THE FARMERS DEPARTMENT.

DOMESTIC MANAGEMENT.

Young farmers, begining housekeeping, are apt too sink too great a proportion of their capital in furniture, riding horses, carriages, &c. and often live up to, or beyond their income. Farmers, to be sure, should live quite as well as other men, of the same property; and they have the means of living better than others, possessing the same nominal income, so far as the substantial comforts of life are concerned. But small savings are of great consequence to persons just setting out in life. A penny a day is 1*l.* 10*s* 5*d.* a year.—Six pence a day, (a moderate allowance for dram drinkers,) is 9*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* a year. A prudent farmer will do well, every penny he lays out for trifles relating to his daily expenditures which can be dispensed with, without an essential abridgment of his comforts, to calculate in his own mind, what that sum would amount to in a year. The aggregate will be greater than he could have anticipated without the aid of arithmetic. In regard to expense of housekeeping, it is observed by Sir John Sinclair that "the safest plan is, not to suffer it to exceed a certain sum for bought articles weekly. An annual sum should be allotted for clothing, and the personal expenses of the farmer, his wife and children, which ought not to be exceeded. The whole allotted expense, should be considerably within the probable receipts; and if possible, one eight of the income annually received, should be laid up for contingencies, or expended in extra improvements on the farm."

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Potato Farina.—The farina obtained from potatoes is now an article of commerce in Scotland, where very fine samples of it are brought to market. It is stated to be quite equal to genuine arrow root, and is sold at about half the price of that preparation. Mixed with wheaten flour in the proportion of one-third, it is a great improvement to household bread, and is light of digestion. Sir John Sinclair's mode of preparing the farina is perhaps generally known; but the following short account of the process for domestic use may not be uninteresting:—Into a pail of clean water, place a fine colander or coarse sieve, so that it may be two inches in the water: grate the potatoes when pared, into the colander taking care from time to time, to agitate the pulp in the colander, so that the farina may fall to the bottom of the pail When the fibrous part which remains in the colander, or sieve, has accumulated so as to impede the washing of the farina into the pail, remove it. About one gallon of potatoes is sufficient for a pail of water. After the water has remained in an undisturbed state for twelve hours, pour it off—the farina will be in a cake at the bottom. It is to be dried slowly before the fire, being rubbed occasionally between the hands, to prevent its becoming lumpy, and it is then fit for use. The French prepare an extract from the apple in the same way; but this is expensive, as the farinaceous part of the apple is very small.

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SHALLOW SOWING—DEFECT IN HARROWS.

In nature there is scarcely any other provision made for sowing seed, than by scattering them on the *surface* of the ground principally by the aid of winds. One leading fact may be inferred from this circumstance—that although many seeds sown do not germinate, yet the depth to which those become covered that do grow, must be very inconsiderable. This fact is in accordance with the observation and experiments of agriculturists. They have found that plants which are planted deep come up more slowly and sickly, and produce less abundantly than those that are planted at a proper depth. For most kinds of seeds one inch is a sufficient depth; and in moist favourable weather half an inch. But the greater part of grain sown in this country varies from the smallest part of an inch to three or four inches in the same field. The consequence must be a very great difference in the time of coming up and in the vigour of the plant. On this subject, F. Von Veght, a German writer thus speaks.

'I remarked also, that not only in the peasants', fields but also in mine, the corn always sprang up unequally, and this not only as regarded the length or shortness of the time in which it became visible, but also with respect to the strength and fulness of the plant. Hitherto I had ascribed this to inequality in the germinating power of the seeds, since seeds sown close together, and under precisely the same circumstances, had brought forth very weak and powerful plants. I thought also that some disease had hindered the corn in its unfolding, or that it might have suffered from worms. Turning my attention to the point, in consequence of what Burger said about it, I took up out of many fields plants of the rye or barley, which showed this difference, and found, almost without exception, that all the strongly growing plants were covered with very little earth, and that the seeds of all the weak plants were from one and a half to three inches from the surface. Each had shot out many little roots, and at the same time with the opening of the seed-leaves the coronal *knot* had formed itself immediately above the soil; roots and small shoots richly and strongly, and quite contemporaneously and in nearly like proportion, sprouted out; even on the same side where a *crown* (main?) root penetrated into the earth arose a new shoot. The broad fresh leaves promised to afford much nourishment to the plants from the atmosphere, and thereby to occasion a vigorous growth. How was it with regard to the more deeply sown seed? The little roots were few in number and weakly; from the seed a small whitish pipe, from one to two inches in length, had sprung to the surface; the coronal *knot* formed itself on the surface, but with only a few meagre leaves, and one solitary ear alone expanded thereon.'

From the above, it can be readily seen, that harrows in common use do not cover the seed to a uniform depth, but on the contrary vary it from the slightest possible covering to that of three or four inches. If the health, vigour, and productiveness of the plant depend so much on the proper depth, we should suppose it of primary consequence that no expense be spared in constructing suitable harrows, and bringing the soil to a proper degree of pulverization and evenness. N. E. F.

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Potatoe Cheese.—In Thuringia and part of Saxony, a kind of potatoe cheese is made which is very much sought after. The following is the recipe: select good white potatoes, boil them, and when cold, peel and reduce them to a pulp with a rasp or mortar; to five pounds of this pulp which must be very uniform and homogeneous, add a pint of sour milk, and the requisite portion of salt; knead the whole well, cover it, and let it remain three or four days, according to the season, then knead it afresh, and place the cheeses in small baskets when they will part with their superfluous moisture; dry them in the shade, and place them in layers in large pots or kegs, where they may remain a fortnight. The older they are the finer they become.

This cheese has the advantage of never engendering worms and of being preserved fresh for many years, provided it is kept in a dry place, and in well closed vessels.—*Bull. Univ.*

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Flesh of young Calves.—By a municipal law in Paris, it is forbidden to expose for sale the meat of calves less than six weeks old. The great profit arising from the sale of milk furnishes an inducement to the violation of this law. Many thousands of cows are kept and fed in cellars, within the walls of Paris for the sale of the milk, and unless a cow yields a calf about once a year, she is less profitable.

The prohibition of the sale of very young, calves, is deemed of great importance to the public health. At less than a month old, the flesh of the calf is not even gelatine, but a vicid and glutinons juice, containing very little fibrine, (which is an animal substance essentially nutritious,) still less ozmazome, a principle exciting to the digestive organs. Hence there are few stomachs capable of supporting such food; and were it digestible, it would strengthen and nourish the body very badly.

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COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the British American.

Mr. Editor,

I am very well pleased that the Land Assessment Bill has obtained the Royal allowance, because I consider it to be an equitable tax, and constitutionally passed; the appropriation of the money as far as building a Government House, will leave the Governor *so far* independant of the whim of any House of Assembly, which is a material point for consideration. "Cæsar's wife should be above suspicion," and a mean mind will misinterpret the motives of the most honourable man. The answer of His Excellency to the House of Assembly, respecting their late temporary vote, was worthy of a Governor, and was evidently given upon this principle. His Majesty's ministers have given us a *broad hint*, and the ad valorem bill will no doubt share the fate of any other tariff. While in England they are trying as far as practicable to assist artizans and mechanics, here we attempt to tax their productions. I should like to consider a little not only how this tax is appropriated, but how it is levied or collected. I am told that in some places, particularly those remote from Charlotte-Town, there are to be found staunch patriots and liberal land escheaters, who, being public officers, do not scruple to levy the tariff with a degree of minute severity and scrutiny unheard of till lately. I could mention different instances of this propensity, but will content myself for the present, and *only* for the present, of giving two examples. The wife of Francis Larkin about June last came from Miramichi, to her place of residence at Lewis Town Point, with a crooked coomb in her hair, and a pair of shoes; she was sent for by the Excise officer, (I suppose we may so call him) of that place, and obliged to swear to the value of those articles, and to pay the duty thereof. Another person Joseph Heron of Kildare, was obliged to swear and pay the duty for a pair of shoes on his sons feet. Many years ago, there was a Custom-house officer at Dover, who used to inspect the ladies dresses narrowly, with the view of discovering contraband lace. Whether his beard was blue or not, I can't say, for he was dead before I was born, but he went by the name of blue-[illegible] till he died. Mr. Bluebeard sometimes exceeded the rules of delicacy in his research, but the articles he