

crop has been cut up and fed to them while the ear was soft. They would eat the sweet corn, stalk and all; but would leave much of the other, though both were in the same state of ripeness.

The Indian corn plant, in its green state, contains so much sap that it is with difficulty dried so that it will keep well—it is very liable to become sour and mouldy, in the barn or stack. On this account many do not attempt to keep it till winter. Its use, however, as green forage, is every year increasing. Dairymen find a great advantage in feeding it the latter part of summer and in autumn, when grass is generally short, and often very scarce, from the effect of drouth. For this purpose it is sown at intervals in June, and as late as July, on good ground, and the crop gets forward so that it may be cut in August; and as the lots from the different plantings come in successively, they may afford a regular supply till hard frosts come. It is fed in mangers, in yards or sheds, or carried to grass fields—cutting it in such quantities as are needed from day to day. It may be cut, if required, when it is not more than a foot high, as in such cases it will start again and afford a second cutting; but it is deemed best when the stalk is fully grown and the grain is beginning to form. If the crop is to be dried for winter use, it is best to let it stand till the top or “spindle” begins to die, as it will then contain less water, and can be cured with less labor. A good mode of curing, is to cut it in fair weather, let it lie (as thin as possible) and wilt one day; then bind it in small bundles, putting the band as near the top as practicable, and gather the bundles into small shocks, open at the bottom, and let them stand till sufficiently dried to be put in the barn or stack.—*Albany Cultivator*.

QUANTITY OF FLAX-SEED FOR AN ACRE.

The *Albany Cultivator* in answer to a correspondent remarks that the quantity of flax-seed proper for an acre may vary according to the object. If the crop is destined for seed, it is probable less than a bushel might give as large a yield as more; but if lint or fibre is the object, more seed would be required. We notice in the report of a discussion at a late meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, Mr. Marshall, M. P., said—“With regard to thick and thin sowing, that question had reference to the object of the cultivator, namely, whether a fine fibre and little seed were required, or a coarser fibre with a full crop of seed. On the banks of the Lys, in Belgium, where the finest flax had been grown for centuries, and used for making the finest lace, they practised thick sowing, $3\frac{1}{2}$

bushels per acre, and obtained about 14 bushels of seed per acre; but the stems were long and straight, without branches, and the longest fibre was obtained. In Ireland and Russia thin sowing was practised, from 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre, and from 16 to 20 bushels of seed were obtained; but the stems of flax branched out more, and an inferior fibre was the result.

PRIZES FOR THE IMPROVED BREEDS OF CATTLE.

To the Editor of the Canadian Agriculturist.

SIR,—I was asked by a gentleman of considerable experience in England with all descriptions of cattle, why more premiums were allowed to Durham cattle than other pure breeds?—The Royal Agricultural Society allowing the same amount for Herefords and Devons as Durhams? If any one will state why the latter are more deserving preference in Canada than in England, I may trouble you with some reasons to prove the contrary.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant,

DAN'L TYE.

Wilmot, April 7th, 1851.

[Our pages are open to the discussion of the questions involved in the above communication; and we shall be happy to hear again from our correspondent. The principal reason why the Provincial Association offers more prizes to the short horns than to other pure breeds, we take to be the fact, that the Durham stock is by far the most numerous, and the range of the competition therefore much wider. In fact, no Herefords, we believe, have ever been shown at our Provincial Exhibitions, except a few that were exhibited in the Foreign department, last year, by Americans; and the number of pure Devons is as yet very inconsiderable. The Ayrshires, in the Eastern Section of the Province are, we understand, increasing. It is an important and legitimate subject for investigation to ascertain the *relative* adaptation of the various breeds of cattle, and other classes of live stock, to the economical and physical conditions of this country.]—EDITOR.

FENCES.—Examine the fences which enclose your fields—do it yourself; and have every weak point made strong. Failing pasture tempts stock to break in and destroy. Care in this regard now, may save you from vexation and loss hereafter.—*Germanian Telegraph*.