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J. C. HAZEN,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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From Young's Annals of Agriculture.
EXPERIMENTS ON CARROTS.
By the Rev. Mr. Carter, of Plumpton,
Suffolk.

The soil on which the following trials were made is sand, about 18 inches deep, upon an imperfect clay bottom.

1771.—March 16th, sowed one acre with carrot seed; April 5th another; April 5th another; and the end of the month a third; four pound of seed per acre. Began to hoe May 27th, on one acre; and at 10. Is. but the weeds upon the plants so very small and full of weeds, that they could not go on by the acre, which obliged me to get them hoed by the day at 1s. 5d. a man. Carrots generally come to the hoe in seven weeks from sowing. The reason of mine being longer, I apprehend to be partly from a cold backward spring, and partly from the seed being old. New seed is a very material article in order to succeed in a carrot crop. It will come up a week sooner than the old seed, and consequently the crop will get a week's advantage of the weeds, much to the benefit of hoeing, upon which operation the whole difficulty of succeeding is placed. N. B. it is better to sow five pounds instead of four of seed per acre, in order to guard against a bad season or bad seed; and the hours, from the smallness of the plants, are more apt to leave too few than too many. As it is very difficult to be sure of getting new seed from gardeners, it would answer very well to any one who intends cultivating carrots to grow his own seed; this I attempted afterwards, but the hares eating the roots up, I got it from Wethersfield in Essex, where I have always been supplied with good seed, the price varying from 6d. to 2s. 6d. a bushel.

1772.—Sowed one acre and a quarter, March 24th, six pounds seed per acre; April 10th, three acres more 4 lb. 2 pounds per acre; began to hoe June 1st, at 30s. per acre, twice hoeing. *Mem.* Hoed about 10 rods per day. June 11th, harrowed one acre after being hoed a week, but tore up many young carrots, and did considerable damage. August 1st, began to hand-weed by women at 1s. per acre.—October 27th, began to take them up at one half penny a bushel, topping, &c. included; finished November 14th. Total produce 1040 bushels, or 250 per acre.

Expenses.
Hoing as above, £6 7 6
Weeding, 0 4 3
Taking up, 2 3 4
24 pounds of seed at 2s., 2 8 0
11 3 1

1000 Bushels sold at 9d., 37 10 0
Reserved 40 bushels, 1 10 0
39 0 0
Expenses, 11 3 1
Profit, 27 16 11
Or, per acre, 6 11 5

Mem. My man thinks that six bushels of carrots do not more than equal one of oats for horses; in which case the value of carrots is 4d. a bushel, oats being 2s.

1773.—February 2nd, sowed one acre and 20 rods with 10 pounds seed; began to hoe May 14th, the weather turned out very rainy, so that they could not finish till the 29th. Part of it let out at 2d. per rod the first hoeing; the rest by the day, at 1s. 4d. a man, cost rather more than 1 1-2d. per rod. June 7th began to hoe a second time at 1s. 4d. a day; cost 18s. or not quite 1 1-4d. per rod, or per acre 16s. 8d. First hoeing 17d. Began to take up October 25th, at 1 1-2d. per bushel. Produce 455 bushels, sold at 6d. a bushel.

1779.—Began to sow one acre April 22nd. Began to hoe June 1st, and continued it occasionally till August. Produce, besides many stolen, 368 bushels: sold to Lord Grosvenor at Newmarket, for 8d. a bushel, paid 2d. for carriage, 6d. therefore net.

The carrots were given to hogs more

than once; some seemed to thrive tolerably for a time; with others they were prejudicial. Upon the whole, I can value carrots for hogs at not more than 3d. and not to be depended on at any price. They are better for horses than for hogs, especially for such as are broken-winded; but not to be relied on as a food instead of oats being chiefly to be considered as a luxury or physic.

In respect to their effect for succoring crops, the soil is light and sandy, and consequently very subject to spear grass (*tritium repens*) which hoeting rather increases than destroys; and I could never find that the land was in order for barley to lay down with clover, so that I have generally sowed them after wheat, in order for the turnips to follow; and have found much labor necessary to free the land from the spear grass. In a word, they can never be introduced in courses, as turnips are; to sell, they are highly advantageous, but the demand is nothing: the culture should, therefore, be confined to a small space of land for the particular uses I have just mentioned.

Observations. By the Editor.

My own experience in the culture of this root is rather different from my friends, in several particulars; but this by no means impeaches either his practice or mine, for our soils are equally different. I have found carrots to clean the land better, I think, than any other crop I cultivate, and had the pleasure, two years ago, of showing a crop of barley to Mr. Carter after them, that was absolutely clean. But I am very little troubled with spear grass, which certainly multiplies in sand vastly more than in other soils, and accounts for the different results of our trials. The great object is the value of the root consumed at home.—Mr. Carter's expenses may be thus calculated.

Sowd, five pounds at 1s. and sowing, £0 5 6
Hoeing, per acre, 1771, £1 14 0
1772, 1 11 0
1773, 1 16 8
Average of the three, 1 19 6

Taking up, at 3d. per bush. crop of 1771, per acre 283
1772, 250
1773, 404
1779, 368
Average 326 bush. which at 1-2d. rate, 0 13 7
Supposed rent, &c. &c. to be 0 10 0
£3 3 1

The crop at 326 bushels, the prime cost of the carrots is something better than 2 1-4d. per bushel. Suppose them consumed at home, to pay 4d. per bushel, the profit would be 1 3-4d., or per acre (at 326 bushels) 2l. 7s. 6d. which would answer perfectly well. *Are they worth 4d.? Fiat experimentum.*

If ever Mr. Carter makes any trials to ascertain this point, I have no doubt of their being very valuable, since no man is more accurate or more attentive. A. Y.

*I should observe that Mr. Carter did not draw up this account with any intention of printing it, but merely for his own private use; I persuaded him to let me copy it for this work; it is accordingly transcribed verbatim from the journal-book of his farm.

From the Sporting Magazine.

ALLOWANCE OF WATER TO HORSES.

It is by no means an uncommon notion that if horses are to be got into condition for work, they should be allowed to drink but a very small quantity of water. On what physiological basis this opinion is founded, I confess appears to me a perfect mystery. Nevertheless, as many persons adopt this treatment, it is fitting to notice it. For my own part, I have ever found that it is an extremely bad plan to stint a horse in his water, and have consequently always made a practice of leaving plenty of it at all times within reach of every horse I have had.—Of course I do not intend to say that when a horse comes in heated from exercise he should be suffered to drink, or should have a bellyfull of water just prior to being ridden; but if a horse be watered *ad libitum* in the morning, he will not require to drink again for some hours, and should never be allowed to do so then, unless perfectly cool. Those horses that are only supplied with a limited quantity of water at a time, and are never permitted to slake their thirst fully, will be much more liable to be griped, if at any change they should drink their fill, than those that are always suffered to take as much as nature dictates to them: but should a horse have been hard worked and come into his stable very hot, I would, after having seen him well dried, only give him a small quantity, for two reasons; first, because his eagerness for water may lead him to drink more at a time than is good for him; and, secondly, because a large quantity of water will probably cause him to break out into a cold sweat, in which he may remain all night if not looked to. After having taken a third, or less, of a stable pailful of water, he should be kept without any for some time, and then be allowed to take what he pleases. When, however, you intend to stint your horses in this way, do not suffer your groom to offer him a pailful of water, and to take it from him when he has drunk a small portion of it, but let just the quantity you wish him to have, and no more, be given to him; he will then feel to a certain degree satisfied with what he gets; whereas by taking from him

what he expects to have, he becomes fretful and discontented. In the first instance he makes up his mind to slake his thirst with a short allowance of water; whereas in the second his just expectations are balked in mid career, and his imagination cheated as it were in the height of his employment—and there is much more in this than may be supposed. Physiologists are well aware of the connexion existing between the stomach and the brain; and those who have not inquired into this fact must either do so before they attempt to restate it, or take what I have said as proved.

[A horse when heated and very thirsty ought not to be denied water altogether. A small quantity without doing injury, will tend to cool him, and prepare him the earlier for a full draught, whilst it adds greatly to his comfort. Ed. Gaz.]

From the Mississippi Farmer.

Log hall, January 25, 1840.

Messrs Editors.—The plan I have followed of rearing, managing, and fattening swine has been too much like my fellow citizens, to be able to give much practical knowledge on this subject—a subject of much greater import to Mississippi than "who will be our next President"—and one much neglected. I hold that the planters and farmers of Mississippi, are better able to take care of stock than more northern countries; because our winters are shorter and milder, food is easier procur'd, and none of us scarcely but has a hand too old or too young, that could be employed in making the "pot boil." Much of what I will say will be met at the start, with "too much trouble," "time lost," &c., but all the "trouble and time" is but gain to a systematic farmer.

Your hogs should be of some good breed that will mature early, arrive at a fair size, and fatten kindly. This done, provide necessary fixtures for boiling for, and housing stock. "There are no animals which delight more in a clean, and comfortable place to lie down in, and none that cleanliness has a better effect upon with respect to their thriving and feeding."—N. E. Farmer of '31. The attention of an aged or infirm negro will do the balance, if food be provided.

I know of no better plan of rearing and managing swine than that of Col. V. C. H. published in the 3d No. of the Mississippi Farmer, so far as it goes. Very few sows can raise profitably the pigs, more especially young sows. I have for several years been an advocate for destroying a part of every litter when there were too many pigs. Don't let sows breed under twelve months: to prevent this, if you keep hogs in an enclosure, keep the boar in a lot to himself, and turn sows in to him.

In winter feed hogs on boiled corn soured, or on heavy puddling, or gruel: in summer give them the run of a grass pasture, well fenced, and well watered, and general refuse of the garden: hogs will fatten on squashes winter or summer—rotten cotton seed is a good feed if otherwise attended to: keep salt where hogs can get it any time. The usual mode of feeding hogs on dry corn is the worst and most extravagant of all plans; it would be better to soak it in water several days until soft, and soured—and keep a supply ahead of at least three days' work.

But the best plan is to boil food, and if slightly acidulated, still better. Hogs will fatten faster on parsnips or millet, than on corn: the first will not make the best bacon but can soon be made equal by feeding on corn or rye. If every farmer will prepare for stock, the cost and trouble will not be felt. Hogs will, after a little trouble, eat ground artichoke, parsnips, carrots, beets, turnips, squashes, Irish and sweet potatoes, millet, &c. some of them without any preparation. These can all be raised here cheaper than any where I have ever been.

An old negro can boil enough in half a day to feed a stock for a week, and is with no more trouble than giving them corn.

John D. Gillard in an article to the Agricultural Society of Pendleton District, South Carolina, says that he tried the usual mode of feeding hogs, and found it wasteful; he then tried for three years boiled corn and peas: he then commenced the use of corn meal, "and although the weather had got much more severe, they fattened much faster;" and "eat still less."

He fed eight quarts of corn per day—his hogs "fill away fast;" then took "four quarts of corn-meal boiled in ten quarts of water until reduced to eight quarts;" salt added—remained in a vessel one day—and in one week from this day this practice was adopted, they looked much better; and from that time increased in flesh." He believed if he had continued the corn, one half would have died. Many of your readers will know the standing of this gentleman.

Benjamin Colman of Spotsylvania, Virginia, in 1821, used millet boiled, or in meal, in fattening hogs; their increase was astonishing on a trial between corn and millet, the one fed on the latter increased as 23 to 23 to 12-3 in fifteen days. See American Farmer, Vol. 3.

The Rev. Benjamin Colman in an article published in the New York Farmer of October 1834, makes a variety of statements in regard to different kinds of food. "In one experiment recently made of giving swine raw meal mixed with water, I have found a falling off in their gain of nearly half compared with giving their food cooked, such as boiled potatoes,

carrots, mixed with meal while hot; the results being in a size containing a number of swine, as 239 to 500." The Hon. John Lowell says: "I have taken two pigs of one hundred pounds each, age six months, and never was able between May and November, to get them above one hundred and eighty, rarely above one hundred and seventy. I have taken three pigs of about thirty pounds each, and on the same food which I gave to the two, they would weigh one hundred and eighty pounds each in the same period;" thereby advising that pigs be put up to fatten at an early age.

The Rev. Mr. Colman sums up with, "I believe in all cases cooked food will have a decided advantage over that which is given in a raw state; an advantage more than equivalent to the labor and expense of its preparation."

A writer in the New York Farmer of '31, who signs himself a "Scientific Farmer," mentions a fact conclusive. A neighbor had tried two seasons to fatten a hog with a large frame, but had each time, after feeding the worth of the hog, been compelled to give it up. "A Scientific Farmer" bought him, and by the use of corn meal and potatoes boiled, and occasionally pumpkins, to use his words, "he fattened astonishingly."

Jesse Buel of Albany, New York, one of the best farmers of any age, estimates "the actual expense of fattening hogs thus, upon the refuse of the farm crop, is fifty to seventy-five per cent. less than feeding with dry corn." He feeds with small refuse potatoes and meal boiled—says he can boil thirty gallons completely in eighteen minutes.

Richard Peters of Pennsylvania, a gentleman of no less reputation as a judge, than as a farmer, says, in December 183—"sour food is the most grateful and alimentary to swine, one gallon of sour wash, goes farther than two of sweet." Vide *Memirs of the Philadelphia Society for promoting agriculture*, Vol. 1, page 229.

I have now given you the facts from several sources, from practical men, and from men of reputation—gentlemen whose education, and in effect placed them far above their fellows—and all agree feeding in an open pen on corn and water to be wasteful; they furthermore agree that hogs will fatten faster in a clean, warm, dry sty, fed on sops, whether cooked or not. Nearly every writer from any portion of our land, with a large number (whose writings I have seen) from Europe, speak of cooked food as cheapest in the end. I have tried the boiled, soured, and the plan my father followed. I give preference to the first—the second for before the last, and the road my father travelled is sure, but like the road to hell—there is one by the side of it shorter and much better.

The length of this article will tire many of your readers; so let it be; but I trust it will excite the attention of a few whose energy and enterprise will induce them to try. Hogs are easily fattened. Let every farmer plant more potatoes than he will expect to eat: lay aside the inferior for his hogs, cattle and horses; plant a large garden, have it well filled with parsnips, carrots, beets, cabbage and squashes, or pumpkins, squashes, pineapples and peas, in his cane (or corn) field; and I venture the assertion that next year he will read with pleasure an article even longer than this.

Yours,
M. W. PHILLIPS.
From the Mississippi Farmer.
Log Hall February 11, 1840.

Messrs. Editors.—Having this day received a letter from an extensive importer of blooded stock, and believing that the contents will prove acceptable to many of your readers, I subjoin as much thereof as is thought the precise of.

"The price of stock, especially cattle and sheep, depends so much upon their various qualities, that it is difficult to give you a satisfactory reply on this head. Good 'Herd Book' pedigrees constitute a great part of the value of short horns.

I attended two large sales, in Yorkshire, (Eng.) viz: J. Colling, and the Earl of Carlisle at Castle Howard. The enterprisers, including bulls, cows, heifers, and calves averaged about £75 each—\$360 dollars. One cow, nine years old, was sold for 320 guineas—\$1600 dollars. We have ever engaged to put down here, (New Orleans, La.) heifers in calf at \$400 each; cows at about \$550 to 700; young bulls \$400 to 600. All with full 'Herd Book' pedigrees.

In sheep, too, there is a great difference in price; some of the celebrated ram breeders, hire out rams at \$200 to 350 per season. They generally average at £30, in lots of 50 and 100; scarcely any are let for less than £8 to 10. Those rams that we have imported, have been sold for \$100 to 150 each. Ewes \$50 to 60—all South Down breed. Berkshire pigs we sell at \$50 per pair.

Cannot some of our fellow citizens be induced to become importers, some who have the money, and wish to do good for their State? Even if interest must stimulate you, they cannot make a better investment: good stock must be procured in Mississippi; they will be here, and will be the great lever to raise us from our wretched state. The writer of the above letter returns direct to England, and will fill any orders; will either take cotton and purchase with proceeds on commission, or will deliver in New Orleans at stated prices.

A letter will reach him in a few days in Nashville, Tenn., he soon returns to New

Orleans on his way. Mr. S. Wait is the gentleman—he will give references satisfactory in the west, or elsewhere. I feel very anxious to see some of the pure stock in this country. I want the people at large to see the immense difference, and could I control the means, I would risk all loss—and rejoice at the opportunity.

Success attend your efforts, is the wish of yours, &c.
M. W. PHILLIPS.
N. B.—J. Colling is the celebrated breeder who sold "Comet" some years since for 1000 guineas.

SILK CULTURE.

THE DOMESTIC COCOONERY.

It is expected that during the season of 1840, great numbers of persons will desire to try experiments in feeding silk worms, and to enable them to do so upon the most economical plan, we have prepared the following directions for fitting up and conducting a domestic cocoonery. Entire confidence may be placed in all the estimates and calculations, as they are founded upon the results of actual and judicious practice, both of European and American cultivators: The Editor of this Journal has been able to establish a set of simple principles or elements, deduced from the practice above alluded to, of numerous individuals, which will enable any person to make his calculations without difficulty, viz:

1st. The average weight of leaves that each morus multicaulis tree will afford during its first season's growth, on land of fair quality, and the trees planted four feet by one apart, is one pound.

2d. The average quantity of leaves consumed by each worm during its life, is one ounce.

3d. The space of shelf occupied by the worms, is as follows:

Dur'd. the 1st age, 1,000 w. occupy 1 of a sq. ft.
" 2d age, " " " 3-4 " "
" 3d age, " " " 2 sq. ft.
" 4th age, " " " 6 " "
" 5th age, " " " 18 " "

4th. Three thousand worms will make one bushel of cocoons.

5. One bushel of cocoons will make one pound of raw silk, ready for market.

6th. One pound of cocoons will produce one ounce of eggs.

Thus, 1,000 worms the first year; these will require 288 square feet of shelf, or 8 shelves, 12 feet long and 3 feet wide. They will produce 5½ bushels of cocoons, or the same number of pounds of merchantable raw silk.

These simple elements, and all calculations founded on them, it must be borne in mind, refer exclusively to the natural system; that which all persons will practice in a domestic cocoonery.

Any common room may be used for the cocoonery. It ought, however, to have one or more windows on each side, and if it have a fireplace, it will be all the better for it. The second story of the house will be better for the worms than the first, though it is not so convenient for the attendants. If it be desired to fit it up temporarily for the cocoonery, the following plan will answer every purpose, without the least injury to the walls, or any thing else; and after the cocoons are gathered, the shelves can be removed, and the lumber used for other purposes.

Suppose the room to be 20 feet long, and 16 feet wide. Make three tréshes, such as carpenters use, out of scantling, 3 feet long, 1 foot high, with 4 legs. Set one in the middle, and one near each end of one side of the room, and lay upon them 3 planks, 16 feet long, and 1 foot wide; thus making a temporary table, 16 feet long and 3 feet wide. A tin pan can be placed under each foot of the tréshes, to be kept full of water to prevent ants and other vermin from getting upon the shelves. They can be obtained very cheaply at every tin-shop, and are effectual preventives of such evils. A second shelf may be placed upon the first, by fixing the tréshes directly over those below, and a third, fourth, fifth and sixth in the same way. The tréshes should be made to stand firmly and level, with the legs expanded, that they may act as braces to steady the range of shelves. The plank need not be nailed down, if it be an object not to injure them; but the shelves would be more steady and firm if this were done.

In setting up these shelves, a space ought to be left between them and the wall, to prevent ants, &c. getting upon them from that quarter; a few inches will be sufficient. In a room of the above dimensions then, we shall have three ranges of shelves, 16 feet long, 3 feet wide, with an alley of 3 feet between each range, &c. and a space at each end, to pass freely.

If we put 6 shelves in each range, we shall have 18 shelves, 16 by 3 feet each, and these will contain 48,000 worms. The plank shelves should be covered with old newspapers or any other waste paper.

The management of the silk worms on this plan, may be as follows:—Expose the eggs to hatch in the usual manner. Pay no attention to those that hatch the first day.—Those that hatch on the second day, should be placed on the first range of shelves; those that hatch on the third day, on the second range; and those that hatch on the fourth day, on the third range.—Pay no attention to the few that hatch after the fourth day, they are too dilatory to be profitable the young worms are very easily removed from the hatching table, by laying small mulberry leaves upon them, and when they attach themselves to them, take each

leaf by the stem, and lay it on the shelf where you want the worms. Feed the young worms by laying on them a few fresh leaves four or five times a day, or oftener, if they consume them, or the leaves become wilted. During the first age, if the leaves are large, they may be torn, or cut into small pieces; but if you have plenty of leaves, it is not necessary. After they have moulted the first time, lay on leaves, and when the worms become attached to them, lift them by the stems and lay them on a clean place on the shelf, allowing them about three times as much space as they occupied before. You may then clear off the shelf previously occupied by them.—The same operation may be performed after the second, third and fourth moultings, extending the space they occupy each time, as in the first, and clearing off the litter in the same way.

In feeding the worms, from the beginning to the end, it is of importance, that they be fed often and in small quantities. If you lay on too much food, a considerable portion will be wasted; but that is the least consideration—the shelves will become loaded with rubbish, which will render it necessary to clear them often. We have always found it to be a good plan to keep the attendant continually feeding—always passing along the shelves with a basket of leaves, and whenever any of the worms are found without food, or nearly so, lay on a few leaves, and thus keeping them continually eating fresh leaves. We know this practice, almost universally, to feed at stated times—three times a day, or four or five, and to weigh the leaves, giving at each feeding a certain quantity; but all our experience goes to prove its impropriety. Lots at night a full supply of leaves, according to their age, ought to be given them, that they may have plenty during the night. Strange as it may appear, many persons suppose the worms do not eat much at night; the truth is, they eat rather more at night than in the day-time, as do all caterpillars; and they ought either to be fed occasionally during the night, or have a supply given them over night sufficient to last them all morning.

Yet leaves should not be given to silk worms, nor those having sand or dirt on them. If it cannot be avoided during long rains, necessity of course will compel the feeding with wet leaves; and generally, this may do no harm; but I have seen very large quantities of worms destroyed by it. It should always be avoided, if possible.

The moulting of the worms will occur four times, but unless closely observed, and the several days' hatching have not been kept carefully separate, these changes will be scarcely noticed. The times of moulting vary, according to the treatment the worms receive. If fully fed, and a proper temperature be kept in the room, they will moult about every 5 or 6 days; if a contrary practice be pursued, they may do so every 7, 8, or 9 days. If each day's hatching have been kept by themselves, and they have all been properly fed, all the worms of one hatching will generally moult about the same time, and they should not be fed while they are in the moulting state. They generally remain in this state from 15 to 26 hours. As soon as they revive they should be fed, as above directed, with large leaves, or even branches, as soon as they attach themselves to the leaves, they should be removed to a clean shelf. It is frequently the case that only a part of them moult one day, and the balance the next. In this case, the two moultings should be carried to separate shelves, and thus kept separate in future, as they will otherwise mix and spin cocoons regularly. As the space occupied by the worms must necessarily be extended as the worms grow, the most convenient time for doing it is after each moulting.—And if this be properly done, all the worms on each shelf can be made to spin at the same time, and thus save the attendant much inconvenience. To effect it, all that is necessary, is to separate the several days' hatchings, and at each moulting to collect all that revive at one time, and place them by themselves. Those who observe this precaution will be well paid for their attention.

After the fourth moulting, if you have plenty of trees, and do not care about the waste of cuttings, you may cut off small branches with the leaves on, and lay them on the shelves. In feeding in this way, you can save much time, the leaves keep from wilting longer, and more worms can be accommodated on the same space. The branches should be laid first across the shelf, say six inches apart; at the next feeding they would be laid lengthwise of the shelf; and the next, crosswise again, and so on alternately; crosswise and lengthwise at each feeding, so that the pile may form a mass of crib-work, affording a free passage for the air, and accommodation for the worms, into which they will descend, to form cocoon. The objections to this plan are that in damp weather the mass of rubbish and dung of the worms, is apt to ferment, and thus produce disease; and also the large tow of the cocoons is lost, as it becomes so filled with dirt and fragments of leaves, that it is not worth saving. It is believed, however, that the value of this tow is less than the trouble of the ordinary fixtures for the worms to spin on it worth.—The writer of these remarks, raised his silk worms one season on this plan, and the cocoons produced were equal to any he ever raised. Care should be observed in feeding in this way, not to lay on so many branches as to raise the pile too high; as if it approach near the bottom of the shelf above, before the worms are ready to spin, it will be very