



### A Remedy for the Potato Disease.

The following statement in relation to certain experiments, by Professor Bollman, in drying seed potatoes to prevent disease, we clip from an exchange:

In the year 1855, Professor Bollman received from a Colonel in the Russian army stationed in Siberia, a sample of a new potato, with which he received two recommendations, namely, "good in quality and a perfect hundred fold in produce." These potatoes were accidentally placed on the back of a stove used for heating the professor's study, where, by some mischance, they were forgotten till the planting season arrived. When discovered, they were shriveled so much that it was not thought they would grow. However they were planted, and flourished to such a degree that the two recommendations before mentioned, were pronounced to be verified, and what was more remarkable still, although all the potatoes in the neighborhood and throughout the country were more or less affected by disease, every potato of the kind was entirely free from disorder. This induced Professor Bollman to adopt the expedient of drying, and in consequence the entire crop was submitted before planting time to a high temperature, which had the effect of charring some of the potatoes and shriveling the rest. It was surmised at the time that some of the charred potatoes were killed. They were nevertheless planted at the proper season, and the charred potatoes grew, and did quite as well as those which were merely shriveled. It has now been seven years since this first experiment, and we learn from our foreign exchanges that it has been followed up every succeeding year with great success.

In the year 1855, the potato disease prevailed extensively through Russia, yet not one of the professor's potatoes were affected. In 1856, his crop exhibited the same freedom from disease, when his neighbors were losing all theirs by the rot. That year he began drying those potatoes commonly raised and most frequently afflicted with rot, still the results were the same as when he planted his new variety. The digging time of 1857 produced to the doctor a splendid crop of potatoes. Upward of three acres had been planted with those dried in a kiln, and of the one thousand six hundred bushels dug from these three acres not one diseased one was discovered. In 1858, he erected a drying-house with heated floors on his estate, and we learn that within the past two years similar erections have taken place on the different estates of the principal landed proprietors of Russia. Wherein lies the virtue of this drying process? In all affected potatoes, even before the disease is visible to the naked eye, there is to be found a degree of moisture very far in excess of that to be met with in sound potatoes, and this water gradually increases in amount, until the disease makes its appearance. This shriveling process by drying up the water is supposed to prevent the rot, which otherwise necessarily follows, and when applied to potatoes already diseased arrests the progress of the infection, and kills the disease, leaving a portion of the potato sound enough to answer for spring planting. We trust our agricultural readers will not fail this spring of testing this method for preventing the potato disease.

### Eight Reasons for Planting an Orchard.

1. Dr. Dwight used to remark to his pupils at Yale, that the raising of fruit was the cheapest and pleasantest way of entertaining one's friends. We are creatures of society, and it is a very important object to make the social board attractive to all who honor us with their friendship. A dish of well grown apples is always wholesome and acceptable.

2. An orchard is an ornament to the farm, beautiful in its spring blossoms, its summer drapery of green, and its autumn burden of yellow and ruddy fruit. No farm is complete without its acres of orchard.

3. The cultivation of fruit is a very pleasant occupation, and has an important influence upon the mind and heart of the cultivator. It requires higher intelligence than the growing of annual crops. It fosters forecast and helpfulness, and tends to a cheerful temper.

4. It makes home attractive—children are universally fond of fruit, and the home where this luxury is, is always enjoyed, and will be more loved on that account. It will be in pleasant contrast with many homes around them.

5. It will tend to guard children against vice and crime. So strong is the desire for fruit, that they may steal it if it be not provided for them at home. And the boy that grows up plundering his neighbor's fruit yard and orchard, is very likely to steal more valuable things when he becomes a man.

6. It is a very sure investment. An apple tree, if well planted, is about as hardy as an oak, and sure to bear fruit according to the labor bestowed upon it. When houses burn up, and banks fail, and railroad stocks depreciate, the orchard will yield dividends.

7. It is not only a sure investment for yourself, but for your children. No real estate in their inheritance is likely to be so permanently valuable. An orchard in good soil will bear fruit for a hundred years.

8. It is a perpetual incitement to thanksgiving to the bountiful Creator. It yields its burden of precious fruit year after year, giving large returns for the labors of the husbandman, and calling him to behold the wisdom and goodness of Providence. Do not fail to plant that long deferred orchard, and while you are about it, select good marketable fruit. The best is the cheapest.

### Hints on the Cultivation of Sorghum.

Mr. H. Mansfield, of Richland county, Ohio, in a communication to the *American Agriculturist*, in relation to the cultivation of Sorghum, makes the following suggestions:

The seed must be matured to grow well. Prepare it for planting by soaking it, say in a weak solution of equal parts of chloride of lime and copperas, if practicable. Prepare the ground well, and mark out with a chain instead of a plow. The germ of the seed should be just visible. A little flour should be mixed with it while wet, to prevent sticking together and enable you to see it readily in covering. For planting with a machine, the seed must be dry. Sprouted seed should be covered about 3-4 of an inch—less would be sufficient if the weather is moist and warm. One of the varieties of the Imphee I have found more readily convertible into sugar than sorgho. This may be planted the middle of May, but the sorgho should be planted just as soon as the ground is dry enough, certainly not later than the first of May.

Do not let the weeds get the start. Keep the ground well tilled and clean until in July, or until the cane joints. The cane should be got further along before mid-summer than is usual. For this purpose, some of my friends plant in hot beds and transplant, and with good success—the labor of transplanting not being so great as the first hoeing out of the sorghum from among the weeds.

A good time to cut cane, is when the top or the seed panicle has ripened, but it should by all means be cut before frost. Let it be shocked upon something that will raise it from the ground, and not in too large shocks. Let it have air. Grind and evaporate as fast as cut, when possible, and this may be done if frost holds off.

Be sure to have an evaporator of sufficient capacity. Great mistakes have been made by a whole neighborhood depending on one machine—while the cane has waited for its turn, it has moulded or soured, and the syrup made from it, brought discredit upon the whole sorgho experiment. And while upon evaporators, let me here say that herein lies the great secret of success. I know of but one adapted to the business, out of nearly a dozen I have tried, and that is Cook's "Baby Rocker" as it is jocosely called. I never could make sugar in kettles, but with Cook's machine, have made as good sugar as I ever saw. To secure crystallization, a temperature of 90° is required, and that must be regular. In this township we have made 4,000 gallons, and our county (Richland) saved \$35,000 during last season alone, by the introduction of sorghum.

**The Cause and Remedy of Peach Blight.**—A writer in the *California Farmer* takes the position that the curled leaf is caused by the sap of the tree becoming chilled in the damp, cold weather occurring generally in April, after the vigorous growth of the tree has commenced. Acting upon this theory, about the first of March, he says, he hauled straw from the refuse of an old straw stack, with which he mulched the trees in a part of his orchard, leaving others of like quality in like situation and growing in like soil, without mulching. The result shows that the trees which were well protected about the roots were loaded with fruit and presented a very thrifty and healthy appearance, while the other trees not so well protected about the roots have shed both leaves and fruit, presenting a diseased appearance.

**Shoes for Fowls.**—It is said that shoeing hens avoids the necessity of henyards and tight fences. Small wooden bags tied over their feet will answer every purpose, and they may be allowed their liberty all summer, and will lay better for it, and even the garden and field will be kept clean from many bugs, worms, flies, and other vermin that injure vegetation. But for their scratching, hens do little harm and much good on cultivated grounds.

**Food for Poultry.**—Boiled beans are first-rate food for poultry, particularly laying hens. It is well to mix meal with them, in equal quantities, in boiling water, and mash them up together.

**CURE FOR DRUNKENNESS.**—The following recipe, which acts both as a tonic and stimulant, has cured many persons of drunkenness within a few months: sulphate of iron, 5 grs.; magnesia, 10 grains; peppermint water, 11 drachms; spirit of nutmeg, 1 dr.; take twice a day. Where the appetite for liquor is not very strong, the medicine at once supplies the place of the accustomed drams; otherwise, their amount should be decreased gradually, until the desire for them entirely ceases.—[N. Y. Sun.]

[We understand that friend Godbe—down street has a good supply of the above materials, and those having an insatiable thirst for the "ardent," of whom there are a few, sauntering about the city daily, in search of, since the sale of it has been inhibited by the city authorities, had better try the experiment.]

### Quarterly Statement of the Revenue of Great Salt Lake City.

#### Statement No. 1.—Receipts.

Amounts received from December 1st, 1860 to March 5th, 1861:

On Road and Water tax, collected by Street Supervisor,	2306 76
" Taxes for city purposes collected by Assessor and Collector,	1144 90
" Licenses collected by Recorder,	677 75
" Fines collected by Aldermen of the city,	100 00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4229 41</b>

#### Statement No. 2.—Disbursements.

For amounts paid out on orders issued by the Auditor on the Treasury—and other expenditures, and the purposes to which the same has been applied:

For Police Service,	341 14
" Public improvements,	421 91
" Street improvements;	1572 42
" Drafting and publishing Municipal laws,	95 37
" Expenses incurred in feeding prisoners, stationery and other incidental expenses;	278 75
" Officer's salaries,	565 43
" Expenditures to individuals on open accounts,	876 82
<b>Total,</b>	<b>\$4091 84</b>

#### Recapitulation.

Balance in favor of city at last report,	1805 44
Receipts as per Statement No. 1.	4229 41
<b>Total,</b>	<b>\$6034 85</b>
Disbursements as per Statement No. 2.	4091 84
<b>Balance in favor of city,</b>	<b>\$1943 00</b>

ROBERT CAMPBELL,  
Auditor of Public Acts for G. S. L. City.

### Foreign News by Pony.

In Russia the concessions granted by the Czar had not given satisfaction. The military were still being concentrated.

The Emperor of Austria had requested the democratic programme of the Hungarian leaders, who demanded absolute separation of the Hungarian Administration from that of Austria. The Emperor intended abiding by the reforms already granted.

Riots had taken place in Russia and Poland.

Queen Victoria would receive the ambassador of the King of Italy.

It was rumored that Garibaldi had requested his officers to assemble in fourteen days. He had held a conference with Victor Emanuel at Geridi on the 2d instant.

Advices from San Domingo state that the surrender of the republic to Spain took the people by surprise, and it was hinted there would be a bloody retribution. The English and French consuls protested and struck their flags. Up to the 22d, the American consul had made no move.

The *Austrian Gazette* says that upwards of 250 Hungarian volunteers had gone to Naples.

The Duke of Newcastle had been appointed Governor General of India.

Trade in France was stagnant in consequence of the alarming political situation of Austria and Italy.

The Porte had ordered the blockade of the coast of Montenegro. Omar Pasha will be commander-in-chief in Bosnia.

The French navy had been re-organized into divisions; one division was ordered to Syria. It was announced that the Emperor was about to review the garrison of Paris.

It was reported that Garibaldi and the Hungarian leaders had a perfect understanding. It was expected that the Hungarian diet would call Hungarian troops from other parts of Austria to concentrate in Hungary. If opposed by Austria, the Hungarians would refuse to pay taxes and insurrection would take place.

**A VERY COOL AMERICAN.**—A Frenchman recently eloped from Paris with the pretty wife of an American, and as soon as the latter learned what had taken place, he installed himself in the chateau of his rival, and wrote to the latter a missive, as follows:

You have appropriated my wife, and I have taken possession of your estate. By the time your love is squandered, I will try to have spent your estate. I hope you will have an agreeable time in Switzerland, though December is a chilly month, I am told, in that country. I would recommend her to continue her singing lessons. I have had your orangery removed, as it intercepted the view of the pond. I dare say you will approve my course.

### TABERNACLE.

On Sunday, April 21, a.m., Elder John Taylor addressed the audience upon the subject of the events that are transpiring upon the earth in the present age.

Elder William Clayton was then called upon and read the dispatch, received on Saturday evening by Pony Express relative to the commencement of hostilities in South Carolina.

President Brigham Young made a few remarks, showing that the Elders of this Church have been preaching for years about the things that are now taking place, but that the people of the States did not believe their words. He briefly referred to the action of President Van Buren in regard to the driving of the Saints from Jackson county, Missouri.

In the afternoon Elders Jacob G. Bigler, John D. Chase, and Parley P. Pratt made some remarks expressive of their feelings in relation to going on missions to preach the gospel.

President B. Young gave some important instructions on the preaching of the gospel, and presented very explicitly the order of the Aaronic Priesthood and Bishopric.

### The Late Inundation in Holland.

I have just returned, (says a correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Amsterdam on the 17th of February,) from a visit to the inundated district of Maas and Waal, and a more saddening scene of desolation it is difficult to conceive. Between those two rivers were about forty villages—most of them populous—and about 50,000 acres of cultivated land, and the greater part of this district lies under water. The vast ice-masses which dashed through the breach of the dyke—a breach nearly a quarter of a mile in length—destroying whatever houses or barns impeded their progress, have now much diminished in extent; though for some time after the waters had begun to subside they lay about in huge accumulations—miniature icebergs. As we passed through the village of Leuven, knee-deep in mud and slush, the evidence of this fearful desolation were everywhere visible. Here the ruins of a cottage whose walls had been beaten down by the ice or undermined by the flood; there the remains of a barn reeling over into the submerged meadow; the carcasses of drowned cattle and domestic animals lay half buried in the oozy surface of the fields, while in the cottages not beaten down by the floods were many Rachels "weeping for their children, and refusing to be comforted because they were not." Several entire households were swept away by the force with which the rushing waters burst through the dyke, whilst few families have not to mourn the loss of some of their members. The dyke is now being repaired, and it is thought that in a few weeks the waters will have entirely disappeared; but it will be several months before the houseless laborers of this district can return to their toil. The national subscription on the 19th produced about a million guilders, whilst a similar amount had been previously collected for the relief of the numerous sufferers from the unexampled inundation.

### Mail Contract to Let.

TOOELE CITY, April 22, 1861.

#### EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

DEAR SIR:—Uncle Sam, in a kindly spirit, has re-established a post office in Tooele county and appointed your humble servant, postmaster thereof. I am duly authorized to place service on the route once in every two weeks, and am allowed to pay for said service out of the net proceeds of the office, providing it be not more than thirty dollars per quarter; but as the net proceeds of said office will not, probably, be more than thirty dollars per year, be it known to all interested that, if called upon soon, I will be prepared to let out the contract for carrying the mail on said post route, provided the party or parties are willing to undertake the service for the above consideration.

Yours respectfully,  
ELI B. KELSEY.

**A MOTHER YOUNGER THAN HER SON.**—In the Paris Court of Correctional Police, recently, a lady, by no means young, advanced coquettishly to the stand to give in her testimony. What is your name? Virginie Loustatot. Your age? Twenty-five. [Exclamations of incredulity from the audience.] The lady's evidence being taken, she regained her place, still coquettishly bridling; and the next witness was introduced. This one was a full grown young man. Your name? said the Judge. Isadore Loustatot. Your age? Twenty-seven years. Are you a relative of the last witness? I am her son. Thunder! murmured the magistrate; your mother must have married very young.

—Spain is going in the way of ecclesiastical reform at last. The Cortes are discussing a bill for the sale of the ecclesiastical property of the realm. The necessities of the State are the best plea for this proceeding, and it is said that £28,000,000 will be raised by the auction. As an exchange for their property, the clergy will receive Government stock to the same amount.