

This gave encouragement to try a third, and before it was finished she began to bite the grass near her, although she was unable to chew and swallow it. A fourth bathing enabled her to eat, and the next day she appeared to be well, but rather thin and hollow. It is now more than three years since this happened, and the mare has been as healthy and active as she was before. During the intervals of the baths, and for two or three days after, she was covered with a blanket, but was not put in a stable."—*Lorain.*

IMPLEMENTS.

Hoes.—The edge of a Hoe is on the upper side, which ought always to be hard steel; but many have the steel beneath like adzes, and consequently have the part where the edge should be, always dull and rolled back.

DUCKBILL COULTER, for stoney land—The bottom of this should be very hard steel. If the steel be placed in the middle with iron below it, one day's work will form such a bevil that the plough will not work well.

The bottom of the point and cutting edge of the share should also be hard steel.

RANSOMES plough, which is much esteemed in one part of England, has the share made of soft iron; the under side being case hardened to the temper of steel, which causes it to wear to a thin cutting edge. This practice would probably be preferable to steeling the share, were it not for the frequency with which the case hardening must be repeated. It is nearly the mechanism of the cutting teeth of the Beaver and Porcupine, which being very hard in front, and growing gradually softer to the back part, always carry so fine an edge that a pen can be made with one of them.

IRRIGATION.

There are many books running down hills occupied either as pasture or mowing land, where, with very little labour a part or all the water could be turned off in small channels to the right and left, and made to spread over the face of the hill. In many places the grass could by this means be greatly increased. "The best water is that which has received the wash of cultivated land; the least valuable that which has passed over vitriolic slate; but we have seen a large crop of hay produced by water that was never muddy. We have known a field of seven acres in a sandy district, from which two heavy crops were annually mowed, and the hay all sold, as the owner, who was an old bachelor, kept no cattle; as the ground had but little stone, he spread the brook over the field in a multitude of little channels not more than six inches broad, and whenever it rained in summer the old man might be seen regulating the water in his little rills. In wet seasons it was not allowed to remain but a few days at a time. No other manure was applied to the land, but it was not pastured. This brook however was muddy in heavy showers. Where small brooks empty into wild meadows, the grass may be much increased by turning them out of their channels and throwing the water upon the grass, in summer.

Many wild or natural meadows have been greatly injured by burning them over in the spring, and some have been damaged by lowering the bed of the brook, by which they have been left too dry for the natural grass. To these it would be a great advantage to lay them under water for six weeks in the spring, by making a dam at the outlet of the brook from the meadow. Many such dams have been made for the sake of introducing the Fowl meadow grass, and, where the brook was large, were sometimes used to water the meadows in a dry season.

In pastures where a little water from a brook is spread over the face of a hill, the feed is always more early in the spring than upon land not watered; and for this reason, in England, some level meadows have been thrown into artificial hills at an expense exceeding £12 *Ƴ* acre, for the purpose of feeding early lambs which always sold for an extra price. It is estimated in England, that by the help of water good feed can be produced a month before the usual time, but it is always necessary to have the water under command, so that it can be turned off at any time, as upland grasses may be injured by allowing the water to remain too long.

AMERICAN PESCUE GRASS.

This grass is always found on the best dyke lands together with the native Couch, but being much earlier than the Couch it is frequently dead ripe, when mowed, and having shed its seed is no better than straw. Where therefore it forms one third of the crop it should be mowed before the seed is ripe, although the Couch grass may not be fully grown, as the Clover will require mowing at the same time, and we have little rich dry land in grass that does not contain a portion of the small early Clover. The Crow-foot or Butter cup, which abounds in many fields, also requires mowing as early as the Fescue grass when it makes excellent hay, but at the time that the Timothy is out of blossom it is of little value.

The Fescue grass might answer well to sow with clover on some soils which seem to have "tired" of Timothy; it yields a large quantity of aftergrass which is very distinguishable by its bright green leaves; and it is never injured by the severity of winter; the seed is large, and generally ripens in July.

The Couch is a native plant of our sea shores, and appears to be a large variety of the European species from which it differs in having a greater number of flowers in the small seed spikes. This and the Fescue grass are by far the most valuable of our native grasses.

Swine are less capable of resisting the extremities of heat and cold than our other domestic animals. When running at large they will provide suitable shelter for themselves, but when confined in pens they often suffer so much as to materially affect their thriving. An under-ground shelter made as below described has been found to suit them well both in hot and cold weather.

Let a pen be made on a hill side, and without, but adjoining the upper side of the pen, dig a hole of a suitable size about thirty inches deep, cover it with pickets, brush and sods, and then with the earth that was thrown out, after which a sloping entrance from the pen may be formed to allow them to pass under the fence and some litter thrown in. However muddy the pen may be they will keep the shelter dry, and will generally remain in it in the hottest part of the day, as well as in very cold weather.

The Sedge grass of natural meadows generally retains its green colour long after it has become almost juiceless. It ought always to be mowed before the month of September. If the meadow is so poor that it cannot bear early mowing, it is much better to mow it every other year, than to starve cattle by feeding them on worthless hay. When grass is left on the ground for the purpose of improving the crop, it must not be burnt off next spring. It will soon ruin a natural meadow.

BACKWOODS MEN.

"Since I removed to the backwoods where such farmers are more especially plenty, I have had a better opportunity of observing