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Cuitorial.

ASPARAGUS.

This culinary plant is considered great luxury, and may with advantage be cultivated for domestic use and marketing. Being an early spring vegetable, it is the more highly prized as at that season vegetables of almost every sort are scarce, or those that have been kept have lost much of their original freshness and flavor. Asparagus is commonly propagated from seed, and this should be sown at the very earliest moment that the ground will admit of being worked. grown for very many years, if proper care is taken in the formation of the any one should prefer plants, be sure healthy, young and vigorous. Before until they are about ready to germi-Sow about one inch deep, in rows a farmers of that country are enabled to well up, thin to four or five inches crop they can raise with greatest between them in the rows. The made rich with well-rotted manure. The bed should be kept free of weeds, and frequently stirred with the hoe. while the plants are growing. The following year the plants with be in

The roots of asparagus rarely penetrate deeply into the ground, but run out horizontally with the surface a few inches deep. The ground to receive the plants should be thoroughly trenched, but it is best not to bring the subsoil to the surface. The very best and fattest stable manure should be used in the composition of the bed, as asparagus cannot receive too rich a compost. Place the plants not less than two feet apart in the rows. To have the largest and finest plants three feet apart would not be too much. When planted the surface of the bed should be well pulverized and welled, and all the work needful season is to keep the ground loose and porous between the rows. In the fall when frost haturned the leaves yellow, the stems and tops should be cut off close to the and burned. The bed should covered with straw or coarse manure to protect the plant during winter season. In more moderate climates this is not needed, but here the plants would be the better by being protected. In the following spring a top dressing of two inches of fine wellrotted manure should be applied, and forked in with great care so as not to disturb the roots. This application should be given at the earliest moment that it can be done in the spring. It is recommended that in gathering the crop none of the young shoots should be cut during the second year following the planting. The best soil for asparagus is said to be alluvial loam but any soil capable of growing grain. abun dantly manured, will be followed with satisfactory results.

good condition to set out.

Fruit Tree Agents.

During last spring and summer there were, as usual, a number of agents rambling through the Province endeavoring to persuade farmers into buying fruit trees. We have so frequently warned our readers to be on their guard against these humbugs. that for some length of time there was a scarcity of these nuisances. They had gulled the farmers so thoroughly with the trash they furnished, that to offer American fruit trees to any one of them, generally prompted a looking round for an axe handle, a pitchfork or something of that kind, and the farmer became suddenly converted into a threshing machine of double horse power. The limber legs of th tree pedlar on such occasions, made : speedy acquaintance with the highway, followed by the dogs, that greatly assisted his powers of locomotion, and enabled him to get up and get over the ground with a speed unequaled by a two-forty steam engine. These gentry have a new dodge now. They have repented-been to hear Beecher, and "sich like," and now they are Don't sell any more American trees, not they. Don't believe in them. They have joined the Sharpites and other "ites," that grow trees in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Some of these fellows look as meek as a sucking calf, and are twice as innocent. Well, all we say is don't trust them. They are at their old tricks-wolves in sheep's clothing. White professing to sell you trees from our own nurseries, they palm off a lot of worthless trash that has been gathered here and there and everywhere in the United States. Our

farmers have suffered pecuniary loss enough already by unfortunate purchases of fruit trees. Now our advice is, purchase from no one who cannot produce the most satisfactory testimonials that the trees offered are from our own nurseries. Our nursery men can and do furnish the very best des-So, farmers, don't allow yourselves to

sow oats with unsparing hand, believing that in the near future, that that other be in possession of similar information as regards what it is best

Correspondente.

MIXING SOILS.

For the Colonial Farmer

The mixture of soils is one of the most readily, and at the same time the cheapest mode of improving and rendering them fertile. Upon this subject I would say, that I have seen, even in soils to all appearances similar in composition, some very extraordinary results from these mixtures. Inus in the gravelly soils of Spring Park, near Croyden, England, where the ground is often excavated to the lepth of many feet, through a strata of barren gravel and red sand, for the purpose of obtaining a white or silver sand which exists beneath. When this fine sand is removed, the gravel and red sand is thrown back in the pit, the ground merely levelled, and then let to cottagers for gardens, or else it is planted with forest trees. In either case the effect of the white sand being brought to the surface is remarkable. All kinds, either fir or deciduous trees will now grow with surprising luxuriance. In cottage gardens thus formed, several kinds of vegetables, such as beans and potatoes will yield excellent crops, where before this mixture was made they would have perished or refused to

nerely serves to freshen or to enrich with much of its virtues washed away it for a time, and therefore the good and lost. effects can only be counted on for a imited period. Some comparative experiments, however, made a number of years ago, on some poor, hungry heath land in Norfolk, England, have, up to this time, served clearly to denonstrate the error of such a conyards only per acre, and the same composted. It was then planted with a proper variety of forest trees, and by the sile of this piece of ground, a natural state, was also planted trees served to demonstrate annually, by the luxuriance of the wood growing benefit of this mixture of soils. The trees have grown rapidly and exhibit no marl was used, the trees are of stinted growth, miserable in appear-

Gardener, Charlotte Street, or hills.

For the Colonial Farmer.

RURAL TOPICS.

worth 271 cts. daily, or during 112 animal, no matter how fed, would be ground should be thoroughly prepared, that our farmers will some time or study their own interests, build warm ventilated in mild weather, and thus save enough in fodder in a few years to pay the cost of them. But much can be done with old buildings, to be repaired, doors made to shut close. and thus the comfort of domestic animals can be enhanced, to say nothing of the saving of fodder Farmers do you realize this important

SAVING MANURE.

slack in all they do.

fact? Some of you do not seem to

Probably but few farmers exist who manure under cover in a stable under the infected animals were being highand will be greatly injured. A cellar fed on wheat. Not a single case hapunder the stable stalls, into which all pened among those that were not fed the manure and urine of the stock is on chopped wheat. All alike were received is a good thing, but it would kept scrupulously clean under foot. be a great deal better if the manure On reference to my note books. from a pump adjoining or near the result had been the same. This illuscellar. The same can be said of trates plainly that foul-in-foot is the manure under a shed when piled in consequence of a disorganized or overdeep; it must be kept moist, or it had heated system." His remedy is first better be kept in the open barn-vard, to give the animal a large dose of Indeed, I am of the opinion that when salt; then as soon as drenched, pro-The great advantage of mixing soils a barnyard is made concave, with no ceed to clean thoroughly the affected is not entirely confined to those of an drain to it, manure can be kept in it foot of all outside uncleanliness, then earthy composition. Soils which con- from fall to spring without any loss, lift the foot, and pass a hair or hemp peat or moss earth, are highly valu- virtues of manure in open vards, pass several times to and fro; continue able additions to other soils. Thus down into the soil, and are lost; but this gently till you have removed all peat earth was successfully added to such is not the case, as it will be found filth and noxious matter. The next the sandy soils of Merionethshire, by on removing it in the spring that the operation is to poultice the foot for Sir Robert Vaughan. The Cheshire soil under it has not become colored 24 hours at least-and longer in farmers add a mixture of moss and by its juices but two or three inches necessary-till the inflammation is calcareous earth to their tight-bound deep. Now, I claim that if an abun- thoroughly reduced; use bran, turnips, earths, the effect of which they de dance of litter be used upon the surface scribe as loosening and rendering the of the manure to retain moisture and land porous, or in other words, making to prevent evaporation, all that a their strong clay lands less tenacious, farmer makes can be as well preserved and consequently promoting more in his open barnyard as under cover readily access of the moistures and and I would prefer to have my manure gases of the atmosphere to the roots spread over the yard occasionally, of whatever may be planted upon it, and covered with straw, than to have The cultivator sometimes deludes it thrown into heaps by the stable imself with the idea that applying door, and through windows back of sand, mart, or clay, to a poor soil, the stalls, and so remain all winter,

PROTECTING STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

Strawberry plants require protection about December 1st, and after the ground has frozen; and anything, as leaves, straw, or hay is suitable; but a great many people injure, and some clusion. In these experiments the times destroy their beds of strawberries ground was marled with twenty cubic by covering them too thick, and thus smother the plants. The covering must be light, and admit air to the from thoroughly decayed leaves; one plants, or they will be found to be dead in the spring. A dressing of portion of the same heath, left in its fine, well rotted manure spread among them before they are covered would of the same kind. Sixteen years have be beneficial but not particularly necessary. The covering may be left on in the spring as a mulch to keep on the marled land, the permanent | the ground moist; but it should be removed from over the crowns of the plants to give them room to grow. in every way a thrifty appearance. Some strawberry growers add more On the adjoining piece of land where hay or straw in the spring to their mulches, so that no weeds will grow before the plants fruit; but this mulch given to supply cows with succulent and refinement does it not indicate on ance, and altogether profitless to their system cannot be adopted where the food in winter. Common turnips do the part of the cultivator. A flower only where they are grown in rows mangel wurtzel, and sugar beets are the room graceful, gives the sun's a little salt. Beat all together from

THE BEST BREEDS OF POULTRY.

Everybody who keeps domestic poultry desires to keep the most profitable fowls; and if we examine the A cow fed on 20 pounds of hay poultry papers we shall find so many daily, having no shelter in the winter conflicting opinions, that we might as season, except perhaps an open shed well not read them, so far as giving cription of fruit trees that are suitable better condition in the spring than Then if we should ask the question, to our soil and climate, and it is the she would be, if fed on 15 pounds "which is the best breed of fowls?" greatest folly to buy any other kinds. daily, and kept in a warm stable at of a score of the most experienced night, and allowed the run of the fowl-breeders in the United States be swindled. If you do, you cannot barn-yard in pleasant weather. This their replies would be so various that say that you have not had sufficient is a result that has substantially been we would still be in the fog. Perhaps proved a thousand times. Now, I will there is no man living who has had compute the loss to a farmer on 10 more experience in keeping poultry, cows, which are left through the and writing on the subject, than it is a very hardy plant, and may be wheat sown is eight per cent. in ad- winter on the unprotected system have for about half a century; yet is vance of last year. Oats eleven per and many barns afford but slight that question were put to me, I could cent. The Commissioner of Agricul- warmth to stock over the open air, not give a direct answer. It depends beds. If instead of sowing the seed, ture for that State urges farmers to being boarded up vertically, with on what use you desire to make of cracks between the boards from a half your fowls. One who wants them to inch to an inch wide, and all such sell dressed, and a breed that will grain is to become the great provender barns come under the losing system produce a large number of eggs, planting the seed, however, it is well crop of the South. The monthly re- of wintering stock. It would be fair would need a good sized fowl as the to put them in tepid milk or water, port shows, that in corn the quantity to estimate hay to be worth \$10 a ton, Brahmas. Then if eggs be the chief produced is thirty-four per cent. as an average value throughout the object, a smaller breed would be better. nate. Two things are gained by this, greater than last year. If everything country. Ten cows not well protect- as the Hamburghs and Leghorns, you can detect any bad seed among is favorable, the grain crops of 1877 ed, will require 50 lbs. a day more which are non sitters and excellent them, and the certainty of a rapid will be much larger than those of than when kept in a warm stable, for layers. I think no other breeds are growth when placed in the ground. 1876. By means of these reports the at least four months, or 112 days, superior to the three I have named. foot aport, and after the plants are judge with much certainty the kind of days \$30.80. Probably the loss on each popular, and may be kept on about the same quantity of grain as the pecuniary advantage. It is hoped at least \$5, consequently farmers who Legherns, and the Hamburgs. I am sure that the list of breeds of poultry in this country is more extensive than beneficial, the additions that have been made during the last ten or fifteen years from France, and other make them warm; battens can be of dealers in poultry, than because those breeds were superior to what we previously possessed.

FOUL-IN-FOOT.

A writer in the Country Gentleman

ays: "In my experience, I have found foul-in-foot to be the result of a lisorganized or overheated system. more than of anything else. To coralways talking of "hard times." being roborate what I say, I will give you a very strong instance of it. One year ago last spring, I had a valuable herd of Short Horns under my care. Among them I had 13 cases of very the stalls, or under a shed: but in ly fed. In addition to oil-rake, they too dry, and the straw among it will of chopped wheat daily. About 20 when exposed to rains; or if much the rest of the herd only oil cake and be all herse dung, it will " fire-fang," pened among those that were being could be thoroughly wet once a month observed for three previous years the linseed meal for this purpose.

For the Colonial Farmer. An Enquiry.

MR. EDITOR,-I set out a lot of apple trees from Woodstock one year ago last spring. They did well until last summer, when the leaves became infested with green lice, which made them curl up, and they continued so until the frost killed them. Can you or any of your readers tell me what to do to clear the trees of the lice?

Miscellancous.

COMPOST FOR PLANTS .- A good com post for most common house plants can be made up of one part clean sand, free from salt; one part mou'd part cow manure, well rotted and pulverized; two parts rich garden soil or better, well-decayed turf mould About one fitth of the pot may be fill ed with materials for drainage, composed of oyster shells, charcoal, or broken bits of pots or crockery. A small quantity of moss placed over these prevents the earth from washing through.

still better for use in late spring.

Bury Your Potato Stalks.

As the old gentleman who was too late for the ferry-boat, said, he should be in good time for the next one, so I can say to those who have dug their potatoes, my advice will be in good season for next year. The potato fields of some farmers, after they have done digging, look very much as though a herd of swine, possessed of them in the sunshine by one of the as many evil spirits as those that in olden times ran down a steep place nothing is prettier than a simple and didn't come back, had been turned loose into it to rusticate. Many small potatoes, under such eircumstances, with an occasional large one, with the tops picturesquely scattered in groups of various dimensions, would be the in a basket upon the centre-table, natural result. If, however, vegetable no prettier ornament can well be matter is of any benefit to the soil, and agricultural scientists say it is, fronds dropping over the sides, or them. We have lately used sifted and they ought to know, why in the standing upright in green and diaphan- coal ashes with excellent success, name of common sense don't people bury them up? The potato itself removes a good deal of material from the soil, that is necessary to the succeeding crop. The potato top, with the difference of more woody fibre, we have to pay for all these woodland holds much the same ingredients as treasures is exercise and air. More the potato itself. If these substances recuperating, invigorating, and rest. the qualities which render coal ashes can be retained in the soil by burying ful, in nine cases out of them up, then the time spent in doing a walk in the country side than the so is anything but lost, to say nothing of the superior tidiness of this mode of disposing of them. Some will say they are in too great a hurry to do so. This is very much like saying they are in too great a hurry to haul their locked up for the winter. manure. If the tops are pulled for the diggers, let them be thrown in one Curious Process for Making Cheese. space, and the dirt drawn over them. and the potatoes in the other space. If the diggers pull them, let them put them in the holes of the hills and they adopted by Mr. Joseph Harrison, of new house a few years ago, it had can bardly avoid burying them as

The Farmer's Hard Lot.

-Cor. Dirigo Rural.

to nothing like the skeleton of a ghost.

When a farmer can so manage his contented with his lot. If we take a three or four in a hundred realize a competence for old age. Then imagine the unhappiness of those who sooner or later fail to support themselves and families respectably-the cares and anxieties that constantly produce pangs and tortures that no farmer ever felt. These men may apparently lead pleasant lives, as the outside world cannot witness the emotions of a man who daily strains every financial nerve to meet his notes falling due at York, brings more anxiety to business

States realize in a lifetime. victorious. - Rural New Yorker.

Home Decorations.

Perhaps your home is but scantily furnished, and you can afford few ornaments or pictures. Well, then, von have Nature's treasury to draw upon. Have flowers in your room They cost little, and the pleasure they give is beyond price. If you can have a flower for your window, so much the better. What can be more delicious han the sun's light streaming through flowers-through the midst of crimson fuchsias or scarlet geraniums! To look out in the light through flowers -is not that poetry? And to break the force of the sunbeams by the tender resistance of green leaves. If you can train a nasturtion round the window, or some sweet peas, then you vill have the most beautiful frame you can invent for the picture without, whether it be the busy crowd, or a distant landscape, or trees with their ights and shades, or the changes of the passing clouds. Any one may look through flowers for the price of Several kinds of roots should be an old song. And what pure taste Advocate. plants are grown in matted beds, but not keep so well as ruta bagas and in the window sweetens the air, makes light a new charm, rejoices the eye,

and links nature with beauty. Then, as for pictures, what can be more beautiful than a group of tastefully arranged autumn leaves and ferns? Brilliant-hued leaves also make lovely transparencies. They can be arranged between two panes of glass, or, simpler fruits in December, before severely still, formed into a wreath, just fastenwith mucilage, and then hanging stems. For a centre-table ornament fernery, which may be arranged by the draft of air which sweeps the cellar your own hands. Simply grown in a common flower-pot, with a little charcoal beneath a rich, loose soil, they will soon obtain a fine start. Placed by drying. If we fasten them in the imagined; their graceful, feathery growth of mould, which also injures ous beauty. A pretty, floral ornamant making it just slightly damp, not wet may be made by filling a shallow dish with moss of different shades, bordering it with the trailing vine of the partridge berry. And the only price after-dinner nap. It might not be on the first trial, but persevere all through these fully-ripened days, before the ing all stove debris. The siftings, grand storehouses of Nature, with her

Among the curious methods for the manufacture of fine cheese, the process they go along. Don't let them bleach terest. The curds are not scalded, no to the depth of ten or twelve inches, heat being supplied after the milk is and at the present time every tree so set for coagulation. The expulsion of treated presents an unhealthy appearthe whey, or its separation from the ance, which may gradually, but will curds before being put in the hoop most surely, end in premature death and under press, is being accomplished This injudicious practice should b by a process quite different from any- condemned on every hand, so that the thing known in practice in this ignorant, as well as the careless, may country. But what will be surprising, be forwarned of the evil consequence perhaps, to most of our factory cheese which must eventually ensue. If soil made under this process is of the nearly as possible of the same texture finest flavor and quality, and sells in and composition as that in which th the best markets of England for "top trees are growing, and then only to : prices" on a par with English chedder, very limited depth, so as not to deswhich ranges from twenty to thirty troy, even for a short time, that shillingshigher than American cheese. points in the process:

temperature of about eighty degrees by this practice, and which will bear Fahrenheit, with sufficient rennet to any reasonable amount of soil being produce thorough coagulation in from laid over their roots, I still think the forty to sixty minutes. The cheese is same rule in respect to the texture made twice a day-that is, from the and composition should be, as nearly the bank. The time between 1 and 3 morning and evening's milk separate- as possible, adhered to, and if placed o'clock every day, in the city of New ly. After coagulation is perfected near the stem, a cavity quite round and when ready for manipulation, the the tree, and down to the base, should men than all the farmers in the United breaker or cutter is passed up and always be left, and of sufficient width down through the mass until the curds to allow a free circulation of air, and No, farmers, your lot is not a hard are broken into small lumps about also to admit of being cleared of any one. Your food may be plain and the the size of a hazel nut. The operation matter which may, and does, freely cuts of your coats may not be as of the breaking is at intervals of a few accumulate in it. The sloping bank fashionable as these of the merchants minutes. After standing for the whey system answers well in some situations of the day: but when you lie upon to form, a pressing plate, pierced with and has the advantage of showing your pillows your repose is sound and holes and fitting the tub, is used, and more of the trunk, but if the surface sweet. The horrors of protested notes pressure applied to the curds. Faucets of the ground inclines to that purticuseldom keep you awake at night; are arranged in the tubs, at different lar point, or the soil be very tenacious, and in the morning as you go around heights, and through these the whey or if the ground be not of a thirsty to feed your flocks and view your is drawn off as it rises through the nature, evils may accrue from an accrops that have visibly grown while holes in the pressure plate. The cumulation of too much water .- The you were in the arms of Morpheus. curds are left under the pressure in Garden. you may take more real enjoyment of the tub until, in the judgment of the merchants and manufacturers do in a cess. This consists in cutting the year. Our advice, therefore, is, be outer edge of the circular mass of curd not discouraged. The times may now into blocks with an implement similar dead vegetable substances, which are be hard; but you are promised a to a mason's trowel. These blocks of even more pernicious to man than 'seed-time and harvest' to the end, card are piled in the centre of the animals in the same condition, and sage-ways. The less the bees are and, with hard labor and judicious tub, and pressure again applied until not only the soft and succulent por- disturbed the better in all methods of management, you come out in the end the whey is sufficiently expelled, tions, but even the solid wood is desand put to press. It remains in press forests of the tropics the ground would as bees are less disturbed at the close five or six days, being turned over be covered, and new shoots be choked from time to time, and receiving a up by the ruins of trees which had ness, than at other times. outside every day for a few days, or out the aid of insects. But no sooner or what passes for such, is manufacuntil it is sufficiently salted. These

> about thirty pounds each. extreme prices we have named.

> It will be seen that the method emplayed for freeing the curds from whey differs materially from the ordinary practice in this country; and from it good cheese is not confined to one particular process, but that the same result is reached by very many and diverse methods; and much, doubtless, is due to the skill and judgment of the maker in all processes .- Christian

ten to fifteen minutes. Bake in a hot

Coal Ashes for Storing Grafts.

Our cellar is rather damp. Our severe climate makes it generally necessary and always prudent to cut grafts of cherry, plums and other cold, dry weather occurs to injure of wealth, the rest simply handle it moss, sawdust, or the like, and place receive too much moisture, and are injured by it. If we put them within whenever the windows can be opened (for we air it as much as possible) they lose their natural moisture and suffer bottom of a box and invert it on the floor, the confined air favors the the eloquent tongue of the orator, the at all, filling every interstice with it, covering the box close, and setting being because the fields yield their it on some bricks to elevate it from the wet floor. Its purification by fire. busbandman. and its fine yet open composition, are Then it is always at hand if there is, survive the loss of demagogues, but as there ought to be, a covered box containing a mounted riddle for sift- plowmen. kept dry, can be copiously used in superb fall openings, are over and closets with manifold advantage.-Fruit Recorder.

Mixing Soil Around Fruit Trees

In disposing of the soil, which had

been dug from the foundation for been spread under the adjoining trees must be so disposed of, it should be as natural porosity of the surface soil The following are the leading which is so largely produced by the roots themselves. In respect to those The milk when collected is set at a trees which are not so easily injured

The Useful Worn of Insects.

when it is crushed up with the hands troyed by them. In the immense feeding, let it be done in the evening, fresh cloth. Then it is taken out of fallen by accident or age, and which press, and rubbed with salt on the it would require ages to disperse withis a tree fallen than one tribe of tured in England from the oleaginous cheeses are from three and a half to animals cut its bark to pieces, another deposits in the mud of the Thames. four inches thick, and from fifteen to bores holes in it in all directions, so The collection of this substance has sixteen inches in diameter, weighing that the moisture from dew or rain become a profitable industry, yielding may stand, decompose and soften, the gatherers as much as three Such are the general outlines of the Others come in to eat off the parts shillings and sixpence a day, and is imported process for making Derty that are softened, and so on till it is done by planting in the mud at low cheese. The cheese is rich, with a entirely broken up and scattered, and tide small globes made of cork, matted peculiar, clear, sweet flavor, and from this is done with such expedition that with hair and wood; fibres, to which its great excellence commands the they will, in a few weeks, destroy and the fatty substances in the water attach carry away the trunk of large trees themselves. The source of the grease without leaving a particle behind, and | thus obtained is the drain pipes of facin places where, two or three years fories and the slop sewers of kitchens. before, there was a populous town, if The butter produced by some mysterithe inhabitants, as is frequently the ous process from this refuse grease, is we learn the fact, that the making of case, have chosen to abandon it, there said to be unobjectionable so far as will be a very thick wood, and not a taste and appearance are concerned. restige of post to be seen.

Weed out and sell the poor stock,

WITHOUT agriculture there is no wealth. Gold and silver are not wealth, they are its convenient representatives; commerce produces no wealth, it simply exchanges it; manufacturers and the arts combine

it. Agriculture is the prolific mother when produced and delivered into their hauds.

The earth breeds savages; agriculture breeds enlightened nations; it breeds houses and ships, temples and seminaries; it breeds the manufactory; sculpture painting and music are its offsprings. The wheels of the workshops, the sails of commerce, the implements of science, the pen of genius, the pencil and chisel of the artists, scheming brain of the statesman, the equipages of wealth, the banquetings of pleasure-all that renders earth in its tides of life anything but a great sepulchre, move and have power of fruits to the patient toil of the

We might manage to live without merchants, without mariners, without manufacturers, without orators, without poets, perhaps we might possibly sure I am we could not live without

The state of husbandry in any country is the best test of its enlightment. The thermometer of civilization rises or falls as drives the plow You must send the plow, exclaimed a man who had traveled all over Christian missionary ground in heathen lands; a barbarian nation needs but to be plowed up, deep subsoiled, sowed, planted, and the inevitable harvest will be an enlightened

For preserving hams and beef my recipe is six gallons of water, nine pounds of salt, three pounds of sugar. one gallon molasses, three ounces saltpetre and one ounce of saleratus. I mix these ingredients and heat to a boiling point, skimming off all the impurities. When cold I pour it on the meat. I do not rate the amount of materials according to the amount of meat, but mix in the proportions given and use enough of the mixture to cover the meat I wish to preserve. I find that this method cures the hams and leaves them tender and juicy. They never get hard. I leave the hams in the pickle from four to six weeks, according to their size. It takes longer to cure large hams than it does small ones. I always move the hams after they have been in the pickle three days. Take them out and pack them over. This is necessary, for when they are closely packed together some parts of the hams do not have a chance to be penetrated by the pickle. I keep beef in the same way except that I would boil over the pickle before warm weather in the

WINTERING BEES. - The requirements of wintering bees in cellars are dryness, darkness and pure air. The temperature of the atmosphere should not be warmer than 50 ° at any time, and to range the most of the time from 35° to 45°. The hives, as in bee-houses, should be raised an eighth of an inch, and the passage-ways closed with wire-cloth. Very weak families, in both cellars and bee-Insects are useful in destroying houses, do not require the hives to be of the day, even when in total dark-

No Chinese farmer ever sows a seed SELL THE POOR STOCK .-- If farmers of grain before it has been soaked in have too much stock to carry through liquid manure diluted with water and the winter, now is the time to select the has begun to germinate; and experioldest, meanest and poorest to be sold, ence has taught him (so he asserts) Feed weil, fatten, and be sure to sell at that this operation not only tends to Pop Overs -Three cups of flour; some price. Neversell the best stock. promote the growth and development three of sweet milk; three eggs, and It you keep stock at all, good stock is of the plant, but also to protect the worth more to you than any one else. seed from the insects hidden within the ground,