

with equal good success; also tried it on corn with good results.

For apple trees I prefer unleached ashes, especially close around the stem. My trees were badly affected with the borer, so much so that I lost several large and thrifty trees before I was aware of the cause. I then examined the trees with the knife and wire, and applied ashes, and the result is I can keep the insect in check; and by constantly attending to the trees in spring I have no trouble with worms' nests. I do not sell ashes since the ashman refused to purchase ashes measured in my half-bushel—although stamped with V.R. my measure was only about one-third as large as his iron tub.

To your correspondent from Meaford, I would say that Western corn, sowed in June, at the rate of 130 lbs. to the acre, in drills 18 inches apart, in good clean land, will produce one of the most valuable substitutes for grass that can be raised at such a trifling expense. Cut in the latter part of July, August or September as required, about 24 hours before being fed, will be a good feed for milch cows; what is not needed to feed out then, cut before frosts injure it, bind it in small bundles and set up about 8 bundles together for a few weeks, then drive a long stake into the ground and bind 40 or 50 small bundles around the stake near the top, use in winter as you need it. Some farmers will mow and cure it as hay and mix it with straw in the mow or stack. If properly cured I consider it worth more than ripe timothy hay for cows, and an acre will produce an immense lot. Sow Western corn, if not too far north, and I think you will not regret it. A slight cultivation may be needed unless the land is clean and mellow.

If you can find anything in what I have written worth copying, use it as you think proper and oblige

CANADENSIS.

Guano.

SIR,—As I imported a quantity of guano from England, and intend to apply it to the land this spring, would you be so kind as to inform me of the best mode of applying it on light soil, and what crops it is best adapted for?

Do you consider it would pay to import it at the rate of \$80 per ton? Please answer in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

A SUBSCRIBER, Lower Montague, P. E. I.

[Guano is applied as a fertilizer to grass lands as well as to root and grain crops. Peruvian guano is one of the best artificial manures for grass land; when used alone, it may be employed at the rate of from one and a half to two and a half cwt. per acre. A very generally useful top-dressing for the hay crop may be made of three parts Peruvian guano, one part nitrate of soda, and one part sulphate of ammonia. Of this mixture, two to two and a half cwt. per acre may be employed.

For root crops the following practice has been found very beneficial on light soils: Give barely half a dressing of dung in the spring to all the land for turnips, along with three cwt. of superphosphate of lime per acre. Give a full dressing of farm-yard dung in autumn to the land for the mangold wurzel crop, along with two or three cwt. of guano and two or three cwt. of common salt per acre in spring. Give a fair dressing of dung in autumn, if possible, to land intended for potatoes, along with two or three cwt. of guano as a top-dressing in spring, at planting time. Give a fair dressing of dung to the clover in autumn for the wheat crop. This is the practice of good English farmers.

We have employed guano, without any additional manure, for mangold crops. Having opened drills at 30 inches distant, we sowed guano in the drills, then covered the drills with the plow and dribbled in the seed. We had a very heavy yield. We may add, the ground had been manured for a root crop the previous year.

"Would it pay to import guano at \$80 per ton?" We think the experiment would be one of considerable risk. The profits of any crop depend so much on seasons and other circumstances that any opinion would be merely a probable estimate. We would advise any such experiment to be made on a small scale. Besides, the value of guano is wholly according to its richness in ammonia. The simplest test that can be applied to guano is weight. A bushel of good guano, filled in, without pressure, should not exceed seventy-three pounds in weight. The best substitute for guano, available to all, is fowls' manure.—Ed.]

SIR,—The Red Fern spring wheat has done very well this year; again it yielded 27 bushels to the acre. I fancy I sowed it a little too thin—one bushel to the acre, broadcast—the consequence was it had to stool out a great deal, and did not ripen as soon as it should, but for all that it did better than any other I have heard of.

Cherry Creek, Mar., 1877.

R. F.

PROFIT OF COWS.—SIR,—I would like to inform you how my cows paid me during the past year, having kept four cows, two new milch cows and two farrow cows; from which I made one thousand weight of butter, having sold \$134.90 worth besides that required for our own use. Total amount made amounts to \$175.

GEO. A. COOPER.

Clinton.

Can you or any of your readers inform me through the ADVOCATE how to prevent turnips and carrots from running to seed or long stock, if so you will much oblige a constant reader.

BLUENOSE.

Upp Stewicke, Colchester Co., N. S.
[The principal cause is the sowing of inferior seed raised by people who do not understand the business. Roots planted out of the proper season will produce bad seed. In England too early sowing has been known to result in weakly and seedy crops. Turnip seed one year old is not so liable to become weakly as new seed. Your best way to avoid this is to get your seed direct from some good seedsmen. Often a lot of cheap and inferior seed is packed and sent to the small groceries throughout the country. The cost of good seed is nothing in comparison to the loss of a crop.—Ed.]

SIR,—I sowed three bushels of Red Fern wheat last year. I sowed Fife wheat along side of it. I had threshed 20 bushels of Red Fern. I sowed them about the same quantity on the ground. The land was the same. The Fife wheat was shrunken poor stuff, fit for hen feed. The Red Fern would have yielded double if the season had not been so dry. The midge injured the Fife badly, but it did not affect the Red Fern. The Minnesota wheat did very well with a neighbor of mine.

DANIEL FERGUSON, Wilton Grove.

FROZEN APPLES.—It may be of value to some to know that frozen apples, if taken from the tree before they thaw, and put in a cool cellar, will be very little injured. We put some down in that way last fall, and the frost came out in large shells on the outside, and left the apples very little worse, while others left on the trees were ruined. A plan which a neighbor took last fall to preserve apples for family use, and which I thought so well of that I will mention it. Instead of barrels he took cheese boxes into the orchard, and carefully picked the fruit into them, put on the lids, and then piled them on top of each other in a cool cellar. The different kinds might be marked on the side of the boxes, and they so placed that this could be seen most readily. The advantages of this plan are—The boxes will keep for future use much better than barrels, and will, consequently, be cheaper in the end. They are more convenient to handle and fill, and it will be much easier getting at the apples when wanted. I intend ordering a quantity of boxes next fall, to be made strong and good, and to hold about a bushel each for my own use. In this part of the country they will cost probably about 15 or 16 cents each.

Innerkip, March 8th, 1877.

J. M.

1. Please to tell us in the ADVOCATE what the clover seed that is shipped to the old country is used for? Is it used for dyes; if so, what to color?

2. I enclose you a sample of worms that are found this year in clover seed. I do not remember to have seen them before, nor to have heard of them, either through the papers or otherwise. They seem to be most prevalent in poor seed. Do you know anything about them; have they anything to do with the quality of the seed?

E. D. M.

[1. We have several times heard here of clover seed being used for dyes. We have made enquiries on the subject, and to ensure greater certainty we wrote to most reliable houses in England, and we are assured the seed is not used for dyeing at all, but solely for seed.

2. Wm. Saunders, well known as an entomologist, kindly gives us the following information to the second query:—

SIR,—The insect mentioned in your correspondent's letter, as affecting clover, is, I believe, what

is known as the clover worm (*asopia costalis*). The specimens contained in the letter were so dried up as to be difficult to recognize, still I think the determination is correct. The moth produced from this caterpillar is a very pretty little thing, and very quick in its movements. WM. SAUNDERS.

Wire Fence—Caterpillars.

I propose building a wire fence, or part wire at least; that is, I intend putting in two cedar posts per rod and then putting a board twelve inches wide in the bottom and a two by four scantlon on top; then fill in the intervening space with as many wires as I think necessary.

I would be very much obliged for your opinion of such a fence in your next issue, and what thickness of wires and where best obtained, &c.

As it will be coming on toward the time when we may expect to see the caterpillars on our fruit trees (by the time of your next issue), I will here give you my plan (which I discovered several years ago and again called into practice last year when they were so bad throughout this part of the country) of destroying them. If you deem it worthy, publish it for the benefit of others.

When the sun is warm place a ring of coal tar about one inch wide around the trunk of the tree, up pretty near the branches. Then jar all the branches that have any caterpillars on them, and they will immediately fall to the ground. Break the web by which they let themselves down, and in less than half an hour they will all be gathered on the trunk up as far as the tar, where they can easily be killed with an old broom or something of that sort.

One half day of your time, and a gallon of tar (costing about fifty cents) will make your orchard an ornament instead of an eyesore to your farm, to say nothing of profit. But here the want of space compels me to discontinue.

Porter Hill, March 6th, 1877.

[REPLY TO T. M. E.—We have had little experience with wire fences. The galvanized wire is the best, and will be found cheapest eventually. Apply to the nearest wholesale hardware merchant. The method you have given is, we believe, a very good one; the twelve-inch board at the bottom and scantling on top would secure the fence.—Ed.]

Send Postage Stamps.

SIR,—Since the insertion of my letter on Muskoka in the February number of the ADVOCATE, I have received numerous letters of enquiry, asking for further information, none of which contained stamps for reply. Will you kindly insert a line in the April number to the effect that I will willingly supply information, to those that require it by mail, if the party who writes will enclose a stamp for reply; but, unless this rule is complied with, I cannot undertake to answer communications by mail. By inserting this in the next number you will confer a favor on

JAMES ASPDIN.

Asplin P. O., Ont.

[Other correspondents have made similar complaints. Persons desirous of obtaining information should consider that stationery and time are of value. The least thing they can respectfully do is to send stamps for return postage.—Ed.]

Unclean Milk.

SIR,—Can you or any of your subscribers inform me why cows give unclean milk out of some of their teats. We have a fresh milk cow that gives bad milk from one of her teats; the last milking was quite bloody, but not lumpy. The cow is six years old, kept in a warm stable, and fed boiled barley once a day. We had a heifer last year that had two teats the same way all last summer. I would like to know the cause, and if there is a cure.

A SUBSCRIBER.

[This is a trouble which every dairyman has to contend with more or less, and we think comes from several causes. But the most potent one is a feverishness in the cow's bag or in a portion of it. Some cooling food and medicine should be given. A tablespoonful of saltpetre given once a day in her food will be found beneficial. Many use poke-root—a small piece cut up fine and given in a bran mash. If it proves troublesome or incurable, the best plan is to fatten and sell to the butcher, and fill her place with another.—Ed.]