

AGRICULTURAL.

[From the New England Farmer]
ON SOWING GRASS SEEDS.

Practical farmers are not agreed relative to the best time in the year for sowing Grass Seeds. Some prefer autumn, but a majority of those who have written on the subject, recommend sowing in the spring, and spring, so far as we are acquainted with the practice of our cultivators, is generally chosen for sowing grasses. European writers direct, even when grass seed is sown on the same ground with winter grain, to sow the grass seed in the spring, and harrow it in. They say that the harrowing will, on the whole, be of some service to the grain. The Hon. Richard Peters, likewise directed to "harrow your winter grain in the spring, in the direction of the seed furrows, or drills, and be not afraid of disturbing a few plants; much seed will remunerate for those destroyed."

But, although the spring sowing of grass seeds has been generally recommended, and practiced by New England Farmers, some experienced and scientific cultivators have preferred summer and autumnal sowing. Mr J. M. Gourgus, of Weston, Mass., in a useful article published in the N. E. Farmer, makes the following statement.

"Dear bought experience has taught me the efficacy of sowing grass seed in the spring with grain; it was a custom imported with the ancestors of the country, from old England, where the cloudy summers and moist climate will warrant a practice, which under our clear sky and powerful sun, is altogether unsuitable. I must add that grass sown in the fall, imperiously requires to be rolled in the spring as soon as the ground is in fit order; otherwise the small plants, slightly rooted yet, and heaved up by the frost, will suffer much, perhaps total destruction; and truly among the many uses to which the roller may be applied, none, perhaps, would be more valuable than to roll all grass lands in the spring. The plants suffer from the wind and eat, and this being the case more or less every spring, it must necessarily bring on a premature decay, which the yearly use of the roller might prevent."

In 1825, the Massachusetts Agricultural Society awarded a premium of \$30 to the Rev. MORRILL ALLEN, for his experiments to prove the best season and mode of laying down lands to grass. Mr Allen gave a statement of several experiments which he made, which may be found in the New England Farmer, vol. xiii. p. 151.—The following is an extract from Mr Allen's report of his proceedings for the above mentioned purpose:

"From the result of these several experiments, I am led to believe the best time to commit grass to the earth, is from the 15th of August to the 15th of September: this time seems to accord with the intentions of nature; it is the season of ripeness in the seed, when it spontaneously falls to the ground: grass seed which is sowed in the last of summer or the beginning of autumn, is rarely if ever obstructed in its early growth by drought, which often proves destructive to young plants in the summer months; it gets firm hold of the ground before winter, and in the following spring grows more rapidly than grass on land which has been hardened by the heat of summer and the growth of a grain crop. The season, which it appears to me to be the best for sowing grass seed, is far from being the most convenient for farmers; they cannot often do it at that time, without too little preparation of the soil to receive the seed, or the loss of one crop; my experiments have proved to my own satisfaction, that much later sowing is preferable to spring sowing with grain; in one instance, I prepared the land late in the fall, and cast the

seed on the snow with very good success; for fields designed to be alternately in grass and tillage, the common practice of sowing grass seed in the spring with grain, may consist with good husbandry, for as often as wet seasons ensue, the grass will prosper tolerably well, and in case of a drought, which destroys the grass, the rotation may be changed without any other loss than that of the seed; but on fields which are unsuitable for frequent ploughings, when we wish to have the cultivated grasses remain as long as possible, and on sandy soils where it is difficult to get a sufficient number of grass plants established, the loss of a single crop is trifling, compared with the gain which will be realized by sowing grass seed in the month of August."

We would not, in all cases, condemn the sowing of grass seeds, though we have no doubt that, as a general rule, fall-sowing is to be preferred. There are evils to be dreaded in either case.) Grasses sown in the fall, are liable to be winter-killed, or destroyed by frost; those sown in the spring, may perish by drought and heat. But whenever they are sown, they should be well covered with a harrow, and it will usually be of service to press them down and smooth the surface with a roller.

From the Vermont Farmer.

POTATOES.—As I have an opportunity, I will send the result of an experiment which I made in planting potatoes in 1835, to which, if you think it will be of any use, you can give a place in your paper.

I had supposed that the seed end of the potato was nearly all that was valuable for planting; but the result of my experiment was the reverse of this. I had supposed that small ones were nearly as good as large ones; but from experience I am convinced that it is a mistake.

I planted one row of seed ends, two in a hill, one, with one in a hill; one, with two smallish potatoes, about as large as hen's eggs, in a hill; and one, with one large potato in a hill. Of these five rows, the two last exceeded the rest, by more than all the seed that was planted in them—the last of the two exceeded the other.

As it is a time when people feed potatoes to cattle, I would recommend to select the largest, and preserve them till seed-time. And one thing more, see that you have some of the best kinds of potatoes; for the potato is an important crop in these cold seasons. J. H.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

BAKE YOUR OWN BREAD.—The following experiment was tried by a house-keeper in this city, for the purpose of testing the economy of baking bread at home.

He bought a loaf of his baker for ten cents, which weighed one pound and three ounces. He then bought seven pounds of flour for six cents the pound, and paid one cent for yeast. —From this he made eight loaves, equal in weight to that bought of the baker, and eight ounces over. The whole of the bread brought ten pounds, and the whole cost forty-three cents, the cost of each loaf being four cents and four mills. To this must be added labor and fuel, which could not exceed one fourth of the cost of the flour. Thus his bread could not have cost more than half of the price that would be paid to the baker for the same quantity.

As soon as the spring opens and the frost is out of the ground, put your fences in order.

To practice wrong without remorse, belongs only to him who has never known right.

He abuses the absent, who quarrels with a drunken man.

From the Halifax Acadian Telegraph.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

The Speaker's Salary.

Saturday, March 12.—Mr Stewart moved that £200 be granted to the Speaker of the House of Assembly for the present year.

Mr G. Smith answered some observations of Mr John Young, made on the previous day. The loss on the revenue Bills in 1830, was nearer £50,000 than £10,000, the sum mentioned by Mr Young. It was easy to account for the increase of debt—£15,000 went to the canal, for which he (Mr Y.) voted; the cholera occasioned a loss of 4 or £5,000; 1,000 was granted to aid the sufferers by the fire of Miramichi, these three items alone made nearly half the amount of the debt spoken of. Joe Warner had charged him (Mr S.) with moving an increase in the Speaker's salary; he had done so and would do so again. He would also act again as he had acted in 1830, if there was a necessity for it. A great loss was then occasioned, but by it the period of misrule had been shortened. The speaker then stood up manfully for the country, and what was his reward? To secure an office which was his due, he had to go to England at an expense of about £2000. He (Mr S.) for one would wish to make up for that £2000 to him if it could be done. To a man of his talents and experience, filling the chair of the House, £500 would not be too much; and he would propose that sum, only that the Speaker held other offices which swelled his emoluments. Honor had been spoken of, what was honor without money? This kind of economy did not suit his views at all.—He did not agree with Mr Young's opinion respecting the scrutinies. He considered the country to be in a better state than it had been for years. A falling off of revenue was occasioned in 1832 by the mercantile depression which existed; and the out port system now may occasion an apparent falling off in the Halifax balance. If Halifax had been declining, other parts were rapidly increasing. Unless they went beyond the appropriation of last year, he thought that they would meet in the ensuing session with £6000 in the provincial chest. The revenue was not increased by the goods of the ship Eagle, but rather depressed: They kept out at least the quantity of goods coming from the regular market. He would go hand in hand to assist in removing evils which existed, but this kind of reform was not to his mind. The abolition of the the Militia system would cause a saving of about £1200—the other £400 for rations, supposed to be a Militia item, was for the regular troops when on their march between certain places in the Province. He concluded by saying that the speaker's salary should not be reduced, the dignity of the first commoner should be preserved, he never knew a more contemptible resolution than the one moved.

Mr J. Young, in answer to some remarks of Mr Smith, said that Joe Warner was not there.

Mr Smith. I did not say that he was.

Mr J. Young continued, the little book he held in his hand was not Joe Warner's book.—Warner's book was charged with mystification, there was nothing but absolute truth in the book he held. It exhibited in figures the progress the Province had been making in debt, the items of expenditure, and such matters. He agreed that he himself had voted for larger sums for roads and bridges than were advisable, and for the canal grant. The last issue of paper to the amount of £15,000 opened his eyes to the consequences of the state of things pursued. He denied that the securities were an index of the revenue, the revenue did not depend on the amount of goods in the warehouses, but on the ability of the people to purchase and consume. There was an old and homely Scotch Proverb, which, as he who was speaking was a Scotchman, and as he was answering a Scotchman, might be apropos: 'Never gut your fish till you catch them.' So he would not reckon next year's revenue by what some expected now. He would be pleased to find himself wrong, and others right, on this subject, but he feared not. He did not mean to throw any reflection on the conduct of the last House, but wished to take a review, for the purpose of impressing the necessity of care and economy on this House. He took his own share of the blame in several instances. He voted for the interest on the Shubenacadie canal loan, when it was proposed to borrow in England, he must say, that in the act, he was willing to sacrifice Englishmen for the sake of Nova Scotia. When 1840 should arrive, perhaps the House would hear something more on that subject, a claim might be made from the other side of the water. The part of reformer was not of much popularity here,—it was rather a disgrace, and was sure to create opposition from all those whose interests were touched. It required much moral courage to stem the torrent which was rushing onward to destructive courses. He wished to exhibit to some of the new members, the affairs of the public finances; to show that in the last