

might be saved by resorting to a method equally effective for performing the work required.

Besides the above described plow there is also in very partial use in this province a badly constructed swing plow; and it is wrought in an equally expensive manner; and only used on light soils.

The lands or ridges are formed by five or six turns of the plow, and are generally kept as high as possible; but no attention is paid to preserving a straight furrow. The waste of ground in thus making an unnecessary number of furrows is obviously very great, for what seed falls into them can never attain that strength and maturity which the portion that falls upon the ridge does. These narrow lands have been in use ever since the first settlement of the colony; and as they have never been altered or the soil pulverized by cross plowing, it will be admitted that this is a bad system of husbandry. It was from a deep conviction of the bad effects of these that I in a former paper urgently recommended the introduction of green crops as one of the best methods of renovating old lands: the preparation of the land for which would reduce the soil into a fine tilt, bring it into good order, and form the ridges as they ought to be. I must here state that I am no advocate for the broad lands, but they ought to run out as straight as possible. The width must be regulated according to the intended crop. They ought never to exceed ten feet nor ever be less than six. Where land has undergone a regular rotation of crops, and is fit to be laid down in grass, ridges of eight or ten feet will perhaps be the most proper. But in regulating this a regard must be had to the state of draining requisite for the land; if so situated that water is liable to be retained upon it, the ridges must be narrower and the number of furrows augmented to carry it off. When water lies too long on the land in the spring the plants are liable to be chill'd and perish; or if they escape that season, when heavy rains fall in the heat of July, they will get scalded, provided the furrows and drainage be not sufficient to prevent the water from remaining upon them. In pea crops, unless the land be high and dry, narrow ridges are absolutely necessary; for if water be retained upon them the crops are sure to fail, but they need not be less than six feet in width.

But although the narrow ridges at present used in this Province is disadvantageous as occasioning a considerable loss of ground: this is not the only reason for which they ought to be depreiated. There is a serious objection to the way of forming them according to the present plan of plowing. They are made by what in the language of plowmen is termed "cut and cover." About two feet wide in the centre of each ridge is left untouched and the furrows merely turned over upon each side of this space. By this practice the weeds remain uncut, and being thus protected by the soil which is thrown over them, and having strong roots, they often rise as soon as the seed which is sown and not unfrequently check its growth to the serious disappointment of the farmer. A superficial observer may convince himself of the injurious effects of bad plowing in this respect, during a cursery jaunt through the Province. He will observe the weeds always strongest in the centre of the ridge, and which is intirely attri-