

be mixed with lime or ashes to dry them for sowing. For clover or grass seeds, the solution should be weaker, and they should be dried for sowing with gypsum. Soils that are clover-sick, or that the clover soon fails upon, may be improved for this plant by draining and deep ploughing, and sowing with the clover seed from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 cwt. of gypsum, particularly if the gypsum or sulphate of lime does not exist naturally in the soil. It is said, that if common coal, or other ashes spread on the clover or lucern, promotes their growth, gypsum may be securely applied. Nitrate of soda is used as a top-dressing for spring corn, at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. per acre, and saltpetre at the rate of 1 cwt. per acre. It is particularly recommended for barley. These top-dressings do best on dry or light soils. Ditch-scrappings, pond mud, and weed heaps, with which one bushel of salt is mixed with each square yard, is said to be the very best dressing for potatoes on dry or gravelly soils. Mangel-wurzel seed should be carefully selected. If the seed of the common garden beet is sown, the crop will be far inferior to that which would be produced from the seed of the large field varieties of mangel-wurzel. The long red variety is best for deep strong soil, and the yellow globe and red globe is best for light or gravelly soils.

#### FLAX.

There is at present every encouragement to farmers to cultivate flax to a certain extent. Even for the seed, we have no doubt but it would pay better than wheat in many instances. The seed would require careful management to save and dry it properly. Canada is very favorable for this, our climate is so dry generally. We hope that some of our merchants will import some Russian flax seed next spring. Where the object is to raise seed only, the Canadian or American seed will answer, but where the fibre is required, the Russian seed is best. It is computed that

animals that get a portion of oil cake, or linseed with their food, their manure is improved to the extent of half the value of the oil cake or linseed consumed. This fact is very encouraging to farmers to grow linseed as food for animals. It is also said that land manured with the dung of animals fed with a portion of oil cake or linseed, will show the improvement beyond other manure, for three or four years.

We have received by the spring shipping, the London "Farmers' Magazine" up to March last. Each number contains two beautifully executed copper plate engravings of first class animals, and occasionally the portrait of some eminent agriculturist. This Magazine is not inferior to any agricultural periodical of the present day. It also advocates the interests of agriculturists in a very able manner. The articles that appear in this magazine are always good, and can be relied upon. We do not say that the English system of husbandry can be adopted exactly here in all its branches, but any man who understands any thing of their practice of agriculture, cannot fail to be instructed by reading this magazine. We have also received a few other new works for the Library.

The three last numbers of the Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland have been kindly forwarded to the Lower Canada Agricultural Society, by John Hall Maxwell, Esq., the secretary of the Farmers' Society. These numbers are up to March last. The whole of the new series are now in the Library of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society; up to the month of March, 1851, and contain a vast amount of the most valuable information. The articles published in the "Transactions" have the strong recommendation of coming to us from one of the oldest Agricultural Societies in existence, and from a society who have done much to bring the Agriculture of Scotland to the high state of improvement it is in at present.