LEWISBURG CHRONICLE.

BY O. N. WORDEN & J. R. CORNELIUS.

H. C. HICKOK, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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For the Lewisburg Chronicle.

GENTLEMEN—I have taken from your "Chronicle" of last week a copied article on Russian serfdom written, no doubt, by some *American* friend of despotic Russia. In correcting the errors in which this article abounds, I am animated by no hostile spirit; but merely by the desire of placing before your readers the "holy and undefiled truth." And let no man say, that Russia has improved (as regards the masses) since the time that the authors, from whom I have made extracts, have written; for such is *not* the fact. Russia is strictly conservative, most heartily despising innovation: and moreover, *Theodore Bulgarin has written since 1840.

As for the quarrel between Russia and Turkey, it is an old one; and the †imperial manslayer (who is entitled to demand fourteen heads per diem without assigning any motive but his will, and whose pachas have unlimited power over life in their governments or pacha-liks, is no more entitled to our sympathy than the "autocrat of all the Russias."

I should think that an American when reflecting on the quarrel, would feel like the venerable Mrs. Punch at the time Old Nick seized upon her husband and when the baker also grasped him to prevent his forcible abduction: and like her be disposed to cry "pull devil—haul baker," thus encouraging both sides alike, an impartial spectator, not caring which party gained the victory.

Looking also at the religious side of the question, the superstitions of the Greek church (the national church of Russia) are no more Christian or entitled to *one* indulgence, than the superstitions of the Mohammedans (incorrectly written Mohametans). I will give a few examples, "When a man dies, a priest is hired who prays over the corpse, purifies it with incense, and sprinkles it with holy water, until it is consigned to the dust. The priest writes out a passport for heaven, which is signed by the bishop, and in his absence by some other dignitary. This paper is put into the hands of the deceased, &c. The nobles wear crosses and amulets which they call their *God*." Percival's Malte Brun Book CIV, page 479.

1. The master can not sell the serf without the land on which he resides.

"The boyar may select at his will, any of the children of his serfs, (after the Emperor's conscription is served) for household servants—to learn mechanical arts &c., and can sell or transfer them to whom he pleases."—*Bulgarin.*

2. Families can not be separated, and the unmarried children, after the death of parents, constitute a family.

This enactment is like the witches, promises in Macbeth. "That keep the word of promise to our ear. But break it to our hope." At the mere caprice of the lord, without assigning any cause, he may not seperate husband and wife: but "for any offence, no matter how imaginary, the serf is dragged before his lord, who may inflict the knout or imprison him at his pleasure." If he wishes to have him put to death, a formal accusation of the lord's that the serf has committed some high crime, as disrespectful language in speaking of the Czar or the Government, forwarded to the Governor of the district with the unhappy victim is sufficient reason for his immediate execution. Princes and Counts of the Empire have power of inflicting death on the serfs of their own estates.—*Bulgarin.*

3. The master's power over the body of the serf extends not to maiming or periling of life.

The slave of the noble (or boyar) is sometimes flogged until his life is endangered, and his daughtets are often the victims of an inhuman master's lust." Percival's Malte Burn, Book CX, page 544. Bulgarin tells us of an avaricious old countess who annually collected the daughters of her serfs, had their long hair cut off, cleansed, packed in bales, sent to St. Petersburg and sold to the perruquiers.

4. The master can not require the serf to marry only according to his own choice or affection.

As he has absolute power over his household serfs to give to whom he pleases, and his power to punish is unlimited, short of death, over all his serfs, it can not be imagined that any would be so hardy as to disobey the expressed will of their lord. This assertion may therefore be considered *positively untrue.*

5. He is entitled to the labor of only three days of the week, and can not require labor on the Sabbath or on high festivals.

The boyars pay no attention to the letter or spirit of this enactment, except so far as it regards Sabbaths and high festivals, and this only through respect to the clergy. "When the time arrives to cultivate the *lord's domain*, the serfs are summoned and set to work, being kept constantly at their labor until the work is finished, which occupies many weeks; and during this time they are *compelled to support themselves.* They receive in return permission to cultivate the serf's land for the same length of time they have been employed on the lord's, without interruption, but if they plant before summoned, the spring frosts will nip the young grain, and if they wait until after their labor on the domain is over, the rapid passage of the short and hot Russian summer deprives the poor serfs of the fruits of their labor.—*Bulgarin.* And to show how futile enactments are to protect the serf, I will give further quotations. "The Russian nobility," says a well informed member of that body—"possess arbitrary power. Little attention is paid to government enactments in the provinces and the neglect arises from the nullity or venality of tribunals, from the fact that a thousand acts of oppression may be committed, which are never heard of in the capital, (St. Petersburg) and from a criminal indulgence to those who transgress the laws, by which the protection of the people might be otherwise insured." Percival Malte Brun Book, CX. page 545.

"The boyars residing on their estates and in the midst of their serfs are supreme judges; and being separated by long distances from the capitol, and being moreover very tenacious of their privileges and jealous of any governmental interference between them and their serfs, they are rarely molested by the Czar even, if by any chance, an act of oppression toward a serf should reach his ears, which is almost impossible, as the governor of the district is always the very good friend of the boyars, whose countenance he depends on in his acts of oppression, of the free farmers, Jews, merchants &c., from whom he accumulates, by rapacity and extortion, a large fortune."—*Bulgarin.*

6. Serfs can not be held except by the nobility and certain privileged classes and persons.

How this ameliorates the condition of the serfs, I am at a loss to conjecture. Nevertheless, even this enactment is violated. "The odnodvorzi, or proprietor of small hereditary estates *may purchase serfs under fictitious names*, but they are liable to be transported arbitrarily from one province to another."—*Per. M. B.* 544.

7. They can not be held except in proportion to the master's property in land, there being required for each serf the possession by the master of twenty-one acres.

I can not find any thing of the kind in R. Pinkerton, Clark, Bulgarin, Malte Brun and others. But it is certain that the serfs are supplied with land to cultivate by enactment, and it may be an arrangement among the boyars, for their own convenience, of the number of agricultural serfs or rather families to be employed on their estates. "After the conscription, the boyar selects the best of the sons remaining, to be taught mechanical arts, and the daughters as ladies' maids, chamber maids, dress makers, and the finest looking for a very objectionable occupation. They are sent to cities and large provincial towns, to practice their various trades and avocations for their lord's benefit, and under the control and direction of the lord's factor."—*Bulgarin.*

"The master enjoins one to be a mason, a second to be a tailor, and a third to be a painter. Each man labors in his vocation, and according to the way in which the work is executed, he is rewarded with ‡brandy or punished with the lash." P. M. B., 543.

I will close this article with an extract from Percival's Note Book, CIV, page 479, g. which appears to be prophetic. "The opening of the Bosphorus to the fleets of all nations, is the first and great object of the war now carried on by the Russians against the Turks. As long as the Porte exercises its present restrictive power, the Black sea will be to the Russian navy but an inland lake, and the commercial, and of course the agricultural prosperity of Southern Russia will be in a great measure at the mercy of Turkish caprice. That a nation so powerful as Russia, should consent any longer to be thus embargoed, and cut off from the use of a great natural outlet can hardly be imagined. *If she should fail in this attempt, it would only be to gather strength for a more desperate conflict.*"

J. L. L.

*Theodore Bulgarin, a Russian author, was born near Moscow, and wrote a very amusing work on Russian domestic life, manners and customs.

†One of the official names of the Turkish Sultan.

‡The liquor used exclusively by the peasantry is Vodky, a sort of whisky made from Barly and Rye. This liquor (of which the serfs are very fond) is distilled solely by the Jews. Every boyar has a Jewish agent on his estate, and the produce of the serfs passes through his hands, he (the serf) exchanging it for coarse earthenware, coarse clothing, vodky and tobacco;—and never reserving more of his produce, than is barely sufficient for the wants of his family. Bulgarin relates an amusing scene between a drunken serf and a Jewish agent, in which the poor serf is unmercifully cheated. The Jew pays to the boyar a yearly sum for the privilege of keeping a vodky or drinking house, and is the boyar's convenient friend when he is scant of money. Bulgarin observes, the Jew generally ends by cheating the boyar, as much as he does the serf, and regrets that the ordinance of prohibition against the Jews, by Peter the Great, should have ever been repealed.

THE LOCUSTS.—The Montgomery (Ala) Journal states that myriads of the locusts that recently made that vicinity vocal by their peculiar music, have perished, and the ground is literally strewn with their dead bodies.

A Terrible Hailstorm.

The Columbia (S. C.) Times of May 29 says the annexed account of a hail storm which visited Pickens District on Friday the 18th of May, exceeds every thing of the kind we have read or heard of. Hailstones 10 inches in circumference and four inches in length, lying upon the ground six feet deep.

If brother Thompson was not known to be a gentleman of veracity, we are not sure but what we would conclude he was joking.

TERRIBLE HAIL STORM.—The severest hail storm that ever visited this section of the country passed down the East side of Keewee river in the afternoon of Friday, 18th inst. It extended about two miles in width, and raged with great fury, killing hogs, fish, birds, fowls and insects; maiming and bruising the cattle, and stripping vegetation of every vestige above ground. The growing crops, with the exception of corn, are completely ruined. R. Stewart, Esq., informs us that day the third after its fall, the hail was from one to two feet deep, and in many places, six feet. The average depth on a level, after the storm, was four inches. We are informed by several persons that the largest hailstones measured ten inches in circumference, and others four inches in length. It fell with such force that the boards on several houses were split to pieces and that now the stench arising from the decaying vegetable matter is very offensive.

We are indebted to the kindness of W. J. Parsons, Esq., for a small carpet bag full of the hail, gathered upon yesterday, (the eighth day after its fall.) Some of the stones were as large as guinea eggs, and had been taken from an open field, the thermometer standing at 90 during two days past.

The storm extended from the mountains in North Carolina East.—*Picken (S. C.) Courier.*

Sale of Car Stock.

It is rumored that the Transportation Companies on the Pennsylvania canal and railroads have sold their entire stock of cars to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. They are to receive from the Railroad Company $100,000, although the estimate of the stock did not reach $50,000. The Railroad company is to get possession of the cars on the 15th of this month. The old Transportations have stopped receipting, and will not ship goods after that time. The boats belonging to the Companies on this Division of the canal are to be run off to the Western canals and sold, and those on the Eastern Division are to be taken to the North Branch and other canals. We have this from Madam Rumor, and believe that she speaks the truth. We will now see what kind of stuff the Canal Board is made of. —*Johnstown Echo.*

Couldn't, cos he Sung so!

Leaning idly over a fence, a few days since, we noticed a little four year old "lord of the creation" amusing himself in the grass, by watching the frolicsome flight of birds which were playing around him. At length a beautiful bobolink perched himself upon a drooping bough of an apple tree, which extended to within a few yards of where the urchin sat, and maintained his position apparently unconscious of the close proximity to one whom birds usually consider a dangerous neighbor.

The boy seemed astonished at his impudence, and after regarding him steadily for a minute or two, obeying the instinct of his baser part, he picked up a stone lying at his feet, and was preparing to throw it, steadying himself carefully for a good aim. The little arm was reached backward without alarming the bird, and "Bob" was within an ace of damage, when lo! his throat swelled, and forth came Nature's plea:—"a link—a-link—a-l-i-n-k, bob-o-link, bob-o-link! a-link—a link! don't throw it!—throw it, throw it, &c., &c.; and he didn't! Slowly the little arm subsided to its natural position, and the now despised stone dropped. The minstrel charmed the murderer! We heard the songster through, and watched his unharmed flight, as did the boy, with a sorrowful countenance. Anxious to hear an expression of the little fellow's feelings, we approached him and inquired.

Why didn't you stone him, my boy? You might have killed him and carried him home.

The poor little fellow looked up doubtingly, as though he suspected our meaning, and with an impression, half shame and half sorrow, he replied.

"Couldn't! cos he sung so!"

Who will say that our nature is *wholly* depraved, after that; or aver that "music hath *no* charms to soothe the savage breast." Melody awakened Humanity, and Humanity—Mercy! The angels who sang at the Creation, whisperd in the child's heart. The bird was saved, and God was glorified by the deed. Now little boys! don't stone the birds.—*Clinton Courier.*

It is said that nearly a million of bushels of oats have arrived at Buffalo and Oswego, N. Y., since navigation opened.

TELEGRAPHIC.—When it was first reported that Professor Morse had succeeded in conveying intelligence between Baltimore and Washington, through the wires of the Magnetic Telegraph, one old savant, who had been a schoolmaster and a member of the Legislature, gave it as his opinion that the report was "a humbug!" In fact, from his knowledge of "astronomy," he said the thing could not be done! Shortly after, O'Reilley's men were seen setting poles directly by the old man's dwelling. One day he joined the crowd who were witnessing the operation of stretching the wire. Upon being asked what he thought of the matter then, he hesitated a moment, assuming an air of importance, and then replied: "Well, gentlemen, while in the Legislature, I gave the subject considerable attention and reflection, I have come to the conclusion that it may answer very well for small packages, but will never do for large bundles—never!"

Southey, in his "Omniana," relates the following: "When I was last in Lisbon, a nun made her escape from the nunnery. The first thing for which she inquired when she reached the house in which she was to be secreted was a looking glass. She had entered the convent when only five years old, and from that time had never seen her own face.

We fancy we hate flattery, when all we hate is the awkwardness of the flatterer.

THE FARM:

The Garden---The Orchard.

Rotation of Crops.

Although instances are frequently cited, of certain plants being raised on particular spots of ground for year after year, without any apparent diminution in the produce, yet it is generally allowed that a rotation of crops is always of advantage, and often of the greatest importance. We consider it as necessary as depth and mellowness of soil, and the regular application of manure. Gardeners are sometimes heard to complain of vegetables becoming "tired" of the ground where they have been long cultivated. They are attacked by numerous diseases and insects, while a deficiency is to be discovered in the amount of the produce. As soon as this is known some wiseacres will send many miles, in order to procure new varieties of seed, because the old ones have "degenerated."

A more certain method of relief would be to adopt a good rotation of crops, which is based on the well known fact, that the several families of plants not only strike their roots in different depths and in different directions, but draw different kinds of nourishment from the soil. When one particular element of a vegetable is removed from the soil, the vegetable can not again be raised there, until that element be restored. It is, therefore, advisable to alternate the crops, by which means the land will have opportunity to regain its original strength and fertility. This is illustrated by Dame Nature herself. If old pastures were to be attentively observed it would be found that the grasses gradually change from season to season; and in wood-land, it would be discovered, that an entirely different kind of tree takes the place of such as have decayed, or have been cut down. Thus the pine and others of the coniferæ will succeed the oak, the chesnut and other deciduous trees.

A rotation is designed to prevent a too frequent recurrence of the same species upon a particular spot. Some authors lay down regular plans for the guidance of their readers; but as the space annually appropriated to different plants depends upon circumstances, it will be readily seen that all such courses or plans are difficult of application. Instead, therefore, of following this practice, we shall content ourselves with some general rules, which possess the merits of simplicity and brieſness, so that the reader can adapt them to his own wants.

In the first place, vegetables of the same species shall not follow each other, but return at as distant intervals as the case will allow. Tuberous or tap roots should be succeeded by those of a fibrous character; perennials by annuals; and plants of a dry, solid texture, or those left for seed, by such as are succulent and juicy. Ground which has necessarily been devoted for a number of years to the artichoke, asparagus, rhubarb, strawberry, and the like, should, as soon as they are removed to other parts of the enclosure, be subjected to a strict rotation, and allowed to recover those elements of fertility of which it has been exhausted. Where the garden is divided into quarters, the vegetables can easily be made to take a circuit in every four or eight years.

A little reflection will satisfy the intelligent reader, that by observing an alternation of crops, digging his soil to a proper depth, and manuring it abundantly, he need have no fear of its losing its fertility, or of his choice vegetables degenerating.—*Schenck's Garden Text Book.*

Beans with Indian Corn.

It has long been an undecided question, whether beans planted with Indian corn, are an actual injury to the crop. Last year I had a piece of corn on the south side of a hill, of rather gentle descent, and as it presented a favorable opportunity, I determined to make the trial. There were fifty rows of thirty-six hills each, in the piece. Commencing on one side, I counted off eight rows, and planted the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth to corn and beans—dropping the beans not *with* the corn, but about six inches on one side. Eight more rows were then counted off, and the next four planted in the same way; the remainder of the entire piece was planted to corn alone.

At harvest, the first four rows, having the beans in them, were cut and weighed, and then the four rows immediately contiguous on either side, were cut and weighed. The same course was pursued in reference to the other rows, and the rows nearest them on either hand, and the result was no perceptible difference existed in the amount of corn produced by the rows having beans in the hills, and that of the rows having none. The soil thro'out the piece was as nearly of the same quality as it well could be, and the management of the entire piece was in every respect the same. The beans made a very good crop, were well filled, plump and fair, and the corn was also good. The manure used, was short muck, one shovel full to the hill. The crop was hoed three times, and a gill of plaster applied to the hill at the second hoeing.—*S. W. J., in Germantown Telegraph.*

Early Tomatoes.

There are some general principles, which lie at the basis both of good farming and gardening, and which are applicable to growing with success an oak tree, as well as a tomato. Frequent transplanting makes *fibre* either in the roots of a tree or vegetable here, and is both the secret of getting trees to grow and having early tomatoes. Our Tomato Plants, at the time of this writing (middle of last month) *are eighteen inches high, stout, thickly branched* all around, with a hard, not succulent stem, and out in blossom. In a few days we shall back up a cart to where they are growing, dig them up with a spade, and enough earth and roots adhering to each one, as would go in a quarter peck measure, fling them into the cart, and plant them out either on a clear or cloudy day, as it may happen, and not expect a leaf or blossom to hardly droop its head or wither. The reason is, they will have been *thrice transplanted.* First sown thickly in the frame, then pricked out into rows afterwards as they increase in size, transplanted into other rows, wider apart and where they would *have plenty of room* in rich soil to expand and grow before the last removal. The consequence is they acquire a mass of fibrous roots, the very life of the plant, to which the earth adheres, and the stem acquires a firmness, not easily affected by the weather. This is of course done in frames under glass, which are raised from time to time as the height of the plants may require, and to give them room. In this way we have tomatoes about two weeks before our neighbors.—*Farm Journal.*

The Crops in Western Pennsylvania.

In this portion of Pennsylvania, we hear neither word of complaint nor foreboding in relation to the crops. During the last week we had two refreshing rains that came at the moment when they were needed. The rain of Friday night was steady, warm and gentle, and every growing thing under its influence, smiled a new promise to the expectant husbandmen. The season is now so far advanced that we may consider the fruit out of danger, as far as that is concerned.

The blossoms upon the trees have been so abundant this spring as to excite particular attention. One might almost believe that they (the trees) had retained their juices during the last summer, and were about to give a double crop. The branches of the cherry tree presented quite a peculiar appearance about a week since. They were completely enveloped in blossoms, and looked like long cylindrical boquets.

In fine all fruit trees promise a most abundant yield for this season.

As it regards the prospect for cereals, in our little trips to the country we hear only cheering words from the farmers. In those portions of Westmoreland and Fayette counties, through which we rode a few days since, we made it a point to mark the appearance of grain fields. The growing crops of Oats and Wheat, already wave in passing wind, and several fields of corn seemed fit for hoeing. The drought of last year seems to have brought a blessing behind it, for we are informed that many of the most injurious insects and grubbs appear to have been almost entirely exterminated or, as we may say, burnt out. As regards the potato crops it is yet too early to form any judgment. As a general thing however, the season that favors other crops will insure a fair yield to them, always making allowance for the rot, which comes and goes as it will, apparently regardless of times or seasons.

What we have written above seems but an echo of what comes to us from all parts of the country, and the smiles of nature continuing with us, the crops of this season will be sufficiently abundant to refil exhausted granaries and make this country again the source of supply to the world that seems now bent upon consuming without producing.

Capital in Farming.

Our correspondent, F. A. Birge, of Springfield, Mass., has requested an article for beginners, on the amount of capital required for commencing farm operations, in which he thinks there are hundreds of our young readers who would be interested. In compliance with this request, we proceed to furnish a few practical hints on the subject.

The great leading error of most of the young farmers of our country is in not "counting the cost." The first thing they do is to expend not only all their capital in buying as large a farm as possible, but most usually they run largely into debt. Their desire for large possessions leaves them nothing to stock and improve the farm, and hence for many years, while loaded with a discouraging debt, their farms remain poorly provided with animals, with good implements, and with a good supply of manure. They are therefore compelled to perform all their operations to a great disadvantage; their small crops afford no nett profits, and they become discouraged and lose the energy and enterprises essential to success. These causes are the most fruitful source of poor and slip-shod farming in America. It is not very difficult, in traversing the country, to point out among the various occupants of the land, from the appearance of the premises, such as are burthened with heavy debt, from those who have a good supply of spare capital.

It has been remarked that in England, where taxes are levied on everything that a man wears and everything that he eats, and where the cultivator must farm well or not at all, the amount of capital to begin with must be about as great in *renting* a farm, as in *buying* one in the best farming districts of our own country. The result in everything is done in the best manner; and if farmers are *compelled* to farm well there, or else become bankrupt and starve, why may we not adopt from *choice* the same advantageous course in this country—to lay up handsome profits against a rainy day—and be enabled to enjoy the rare gratification of feeling able to give liberally, to charitable and useful objects, without deranging one's financial concerns?

One great reason why young (and often old) farmers are so poorly supplied with surplus capital after buying land, is, that they have never estimated how much they will want. An estimate of this sort would prevent many heavy purchases of farms and the entire consumption of means—it would induce smaller outlays in land, and larger expenditures in the means for making heavy nett profits. We therefore purpose, by way of affording some assistance on this subject, to point out what a moderate farmer actually and indispensably requires besides a farm and *good buildings.*

The *average* of farms in this country, will not perhaps exceed one hundred *improved* acres. The following will be required for commencing operations to advantage.

Live Stock.—This will vary much with the character and quality of the land, its connection with market, &c., but the following is a fair average, for fertile land.

3 horses, at $100	$300
1 yoke of oxen	100
8 milch cows, $25	200
10 steers, heifers and calves	100
20 pigs, $5	100
100 sheep, $2	200
Poultry, &c.	10

Implements.—To farm *economically*, these must be of the best, especially those that are daily used. A plow, for instance, that saves only one-eighth of a team's strength, will save an hour a day, or more than *twelve* days (worth $24,) in a hundred—an amount, annually, that would be well worth paying freely for in the best plow. A simple hand-hoe—so well made that it shall enable the laborer to do one hour's more work daily, will save twelve days in a hundred, enough to pay for many of the best made implements of the kind. These examples are sufficient to show the importance of securing the best.

2 plows fitted for work, and 1 small do	$25
1 cultivator	7
1 harrow	10
1 roller	10
1 seed planter	15
1 fanning mill, 1 straw cutter	40
1 root-slicer	28
1 farm wagon, 1 ox-cart, 1 horse-cart, with hay rakes, &c.	180
Harness for three horses	50
1 shovel, 1 spade, 2 manure-forks, 3 hay forks, 1 pointed shovel, 1 grain shovel 1 pick, 1 hammer, 1 wood saw, 1 turnip hook, 2 ladders, 2 sheep shears, 2 steelyards, (large and small), 1 half bushel measure, each $1.	20
1 horse rake	8
2 grain cradles, 2 scythes	12
1 wheelbarrow	5
1 maul and wedges, 2 axes	6½
1 hay knife, 1 ox chain	6
1 tape line, for measuring fields and crops	2
1 grindstone	3
1 crowbar	2
1 sled and fixtures	30
Hand-hoes, handrakes, baskets, stable lantern, curry comb and brush, grain bags, &c. say	15
	471½

In addition to the sub-soil plow, sowing machine, mower and reaper, thrashing machine, horse power for sawing wood, cutting straw, &c., would more than double the amount, but young farmers may hire most of these during the earlier periods of their practice. A set of the simpler carpenter's tools, for repairing implements in rainy weather, would soon repay their cost.

Besides the preceding, the *seeds* for the various farm crops, would cost not less than $75; hired the labor for one year, to do the work well, would probably be as much as $350; and food for maintaining all the domestic animals from the opening of spring until grass, and grain for horses till harvest, would not be less in value than $100; $525 in all.

For domestic animals	$1010
For implements	471½
For seeds, food and labor	525
	2009½

That is, *two-thousand dollars* are needed the first year, for stocking and conducting satisfactorily the operations of a good hundred acres of improved land; several items will doubtless be supplied or added to the list by the recollection of every farmer.

This sum will no doubt seem frightfully large to some who have never made a similar estimate; we would therefore request such to sit down and see how much they can spare without inconvenience or loss; and the question will arise, how can we command so large an amount? We answer, Buy smaller farms—expend less in land, and more in means to till it well. Much as we dislike running into debt, it is better to borrow money for the latter, than the far more common practice of borrowing to pay for land. For, by running in debt for land, followed by bad tillage, the young farmer will be long in extricating himself from a depressing load; while on the contrary, movable capital will enable him to perform everything at the right moment of time, and in the very best manner. He will not be "too poor to be economical," but will often save much by a little timely outlay.

A single example will show the economy of a prompt use of means. Two farmers had each sown a crop of ruta-bagas. The first, who was always enabled to take time by the fore-lock, hoed the young weeds when only an inch high, with very little labor, and the young plants grew vigorously. The other, being crowded in his work from deficient calculation, and consequently deficient help, was compelled to defer his hoeing ten days, when the weeds had grown six inches high, and had half smothered the crop. The labor was more than tripple the former, and the crop greatly inferior. We could multiply instances of all kinds bearing in the same direction, and showing that the farmer in his eagerness to possess many acres, weakens his means for present action, not only adopts the worst kind of economy, but compels himself to continue in this losing system for years to come.—*Country Gentleman.*

From the Pennsylvania Farm Journal.

Large vs. Small Potatoes for Seed.

J. L. PARLINGTON:—I see a statement of Mr. C. T. Alvard, of Wilmington, Vermont, going the rounds in the Village Record, in which he says, that he has been in the habit of planting large potatoes for seed, but one year he run short of large ones and was compelled to finish planting with small ones, the largest of which was not larger than a common plum; and that he raised equally as good potatoes from the small, as he did from the large seed.

Now, if such is the case, why is it that when farmers go to select their seed corn, they pick the longest, the thickest, the best grown, the largest grained and the ripest ears in their crib? Why not lay their refuse corn aside to plant, if they can raise as good a crop from it? Why is it that they go to their wheat field and select the best lot of wheat in the field, and put it away in their barns where they can get it for seed? Why not take the smallest in the field? The reason is obvious, there is not an intelligent, keen-sighted, reasonable farmer in the country, but who knows that such a system would be ruinous to his crops, because it is the direct road to degeneration, which, in one year might be so trifling as not to be observed, but follow up the same system for twenty years, add twenty such degenerations together and see what they will amount to. In my opinion, potatoes have sustained more damage by planting small, indifferent, half-ripe seed, and by planting the potatoe for ages without intermission, than it has by all other causes combined. The potatoe, to do it justice, should be renewed from the seed of the apple, at least, in every twelve or fifteen years. I firmly believe that planting potatoes for successive ages without renewing, and planting half-grown and half ripe seed, are the main causes of the potatoe rot and failures in the crop.

HOWARD WILLIAMSON.

Willistown, April 7th, 1855.

The most harmless way of getting rid of flies is to expose in a plate a strong solution of quassia chips and brown sugar. The fly-papers sold for the purpose are made by smearing melted resin with a little sugar on paper.