

said underdrains. I had an idea that that part of the ground might be made dry by putting underdrains pretty near to each other, and thus compensate for the want of depth, and I wanted information as to how near they ought to be in order thus to compensate. Would it be any use attempting to underdrain it at all? It is nearly level and lies next the creek, and the flag limestone is very little higher than the bottom of the creek, so that there would be no chance of the water sinking down through any openings that might be in the rock. If the drains were made whenever there would be a flood in the creek the water would go up the drains. Most of the ground appears dry on the top, but it don't grow very much; it is in pasture: another part is in meadow, and lies a little higher, I am making a few underdrains in a part of it, but I cannot get them deeper than about 20 to 33 inches. I intend to try the water on it this fall.

I am clearing a piece of new land for turnips, to be followed with spring wheat, and grass for the meadow or pasture till the stumps are rotten; is it better to sell the ashes, or spread them on the ground where they are, or rake them up to apply to old cleared land? If the latter be best, to what crops would it be best to apply them? and how,—mixed with other substances or by themselves? Although the season is over for this year for sowing, yet your answers would be borne in mind by all interested in the subject.

I am, yours &c.,

J. W.

Cambray, 22nd Sept, 1862.

REMARKS.

Drains that for want of outfall cannot be made deeper than 16 or 18 inches will require to be near each other; say from 20 to 30 feet according to the nature of the soil and general character of the land. At the above depths drains would be liable to injury by ordinary cultivation, but if well made might be quite secure in pasture. Where stone is of easy access, five or six inches of broken stone placed immediately over the conduit of the drain will be found beneficial. We would suggest to our correspondent the desirableness of having a few surface drains at regular intervals in addition to the underdrains, so as to prevent the accumulation of surface water in spring, when the underdrains cannot fully act till the frost is sufficiently out of the ground.

With reference to the selling of ashes much of course depends on the price they will fetch. As a general rule we think farmers had better apply them to their older lands, which have been deprived by frequent cropping of the in-

gredients which wood ashes possess, and which are essential to the healthy growth and maturity of plants. Ashes may be beneficially sown broadcast on meadow or pasture, or mixed with the compost heap and applied to any of the cultivated crops of the farm. We shall be happy to hear from our correspondent again on the results of his irrigation.

The Field Bean and Rotation of Crops.

THE EDITORS OF THE AGRICULTURIST.—Can you favour me with some information about beans. If it be the case, as I am told, that the common bean does not pod in this Province, do you think any of those kinds that are largely imported into England from climates much better than Canada, such as Egypt, Sicily, Brazil &c., would answer. By a short experience farming I find I want a drill crop to follow rotation upon, and as turnips, except to a limited extent, are out of the question, I have thought I could find a suitable bean it would come in as a substitute for a more eligible green crop. Indian corn has been suggested to me for this purpose instead, but from its requiring the same food as the other cereals, it appears to be objectionable. I do not see much said in the Journal about rotation of crops, a subject, judging from the little attention paid to it in general practice, might I think be profitably impressed upon the mind of the farmer.

I would like much to know from some of the more intelligent agriculturists of the Province what kind of rotation they find best, the subject is of so much consequence that a thorough discussion of it would prove highly instructive. A short experience tells me that our greatest want is manure, both in quantity and quality, and in order to obviate the evil in some measure, course must be had to a scientific and judicious arrangement of the crops, and the application of what manure we have at the best time and the most proper mode. This latter subject seems at present to be engaging much of the attention of the agricultural chemists in Europe and as we in the wilds of Canada have not the advantages of reading the important articles which are appearing in the various agricultural journals of the three kingdoms, we must look to the conduct of this journal and similar ones published on this continent for an account of the fast progress which is going on in agriculture in the old world, for there the greatest amount of mind is engaged and the most important results are effected.

"NOB. WEST,

October, 1862.

REMARKS.—The common field or horse bean cannot, it would seem, be profitably cultivated