at 23 P. M., daily, except Sundays.

Arrives Pottsville 4:15 P. M.

Reading 5:00

Pottsville 5:30

Bethel 5:45

Phoenixville 5:50

The Afternoon Train will stop only at the above named stations. Passengers for other points must therefore take the Morning Line.

DEPOT IN Reading, corner of Chestnut and Seventh streets. Passengers cannot enter the Cars unless provided with Tickets.

13th NOTICE.—Fifty pounds of baggage will be allowed to each passenger in these lines; and passengers are expressly prohibited from taking anything as baggage but their wearing apparel, which will be at the risk of its owner. No freight will be taken by these lines.

By order of the Board of Managers,

N. BRADFORD, Sec'y.

April 7, 1849.

EQUITABLE LIFE INSURANCE, ANNNUITY AND TRUST COMPANY.

OFFICE 27, EAST 21ST STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

CAPITAL \$200,000.—DIRECTORS.

The Company are now prepared to transact business upon the most liberal and advantageous terms. They are authorized by their charter (sec. 30) "to make all and every kind of insurance, annuity, trust, and investment, and to receive and execute trusts, make investments, and to grant and purchase immovables." The Company will supply all the services of trustees for minors and heirs.

Agents—HENRY MASSER, Sunbury, Lancaster and Northumberland County.

For Premium required for the Assurance of \$100 for the whole term of Life.

Age Premium Age Premium Age Premium

16 1.50 21 2.69 46 3.95

17 1.63 22 2.75 47 4.19

18 1.75 23 2.80 48 4.22

19 1.88 24 2.85 49 4.26

20 1.92 25 2.90 50 4.30

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