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FARMERS' GAZBDD

R. RAGLBAN,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMSICA

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ENOWLEDGE IN AGRICULTURE-AGRICUL

TURAL PAPERS.

The following is part of an article on this subject in the New England Farmer.

What are the causes which have combined to prevent agriculture from advancing with the other arts and sciences ? They are to be found in the prejudice of farmers for, ancient customs; in their (seeming) paratively a desert, and yi-lding but a poor unbelief in the progress of mind and consequent aversion to improvements; in their hostility to what they term book Farming." which may be defined the practising of set. entific trusts and the recommendations of the intelligent, promulgated through the press. These are the principal causes which have operated to retard the progress of improvement in the rural art. Toanks to agricultural newspapers, they do not now exist to the extent they did a few years since, but their prevalence is still extensive -by far too much so for our na ional indepundendence,* for the pecuniary interest of the husbandman and every interest of the community. How shall it be lessened ? By the disseminution of knowledge of the yeomanry .- Knowledge is power'-it confers the power which the farmer nets,--the power of making every inch of land productive, and to produce to the external its capability,-the power of overcoming by art the obstructions of nature. The knowledge which will give this power, is most easily found and conveyed in agricultural papers. These are within the reach of every cultivator, and should be patronhed by all -- as well by the indigent ", lient ; for their tendency is, not to make the rich richer at the expense of the poor, but to make the poor happier in an incr ase of their crops, and show them how to become independent of the rich. There is not a whit of economy in refusing to be come a subscriber to one of these publica. tions. Howho has but one acre might be learned through this means how to cultivate that so as to treble his usual products, alike with him of his hundred acres : at any rate, either could not be benchited by a year's proved in the case of fuse sto are sub. here. It is a fact worth ing, that you seldom (1 might, probally, say never.) meet with a subscriber to an agricultural paper who does not set a high value upon it, or who is in the least dissuisted with paying a dollar or two a year for perusal. Such an investment of money isin their opinion the best they could possibly make, as none other to them yields so grat an interest. I was told by a farmer --- a abscriber to Judge Buel's Cultivator-that a plan which he found in that paper for scaming apples, potatoes, &c. for his swho, had been of a vast deal more consequence to him than a dozen years' subscripton money. Such instances are common,-in fact it is absolutely impossible, in our view, that some useful information or intuable-hint shoul i not be acquired in the course of a year's reading, which will not repay many fold the price paid for the paper. Farmers need to be made aware of these facts and to be shown through the convincing means of experiment, how falsely founded is their notion of economy in refusing to take a paper devoted exclusively to their interests. These vehicles of knowledge are productive of good in another respect ;-- they take with the young--with those whose minds are not yet warped by prejudice nor fully imbued with false notions,-with whom any thing novel and plaus ble in theory, begets a passion for experiment. I will state an instance the better to illustrate my meaning. A farmer of my acquaintance in New-Hampshire, was bitterly prejudiced against all other modes of farming than that practised by his ancestors from the earliest generation, and transmitted unimpaired (and unimproved) to him. He was loud in his abuse and ridicule of book farming." about which he talked as learnedly as he could of other matters whose discussion renders something more than a knowledge of the alphabet and two ideas necessary ---declaring, in his wisdom, that it was 'intended for the wealthy and college larnt,' and that 'he was'nt fool enough yet to plant his land with mulberry trees ! and buy corn to live on,' &c. This man had a son-a lad of some ninetcen years-who was much inclined to reading, and who had often endeavored to induce his father to subscribe for an agricultural paper, but without effect.

The father had the misfortune to be stricken with a dangerous sickness, and the management of the farm devolved upon the son, who had obtained the parent's consent to conduct it as he pleased, with the provision that he should plant no mulberry trees. As a preliminary siep to the reform tion contemplated, the son subscribed for an agricul tural paper and followed 'book farming' to the extent of his means ; the swamp was resorted to for materials for compost, (an dea which never entered the head of the father.) lime was purchased for manure ; the swine were increased to increase the means of fertilising the soil ; root culture was adopted-alternating crops-manuring by turning in green crops-(for which last | root crops for farm st ck, shoul the mor act, in particular, he incurred the censure o his neighbors, who were unanimous in pronouncing him a 'fool,' 'notiony,' 'crackbrained boy,' &c.)-and such other im prevements made as he found suggested in his paper.

AND

The beneficial change which had been wrought in t e order of things on the farm, was so palpable and manifest as to excite the wonder of the father at his son's unevpected success, and he could not help acknowledging that his prejudices against 'book farming' and agricultural papers were illfounded and supremuly foolish. This farm. under the father's exhausting culture comreturn for toil, has by the scientific and skilful management of the son, been made to teem with plenty and well reward for the sweat of the cultivator's brow. I have heard this farmer declare that his yearly profits da not exceed \$100, and grunble at his hard lot.' Under mis son's administration of affins treble this amount is annually cleaced.

This case is no fiction-and if it were, it would be a faithful representation of many unwritten instances of like results.

It agricul urat papers, then, are produc. ive of so much good-of their tendency is to inake two spires of grass grow where but one grew before,' no means should be spared to extend their circulation : let the farmer who is a subscriber induce his neigh bor who is not, to recome one also ;-let agricultural societies lend all possible aid in the cause. I can conceive of ano her method for advancing my object !- In every village there are generally two persons upon whom the citizens bestow extraordinary respect, or a sort of voluntary reverence, on account of their (supposed) superior intell gence-1 mean the min ster and the physician. Suppose these import ant personages should exercise the influence they are capable of, to the end of improving he agriculture of their towns, by inducing their fellow citiz ns who follow the plough, to read-to improve mind in order o improve the so.l .- could not the great ycominry --- the hard-handed, honest-hearted yeomany-be farthered by such a praiseworthy movement ?

It is, chiefly, to the influence of such paers as the New England Farmer, the Albany Cultivator, the Genneseo Farmer, and reading of a paper, to more than treble the others of a like character, that our improveamount of the subscription price. This is meation rural economy are to be ascribed; -that influence needs encouragement from Staes as well as individuals, -- it needs to be more widely diffused for, in proportion as it is extended, in warly that same proportion will the profession of agriculture be exalted in the public estimation, its opera-tions facilitated, and its products increased. J. II. D.

This should not co tinue to be he case | made as salt as the water of the occean, for to so much imposition as in the qualifies | much by way of a by-blow, at as and we trust that the spirit now abroad in some of those states, for the improvement of their agricultural resources, will have this branch in view, as there can be no good reason why they should be tr butary to other sections for their supplies of those necessar ies of life ; and it is grav ying to learn that Tean-ssee has taken her stand in emancipa. ting herself from this dependence. Such has been the rage for co on planting in the south and southwest, tha most other ar icles of culture have been no lected, many of which need not in fac: to interfere with their great staple. The system now ado ted in the Middle and Eastern States, of preparing generally followed in the Southern 1 and we earn from the above pap r, that in Middle and Wes Tennesee, grain and grass, the high-blooded horse, through-bred neat cat. a helathy, growing condition When first tle, and the improved hog, are multiplying with a most gratifying rapidity. "We are convinced, (says the eddor,)

that this s the system best adapted to our state, and we therefore rejoice that it is in course of adoption taroughout its length and at the age of 9 or 10 months, they should breadth."

> From the N. E. Farmer. E PHINNEY, ON SWINE.

In compliance with your request I cheer. ully devote a few moments to giving you an account of my Piggery. I have often stated and now repeat, that the manure from my hog pens will pay for all the food them in two pens, three in each. Three of which I purchase for them the residue of these I fed very high and kept them as fat all trate, we feel but too a naibly that like Soctheir feed, by far the greater part, being the produce of my own farm.

My breeds are principally of the Borkshire full blool, and a cross of this breed within four or five months of the time o' with the Mackey breed. Tais cross I have killing when they were fed as high as the found decidely preferable to the full bloods of either. I have an imported sow of the same time being then 16 months old. At E-sex half blacks," being a descendant of the Berkshire, and highly spoken of by Engish breeders, The Mackey pigs were in. litteen or twenty years ago, by Capt. Mackey, of Boston, and till within a few years the others .-- Besides this additional weighland, and perhaps in A neries. When first imported, Capt. Mackay, on his farm at nure hap. These results would seem very Weston, not unfrequently brought them up, obvious to any ine who has noticed the all the essential points, such as maturing short feeding they were much more active the more profitable parts, toinness of skin, post, and this activity at the same time cau &c., they greatly exceeded the Berkshine breed, but by breeding in and in, as it is termed, they had greatly degenerated. had come week and feeble in constitution.small in size, ill-shap d, and in some instances deformed. With the exception of the hu nan species, no animal degenera es so rapidly by this practice of breed up in and in as the hog. Judicious crossing is the only way by which a good breed of swine can be kept up and preserved. By proper atten ion to this principle, all good and valuable quilities of a breed may be preserved and he bad rejected ;---without it the best breeds will soon become worthless. With a view of restoring some of the good properties of the Mackey, I tried crossing them

48 nours with a quart of wood nahes add-d to each burnel and given to them occasionalty in small quantities, greatly promotes their calls and growth. Their health and appetite is als . greatly promoted by throwing a handful of charcoal once or twive a week in each of their pens. Their princi-pal food should, however, be cooked as oroughly and as nicely as if intended for able use. From long practice and repeated experiments, I am convinced that two doltars wor h of naterial well cooked will make as much pork as three dollars worth of the same material given in a raw state. Pige when first taken from the sow should b treated with great care to prevent scour. ing had from becoming stinted when either of these happen, it will require many days d prived of the material food, a little new or skim milk, boiled and sli htly salted and given to them often and in small quantities, will prevent scouring and greatly promote their growth. If intended for killing be full fed all the time and kept as fat as possible. If on the other hand they are in-

CHERAW ADVERTIZER.

tended for killing at the nge of 15 or 18 months, they should not be full fed, nor be made very fat for the firs: 9 or 10 months. To satisfy myself of the benefit of this course I took six of my best pigs eight weeks o'd, all of the same litter, and shut the time as they could be made. The other | rates of old, "all that I know is that I know hree were ted sparingly upon coarse food, but kep in a healthy, growing condition, till / others. They were all slaughtered at the the age of 9 months the full f d pigs were much the heaviest, but at the same time of uon, we must consider the nature of his ser killing, the pigs fed sparingly for the firspor ed ato this country from England some 10 or 12 months weighed, upon an average, fifty pounds each more than were decadely the best work in New Eng. of pork, the three "lean kine" added much more than the others to my ma- exceptions, the pay is too little-that higher to 700 lbs. at the age of 18 months. In habits of the animal. In consequence of and character-That is to say, that the de early, lightness of offici, greater weight in and industrious in the manufacture of comsed the muscles to enlarge and the frame of others.

For the purpose of increasing my manure heap, my pens are kept constantly supplied with peat or swamp mud, about three hundred loads of which are annually thrown in o my styrs. This, with the manure from my horse stable, which is daily thrown in. and the weeds and coarse herbage, which are gathered from the farm give, me about 500 art loads of manure in a year.

On regular systematic feeding and clean and dry bedding, the success of raising and three hundred days, though in many cases, fattening swine very much depends. A such as plasterers, bricklayers, painters, with various breeds, and with none have faithful feeder, also, who has some skill

tion and character of their managers, well behoves them to consider the cause of what may be set down as one of the great est evils under which they labor, and the means, if any, which may be applied to remove it. All admit the existence of the grievance, all lament it-but how far will that go towards curing it ? In pursuing the inquiry, with a view to any practicable amendment of the present system of cap-ploying overseers, if amendment be practicable, the true course is to ascertain in what irs defects consist-Suppose Dr. Muse, or Dr. Franklin, or any other skilful physician to be called in to a patient prostrate and speechless ; does he plunge in the lancet or pour in the calomel, without first endeav. ouring to ascertain by the symptome and and sometime's weeks to pu thera again into by inquiry, the seat and the cause of the a helathy, growing condition When first disorder ? No, certainly not; some there are, it is said, with whom these two remedies constitute a panacca of universal efficacy, like Dr. Sangrado's hot water, and so they bleed first, and inquire atterwards ! For ourselves, unskilled in the divine art, we confess to some faith in the pulse and the tongue What then are the causes that managers are, in so many cases, lazy, ignorant, incompetent, drunken and dishonest ? This inquiry we are aware opens a broad field of investigation-So far from pretending to be prepared to solve the problem, we readily admit our inability to do it. On this, as on a thousand subjects which we should rejoice to understand and illusnothing !" Are overseers too poorly paid Is the occupation degrading ? Has the system of discipline over slaves been so much relaxed by their owners, as to prevent the overscer from doing himself justice ?-To determine these questions, a variety of farts are necessary-On the point of compensavices and the degree of his responsibility will be guarded not to forget that and compare these with the services and responsibility of rien of equal grade of capacity in other callings. At first view we had adopted the opinion that, with a few compensation in almost every other employ ment at racted all young men of industry gree of intelligence, industry and integrity necessary to make a good overseer, would command higher wage , at almost any other business, whether on land or water ; but to spread, while the very fat pigs became inactive, and like indefent bipeds, they net-ther worked for their own benefit nor for that garden, his firewood, and a certaie allow. ance of ment and corn. with the privilege to his wife of raising poultry, keeping or using a cow, and sometimes the right of a hog or two from the offal kitchen milk and gar. den stuff-such offal being sufficient for

one hog at least. How does that compare with the best journeyman's wages at any mechanical business, or with a great number of good clerks ? Suppose a journeyman's wages to be \$1,50 per day, for, any &c. &c., they are without employment for and taste, withal a little pride of vocation, is six weeks or two months in winter-but indispensable. Homer informs us that we will say three hundred days-that would much of the success of Ulysses in rearing be four hundred and fifty dollars-Now supposo him to be a married man, what are his expenses ? With an opportunity to inquire, we might speak with more accuracy ; but we will say, for

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worthy, high spirited bricklayer, whose ties, like his trade, lead him to balld or not to pull dawa. It would seem that the wages of the way seer are equal to, and his condition pro-bly in some respects better than this of best journeyman mechanic; for no must men is worthy of the employment as a mager, who would not be worthy of the co-pensation and privileges here designed. Can it be that young men eachers employment because it is not, or is esteem not to be a respectable compation f. The who consider it otherwise, zoust surely has strangely perverted notions of respectab-ty—is the foreman of any manufactary mechanical business respectable f. Well mechanical business respectable? Well is he net an overseer ? Is a chief clorkship in a store or and office not respectable? and is not that man who holds it an overseer ? Is not the birth of a first, or a second, or a third Lieutenant, or mate in a man-of-war or merchant vessel, respectable ? and are not they all overseers, all of them, moreover, being themselves overseen ! Does the overseer on a farm watch over these under him more closely, or enforce discipline so strictly, or punish those under him with so much certainty or sever.ty, as does the Lieuten. ant of a man.of.war, for neglect or disobe-dience, or desertion 1-No, by no means, while he is himself held to a much stricter account by his commanding officer-So is the mate of a merchant-so is the foreman of a manufactory, or the chief clerk of a public office, held to a much stricter account by their superior, than most overseers are, by their employers. The owner of land who would wantonly treat his manager with disrespect, or without ample occasion, make him feel his subordinate situation, only shews as all fools will semetimes doy that "want of decency is want of sense." Ou that point every gentleman (a distinctive appellation for which we must still insist)

"Honor and worth from no condition rise-Act well your part-there all the honor lies."

Who shall say such men as Crawford, manager for Dr. Stewart, and Tucker, for Mr. Maxcy, are not as good and as respectable men, aye, and a thousand times more so than many a large landholder or merchant, being men of uprightness, of sobriety, of courage and of industry-men who have the telepis and the energy to set an example of the best practice, and the greatest suc-cess in the most useful, and lat an add, one of the most difficult and of life. Would to leaven our country abounded more in such men. He must have an abuse intellect, with very little of the spirit of inquiry or thirst for knowledge, whe does not gain ad-vantage and gratification by associating with such men. If they would consent, and those who would employ them would allow them to take any must be and the second to take any must be the second to take any second to take a second to tak allow them to take approximes, or pupils if you will, (fur is some that with some a rose by shy other name will not smell us sweet -hence manager is thought to be more courteous then overseer ! what nonsense !) If we say men of any class, high or low, would bind themselves to work under such men as Crawford and Tucker, where such can be found, it would constitute a much more useful school than many which have been endowed by Legislatures and pious Testators. Young men brought up under them, leaving with their certificate, would carry with them a diploma that would not fat to procure them honorable employment and adequate pay .- Am. Farmer.

"I mean to be understood that the freedom of a country Agriculturally great, is more secure than that of a country goat, adjust, a commercial sense.

Buston, October, 1839.

From the American Farmer.

SWINE.

As much attention is now being paid to improving the breed of Swine, the experience of men of established reputation in the business, will be received with attention ; and in order that our readers may be advised of the modes pursued by such, in the rear. ing of the valuable animal, we will from time present them with the advice and practice pursued by breeders in different parts of the | country. In another page will be found a paper on the subject from Mr. E. Phinney, of whom and of his farm, the editor of the New England Farmer, in a notice of the farms visited in a recent tour, thus speaks :

" Every part of his farm shows, that by science, industry and skill, it has been renlered worthy of being ranked among the first of well cultivated farms in New England, and its proprietor worthy of all praise profit. When it is intended to kill them it for the laudable example he has set for his agricultural brethren.'

The editor of the Tennesce Farmer, in arging upon the farmers of the west to improve their breeds, makes some judicious remarks showing the advantages thereof, and very justly observes, that the possession of a good stock of swine, generally involves he additional advantages of better attention and keep than the scrub animal is apt to receive. The farmer takes a pride and pleasure in his care of a good pig, which it is not extraordinary should be altogether waning in the rearing of an inferior one.

He also alludes to a fact which it is strango should be in existence, yet nevertheless is too true, that

" The southern sections of the country pay out immense sums of money, and subjeet themselves to much inconvenience, and | much Indian meal, barley meal or rice, with portions of their population sometimes even to the pro-pect of starvation, by a total rejection of the maxim, " that no farmer should

succeeded so well as with the Berkshire The produce of this cass postsses all the good and valuable points of the Mackey united to the health, vigor and size, without any of the coarseness of the Berkshire. ful Umeus, whom the old soldier styled god-The best pigs, however, that I have ever like swineleeder. seen, were produced by putting a full blood Berkshire boar to a sow which was a cross of the Mackey with the " Moco." a New York breed, the progeny being half Berk. shire, a quarter Mackey, and a quarter Moco. My stock of fattening swine usually conists of about one hundred, besides about fifty stores. My time for slaughtering is in February and March, when half my pigs are at the age of 15 and 16 months, being the fall and winter litters of the previous head of cattle in one stable, if the vegetayear, the other half being the pigs of the

spring next previous to killing, and are at the cattle in proper order. the age of 9 and 10 months. The former "2. The stall feeding yie in years past have weighed from 350 to 400 lbs., and in some instances as high as

500 lbs. The latter from 250 to 350. An inquiry is often made as to the best time of killing, or what age it is most profitable to slaughter thom. On a large farm where much green herbage is produced and as it is too common, and exhausted by the where the value of the manure istaken into account, I consider the pigs killed at the age of 15 & 16 months as giving in general most this age they may be kept on more ordinary and cheaper fool for the 10 or 12 months

or till within 4 or 5 months of the time of killing. The manure they make and the extra weight of pork more than pay the expense incurred in keeping them the longer ime; but the spring pigs which are to be killed the ensuing winter and spring, must be kept upon the best of food from the time they are taken from the sow until they are slaughtered.

The older class of pigs for the first 10 or 12 months, are kep principally upon brew. ers's grains, with a small quantity of Indian or barley meal or rice, ruta bag ., sugar beer, &c , and in the seas on of clover, peas, oats corn-stalks, weeds, &c., they are cut green and thrown into the pens ; the next four or five months before killing they have as an equal quantity of potatoes, applys or pumpkins as they will cat, the whole being well cooked and saled, and given them

indispensable. Homer informs us that his fat hogs, was to be attributed to his faith-

E. PHINNEY.

SOILING CATTLE.

Soiling is the feeding of cattle either in he barn or yard, through the summer, with new mown grass or roots.

The following are some of the advantages of soiling cattle over dispasturing them : "1 A spot of ground which, when pastured upon, will abundantly maintain five bles be mowed in proper time, and given te

"2. The stall feeding yields at least three times the quantity of manure from the same number of cattle; for the best and most efficacious manure is produced in the stable, and carried to the fields at the most proper period of its fermentation ; whereas, when spread upon meadows or ploughed fields, air and sun, its power is entirely wasted. "3. The cattle used to stall feeding will yield a much greater quantity of milk, and increased faster in weight, when fattening, than when they go to the field.

"4. "hey are less subject to accidentto not suffer so much from heat, fles and insects -- on the contrary if every thing he properly managed, they will remain in a state of constant health and vigor."

Von Thaer.

COMPOSITION FOR CORN.

"Take one bushel of plaster, half a bushof lume, and half a bushel of ashes, and mix them thoroughly together. Apply about a table spoonful to a hill. I have pu it on my corn this season and have found it decidedly beneficial, so much so that I have one of the best fields of corn in this vicinity. Try it reader, next year, the cost is nothing, and the application gives but little trouble. W. E."

Gennesee Farmer.

OVERSEERS OR MANAGERS .- the difficulty of getting good ones .-- It would be difficult purchase what he can raise himself; a great part, at least, of which expenditure and in-convenience might be advantageously ar-ing of domestic animals." of getting good ones.--It would be official to design the any subject, in reference to which hadholders of Maryland, and proba-bly in Virginia and other states south of it, suffer so much inconvenience and detriment --one in regard to which they are liable of each part. So

House rent,	\$40
Wood,	35
Meat, as much as the over-	
seer gets and raises,	50
Milk,	10
Marketing vegetables for the	
year, say,	75
Making	200

Deduct this from his four hundred and fif. ty, and he has in money two hundred and fifty against the overscer's two hundred .-But suppose him to be sick for a day, or a week, or a month-his pay is stopped to the hour, while the overseer's goes on-And then he is not stinted in the use of fire. wood ; gets, or ought to get, from one cow, which every married man, in common ha manity, ought to be allowed to keep, as much milk as will go far towards feeding his children ; and his wife, if a thrifiy wo man, will raise poultry enough to pay for their groceries, except liquors , and were it possible, there should be a stipulation against the use of them in or out of his nouse. But in this, the Boss should set the example, as does our friend-and we are proud to call him friend Jacob Woolf, a in ister mason in Baltimore-a most active, early rising, industrious, thriving, richgrowing mechanic-one with mom we have often stole away before daylight, to enjoy a delightful hunt, killed our for, and got back almost in time to escape the ma. lignant observations of some envious backbiting drones, who looking out yet but half awake, through their chamber window, would say. "Ab, there goes the fox-hunting postmaster-better be in his office : never mind-we'll fix his flin: for him-we'll get up a secret memorial for his removal !" But away with such vermin-It would not be lair to connect them by any sort of association, with Wooll's Leader of Dido. Bythe-bye, in all our exhilarations-after all the fatigues of the chase, W. could never be tempted to drink any thing but water .--

BUCEWHEAT. (Folygonum.) In light lands this crop may raised to advantage. In this clim it should not be sown till after the middle of May. One bushel is seed anough for an acre, if sown broad-cast, as is baual ; but if sown in drills, less than half that grantity is sufficient. In the State of New York, farmers now it in August with win-ter wheat. It affords them a ripe grop in the full, without injuring the crop of wheat,

which grows with and succeeds it. Buckwheat is harvested by mowing, in the manner of barley. After it is mown i should be several days before it is housed. It is in no danger of the seeds falling, nor does it suffer much by we'. From its great succulency it is liable to heat in a mow, on which account it is better to put it into small stacks of five or six loads each, than either a large one, or in a barn.

Mr. London observes, "that the use of the grain of buck wheat in Great Britain is almost entiroly for feeding poultry, pigeons, and swine. It may also be given to horses, which are said to thrive well upon it; but the author of "The New Farmer's Calen. dar," says he thinks he has seen it produce a supefying effect. Young says, that "a bushel of buck wheat goes far her than two bushels of oats, and mixed with at least four times as much bran, will be found suf-ficient for a horse a week. Eight bushels of buckwhoat meal will go as far as twelve bushels of barley moal." The meal of buckwheat is made into thin

The meal of buckwheet is made into thin cakes, called crumpets, in Italy, and in some parts of England. Buckwheet pan-cakes are likewise common, and thought to be wholesome as well as paintable, in thany parts of the United States. Buckwheet blossoms afford rich food for been and are useful as well form the states. blossoms alford rich mod for been an useful as well from the quantity of which they enable the bres to make, long time they continue without fad ceasing to be fregrant. On this is the buckwhicht plant is highly pris France and Gormany; and Do Ham

S New England.