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THE DAILY BEE.

MONDAY MORNING, JULY 6, 1857.

Mr. A. L. Blum, commission merchant at Vera Cruz, is our authorized agent in the Republic of Mexico for collecting moneys due for subscription to, or advertising in the Daily or Semi-weekly *Bee*.

THE NORTHERN MAIL came through yesterday with the latest dates.

SORGHO SUGAR.

The excessive advance in the prices of sugar during the past year induced many intelligent persons to direct their attention to the cultivation of other varieties of the cane. The Hitchcock or Chinese sugar-cane became particularly the subject of numerous experiments, in consequence of the well established fact that the plant was of a hardy character, and would thrive in latitudes adjacent too elevated for the successful cultivation of the ordinary sugar-cane. Many attempts were made in the South and West to produce sugar from the Chinese variety, but these do not appear to have resulted entirely as far as the production of crystallizable sugar is concerned. Some months ago we published an abstract of an extensive series of experiments made by a scientific planter of Georgia, with a view of determining the precise character of the juice of the Sorghum, its saccharine strength and its adaptedness as a substitute for the sugar of the Sugar-cane. This careful inquiry led to the conclusion that the juice of the Sorghum was tolerably rich in saccharine matter, and yielded, by proper treatment, a large amount of pure sugar, which, in density, sweetness and pleasantness of flavor, was at least equal, if not superior, to the finest varieties of Battery sugar, and had commanded a high price in the markets. It was likewise demonstrated that the bagasse left after the extraction of the juice, and the stalks, leaves and other portions of the plant not used in manufacturing the sugar, constituted a species of fodder admirably suited to cattle, and on which they fattened rapidly. Despite, however, this strong testimony in favor of the Sorgho, its claims have not apparently been generally recognized. As the object of the planter and farmer was to discover a substitute for sugar, and not for sorghum, and as the customary processes employed in sugar-making failed to obtain any profitable amount of crystallized sugar, the less valuable characteristics of the Chinese cane failed to recommend it to the agricultural community. Of late, therefore, but little has been heard of the Sorgho, and those who were disappointed in their expectations of making cheap sugar from the Chinese cane have abandoned the idea of cultivating it for other useful purposes.

As sugars are still extremely dear, many are the anticipated bountiful crop of the coming season, and as the constant increase in our population necessarily leads to an enhanced consumption of the article, and to a prospective insufficiency of the supply, even under the most favorable circumstances, it would probably exhibit a prudent foresight to renew experiments with the Sorgho, and to endeavor to ascertain whether, by more careful treatment, juices of the plant might not be made to yield sugar in a crystallizable form. We are encouraged in the hope that ultimate success by the authentic statements of M. VILMORIN, one of the most learned agriculturists, theoretically and practically, in Europe. Mr. ALEXANDER VATTEMARE, the indefatigable advocate of international exchanges, having been requested by our Minister in France, Hon. J. Y. Mason, to inquire into the practicability of ameliorating the juice of the Chinese sugar-cane, applied to Mr. VILMORIN, who has long made a particular study of the Sorgho plant, and received from him the annexed important letter, together with a number of pamphlets containing elaborate instructions on the most available methods of culture, and extraction of the juice. Mr. VATTEMARE adds from his personal knowledge, that Sorgho sugar can be crystallized, and that the Sorgho, in its other products also, is destined to render immense services to mankind.

PARIS, 20th April, 1857.

TO M. ALEXANDRE VATTEMARE:

Sir—The crystallization of the sugar of the Sorgho, is scarcely ever effected in all cases where the cane can be easily ripened, and, as the proportion of the sugar is so exceedingly little of ripe cane, it is far as the production of crystals is concerned. Some months ago we published an abstract of an extensive series of experiments made by a scientific planter of Georgia, with a view of determining the precise character of the juice of the Sorgho, its saccharine strength and its adaptedness as a substitute for the sugar of the Sugar-cane. This careful inquiry led to the conclusion that the juice of the Sorgho was tolerably rich in saccharine matter, and yielded, by proper treatment, a large amount of pure sugar, which, in density, sweetness and pleasantness of flavor, was at least equal, if not superior, to the finest varieties of Battery sugar, and had commanded a high price in the markets. It was likewise demonstrated that the bagasse left after the extraction of the juice, and the stalks, leaves and other portions of the plant not used in manufacturing the sugar, constituted a species of fodder admirably suited to cattle, and on which they fattened rapidly. Despite, however, this strong testimony in favor of the Sorgho, its claims have not apparently been generally recognized. As the object of the planter and farmer was to discover a substitute for sugar, and not for sorgho, and as the customary processes employed in sugar-making failed to obtain any profitable amount of crystallized sugar, the less valuable characteristics of the Chinese cane failed to recommend it to the agricultural community. Of late, therefore, but little has been heard of the Sorgho, and those who were disappointed in their expectations of making cheap sugar from the Chinese cane, have abandoned the idea of cultivating it for other useful purposes.

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