

until the ground is well pulverized, and the nearer it can be made to a garden tith the better.

But if he is ahead of the season with his work he can always have full employment in making the manure heap. He collects every thing that will make manure that his time and means permit; he puts on it at least one ton of plaster at different times. Leached ashes, swamp muck, marl, dirty salt, and old brine, are all collected and mixed with the barn-yard dung, so as to increase the manure heap to at least 200 loads.

The ground being in good order and the season favourable, he commences planting the first of May, and takes time and does it well—for there is more lost by careless planting than would pay for four times the labour of doing it well. He first plants the wurtzels, then the potatoes and corn. Planting done, the wheat is to be wed; and as soon as the wurtzels are up he begins hoeing which affords him employment untill the first, and perhaps the fifth of July. He then has some leisure, and assists a neighbor in haying, to procure help in hauling in the grain.

He commences harvest as soon as the grain will answer, and barley will do to cut pretty green. If it is not sufficiently dry to bind let it lie two or three days in swarth. Harvest begun he may work as faithfully as he chooses until the grain is all secured. That done, he harrows, cultivates, or ploughs shallow the barley stubble, so as to pulverize it thoroughly four inches deep, and sows on it half a ton of plaster. The corn is now ready to cut up; that done he ploughs the barley stubble deep and well, and sows the wheat. The summer crops are now ready to gather, which employs him a while. When all are secured, he takes out the manure, spreads it evenly over the surface, and ploughs it under. The hoc ground is also to be ploughed for barley next spring, which keeps him busy until it is time to prepare for winter.

In winter he takes good care of the stock, thrashes the grain, and provides fuel—having none on his farm. The orchard is planted by the fence around the farm and door yard.

Now, my Young Friends, be industrious and saving, and you will soon be able to purchase 21 acres of land. And you who have large possessions, and sons you wish to settle near you, divide your possessions with them, and teach them to realize that industry and economy are the sources of wealth—and that a neat, comfortable and independent home, though it is small, will afford more rational enjoyment in old age, than large possessions, with a princely mansion, even if it is not encumbered with debt.

Wheatland, N. Y., 1849.

—Genesee Farmer.

Docking and Castrating Lambs.

Eds. Cultivator—As the time is at hand to attend to docking and castrating lambs, I will give you my method of performing that operation.

When the lambs are from one to two weeks old, and the weather is good, I drive up my ewes and lambs to the barn yard, in the afternoon, towards sunset; put them in a close yard, take out all the lambs. Put the lambs in a small pen, or on the barn floor; then let the ewes out in the barn-yard, which should be well littered with straw. Have a boy to catch the lambs; hand them to another hand, who lets them stand on their feet. I take the tail in my left hand, hold it out straight, have a good shoe knife, and cut off the tail as close as suits fancy. I find this method quicker and better than a chisel and block. Then mark the ear and let the lamb go, keeping them in the yard over night.

In the course of a week or two, bring up the ewes and lambs again. Put them in a close pen; select out the lambs; let the ewe lambs go; put the ram lambs in a pen or on a barn floor. After the lambs are all taken out, let the ewes into the yard. Remember to have it well covered with dry straw. Have a boy to catch the ram lambs, place a good hand on a low bench, who should take the lamb on his lap; hold him by his fore and hind legs. The operator will soon find in what position the lamb should be held. I take my knife, cut off about half the pouch, pull out the testicle, and set down the lamb. The mother comes up to meet him; he soon lays down, consequently soon stops bleeding. The next morning I let them out. The lamb will go off as snarl as if nothing had occurred. There is more danger from docking than altering. To perform both operations at the same time is too severe.

I will give my reason for choosing the evening instead of the morning, which is the usual time for altering. If you perform the operation in the morning the ewes are hungry, and ramble about for food, the poor lamb will drag along in pain, and continue bleeding, from the exercise. Reverse the time, and the ewes and lambs lie down and continue quiet all night, and the bleeding soon stops. O. M. F. Wheeler, Stuben Co., N. Y., April, 1849.

The Quantity of Seeds usually Sown to an Acre.

We are often applied to for information as to the proper quantity of field and garden seeds that is necessary to sow an acre of ground. This, it will be perceived, cannot be definitely answered, as all seeds differ in their degree of excitability, or rapidity of germination, and are influenced more or less by the moisture, temperature, and richness of the soil, as well as by