

The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

Beet Sugar Making.

That beet sugar can be manufactured here successfully is proven by long experience. E. T. Gennert, referring to this industry, says: "In Soquel, Cal., is the oldest beet sugar factory in the United States; from it 45 to 55 barrels of white granulated sugar are turned out daily with as much regularity as a baker turns out his rolls. In Alvarado, Cal., from 30 to 35 barrels of white sugar are made daily, and prices are regularly quoted in the San Francisco market. The Maine Beet-Sugar Company in Portland, turns out daily from 30,000 to 35,000 pounds of concrete or melado, and has sold the whole season's product in advance at a very good price to a Boston sugar refinery. The beet-sugar factory at Isleton, Cal., though complete, stands idle; but there is but little doubt that it will work next year to its full capacity. A new sugar factory will be built in Los Angeles county, and begin work by next July; the beets for the same will be mostly planted before the expiration of the present year."

Careful experiments show that when beets are sliced and spread in the sun, four and a half tons of green beets will be reduced to the weight of one ton in two days. It is estimated that a ton of the dried product will be worth \$18 to the farmer and at that rate his land will produce over \$100 an acre. The dried beets can be put in sacks or bales and transported to the factory, where they will yield at the price above named, a handsome profit to the manufacturer.

Buckwheat as a Business.

A Chicago agricultural writer says: A large proportion of the buckwheat consumed in the West comes from the Eastern States and Canada. Every season several carloads of buckwheat flour come to this market from New York, where considerable attention is given to producing the grain. A large proportion of what is sold as buckwheat flour is not true to name. It is often a mixture of rye meal and wheat middlings, to which a minute proportion of buckwheat is added. The market is generally pretty well supplied with what passes for buckwheat flour, whether the crop of buckwheat is large or small. Poor as its quality is, buckwheat flour generally sells for about the same price as the best article made from select white winter wheat.

Now the yield of buckwheat is much larger than that of ordinary wheat, and it can be produced at much less trouble and expense. The seed costs very little, and the grain can be raised on land that would not return the seed of wheat, rye, or barley. All the work connected with producing a crop of buckwheat can be performed at times when other farm matters are not pressing. The land on which it is to be grown need not be plowed till midsummer, and the crop is not ready to be cut till after all the common grains are harvested. Buckwheat is a good crop for small farmers to raise, as it is ordinarily harvested, and thrashed by the use of hand tools. It is a good crop to raise for the purpose of subduing a tough sod. It is not an exhausting crop, like wheat or barley. A good business may be built up in supplying the market with a first-class article of buckwheat flour, put up in small packages.

Corn for Horses.

Is it or is it not economy to feed horses corn in the ear? We have practiced it for a number of years, believing that the portion which was not masticated, and so passed out of the horses without being digested, was not equal to the miller's toll. The toll is every tenth, and this with the waste and time spent in going to the mill will make it fully equal to every eighth. Another thing farmers do not think enough about. Suppose every tenth is not masticated and assimilated by the horse. It is kept on the farm, whereas, if it is left at the mill the farm is so much depleted of plant food. We throw the whole ears into the mangle, and let the work horses bite the kernels off as they like. As soon as horses get used to eating corn there is no danger of its producing any colic or other derangement of the bowels, but care must be taken not to begin too strong at first. Three or four ears of flint corn are all a horse should have to begin a diet of this food. The Southern and Western corn is lighter, and is not so apt to produce colic. In the South, corn is almost always fed in the ear, and so it is in the West, when fed at all. Corn is excellent feed for horses to work on, but not so good for fast driving. They are much more quiet and tractable on corn than with any other grain, and will do no more hard pulling and drudgery with less loss in condition. Oats make a horse sprightly and active, and hence should be fed sparingly to a colt. Oats have helped to make a great many balky, spavined and runaway horses. Corn makes them dull and slow, but strong. Corn is the best for colts while being broken. It may be made lighter and not so heating by having wheat bran mixed with it.—Exchange.

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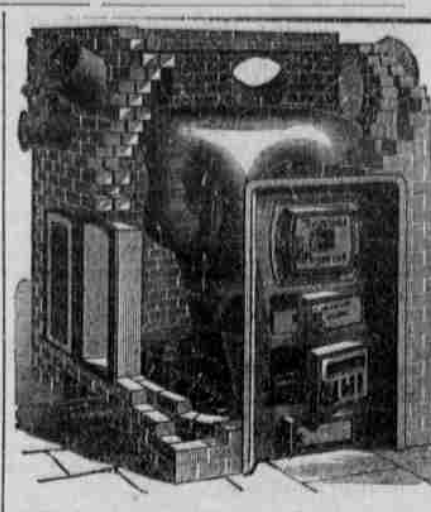
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February 17, 1880.—3m

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