

try in this primitive and honorable calling? Then why give the costly prizes to the men, and the cheaper and smaller ones to the boys. If any difference is to be made, let the youth have it, but I say make all the classes equal. The boys classes should be divided thus: all under eighteen years of age plough together, and all over eighteen and under twenty-one. Boys seldom go to the match until they are fifteen years of age. This will give them three years before they are eighteen, and three after eighteen, before they join the men. Let the boys have their choice, either of wood or iron ploughs. Another change I would like, is the fixing of the time in which the work is to be done. I do not believe in awarding a prize to a man or a boy who has occupied two hours more than he ought to have done in ploughing a half acre of ground.

I hope the directors of ploughing matches will give these views their consideration.

S. K.

THE COMPARATIVE COST TO THE FARMER OF RAISING TIMOTHY SEED AND CLOVER SEED.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist.

Will some of our more experienced farmers give us the results of their observations in these matters? Timothy seed can generally be purchased for less than half the sum paid for clover seed; is this difference of price caused by the difference of cost in the raising of the latter? If not, then tell us what it is that causes the difference in the price of these two sorts of seeds. To us it appears, that a bushel of clover seed can be raised with as little cost as a bushel of Timothy seed. First, you can raise a heavy crop of clover hay in the same season, and off the same ground where you get your clover seed. I doubt not but you can get a bushel of Timothy seed off a less quantity of land than that required to raise a bushel of clover seed. But taking the clover hay into account, I am quite of the belief that the clover costs us no more than the Timothy. Then where you raise your Timothy seed, you have no fall pasture. Again, your clover leaves the land the better; but is it so with the Timothy? does it not leave it greatly impoverished? These are considerations worthy of our attention, and it may be profitable to note down these things, and give others the advantage of our knowledge.

S. KING,
Ryckman's Corners.

ALSIKE CLOVER.

NORTH DUMFRIES, 26th March, 1860.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist.

SIR,—In the February number of the *Agriculturist* for 1858, I saw a letter from Mr. P. R. Wright, of Cobourg, wherein he gave a description of a new kind of Clover, called the "Alsiike" or Perennial Hybrid Clover; he also stated that he had grown it for a number of years, and recommended it very highly, he said if he could only persuade one hundred or even fifty *intelligent* farmers to make a trial of it, and report their success to you, he felt confident that red clover would soon be numbered among the grasses that were in Canada. Well, having some confidence in a Canadian gentleman's recommendation, I determined to give it a trial, and I would now report with what success to you. In the month of April, 1858, I procured four pounds of the seed, from Mr. Fleming, Toronto, that being all he could spare me, I sowed it in a small field containing about one acre that was sown with Barley. Not being accustomed to sow such a small quantity to the acre, I sowed it rather thick, and only got it to go over three-quarters of the acre, the other quarter I sowed with the common red clover, so that I had a fair chance of comparing the two. I give the preference to the Alsiike by a great deal; it will make better and finer hay, and from what I have seen of it for the two past winters, I think it is a Clover that is going to stand the winter better and not be so liable to be thrown out of the ground by the spring frosts as the red, a quality that I consider one of its best recommendations in this part of the country, where the red clover is sometimes completely killed out by the freezing and thawing of the ground in the spring. I did not cut it until the seed was ripe, which was on the 19th July, 1859.—There was at least two tons of hay from the three-fourths of an acre, which I consider a good yield, when the frosts of last summer are taken into account. It has two things at the present time against its not being more generally introduced, the first is, the little that is generally known of it in this country yet—the second is the high price of the seed; but as it becomes better known, I am satisfied the demand for it will increase. I believe I am the only one in this part of the country who has cut a crop of the Alsiike the past year, but I believe there are a number of others who seeded down small patches last year. I also seeded another acre in 1859. I in-