

Again—

"On the 2nd of June, 1766, Mr. C. Miller, of Cambridge, sowed some grains of the common red wheat. On the 8th August a single plant was taken up and separated into 18 parts, and each planted separately; these plants having pushed out several side shoots, about the middle of September some of them were taken up and divided; and the rest between that time and October. This second division produced 67 plants. These plants remained through the winter, and another division of them, made between the middle of March and the 12th April produced 500 plants. They were divided no further, but permitted to remain in the field. These plants were in general stronger than any of the wheat in the field. Some of them produced upwards of 100 ears from a single root; and many of the ears measured 7 inches in length, and contained between 60 and 70 grains. The whole number of ears produced from this single plant was 21,109, which yielded *three pecks and three quarters* of clear corn, or wheat, weighing 47lbs 7 ozs. and from a calculation made by counting the grains in an ounce, the whole number of grains was about 576,840. Who can help admiring the wisdom and Providence of God in this single grain of corn! He has, in some sort, impressed on it an idea of his own infinity; and an idea which, like the subject to which it refers, confounds our imagination and reason. How infinitely great is He, even in his *minor* works!"

Z.

(To the Editor of the Farmer's Manual.)
LETTERS OF "A FARMER."

LETTER XVIII.

AFTER all the exertions which have been used to diffuse useful knowledge in Agriculture, after many satisfactory proofs of the great benefit derived from good management, it would seem rather discouraging to see old prejudices still prevail—to see even the barn-yard still drained into the river, and large herds of cattle shivering through a long night on the highway, to the great loss of the owners, and the annoyance of travellers. But, aware that the rising generation may and will read, mark, learn, and duly consider the value of former experiments, it is their benefit which should be chiefly considered, as most intimately connected with the prosperity of the Province.

Too many raise objections to the *Farmer's Manual*, from very curious views, and with very little consideration; and I exceedingly regret that a complete system of Agriculture should be refuted by any farmer in the Province, when it may be obtained at the low price of five shillings; for I am certain, if I had been in possession of the information which that now contains, twenty five years ago, it would have saved me many pounds, and many of my acquaintance would have derived much more benefit from it than I could have done.

It is useless to assert that a foreign paper of large size may be obtained for the same price. Foreign papers contain matter foreign to our interest, and are chiefly useful to afford a few interesting extracts which may be partially applicable to our climate. But homespun material, and do-

mestic experience are substances which may be relied on as valuable, and it is the safest and wisest policy for Agricultural interest to exclude foreign importations by our own skill and energy.

It must be admitted that the great depression in the farmer's market price of produce bearing no proportion to the ordinary rate of wages, seems at the first view rather discouraging; but when we consider the subject aright, it should stimulate us to greater exertions, for the farmer's family require as much of his produce as ever, and to raise the greatest crop with the least manual labor, is certainly the best cure for high wages. High wages are the result of lumber speculations, and there will soon be a reaction. Many of those who are now toiling in the woods, and feeding on imported provisions, will soon return to Agriculture, as the safest and most natural pursuit; and I am well aware that many of them are striving to make the most of the present opportunity to obtain the means of purchasing land for that purpose.

That lumbering will continue to a considerable extent in this Province for many years to come, I will readily admit; but that the present extensive timber making can continue long, is totally impossible. When that fails, our enterprising laborers and their descendants will turn their attention to the soil and the plough, to mining, quarrying, and manufactures, for all of which, there is a scarcely a better field in North America than this Province.

Always glad to see experiments tried, and to obtain a knowledge of their result, I am pleased to see an enquiry after guano, and hope soon to be acquainted with the ultimate as well as the present benefit derived from its use; but having had some experience of the effect of saline manures, I cannot restrain the belief that some of our unopened alluvial deposits will yet be far more useful to New Brunswick than guano. I sincerely hope those who are trying the experiment, will acquaint the public of the result. If guano sustains its reputation as long as gypsum has, it will be valuable indeed.

Give me lime for a clayey soil, gypsum for a sandy soil, and sahe manures for one crop; but an alluvial deposit, mixed with stable manure, to make a rich durable soil. All which is respectfully submitted by
A FARMER.

ERRATA.—In No. 16, 2d line from the top, for "endure," read *censure*.

FARMERS OF THE COUNTY OF ST. JOHN.

GENTLEMEN,—As President of this County Agricultural Society, I am requested by its Directors to address you, publicly, with the view if possible, of stimulating your energies in the cause for which it has been called into existence by the Legislature. It was in order to improve our present methods of culture that the sum of £75 was voted this last Session with the simple, and apparently easy proviso, that we should ourselves subscribe half that amount for the same purpose. And will any one, in any degree acquainted with the astonishing progress made of late years in Europe in the art of managing land and stock, venture to say that such improvement is not called for here, or that our soil and climate preclude the practicability of it. My good friends, allow me to say, that both these propositions are untenable. We are behind almost all others, in the knowledge and practice of our calling; and that, worse than silly, notion, once so prevalent, of the unsuitableness of our soil and climate, for all the most valuable purposes of agriculture, is now, I believe, universally abandoned.