

less pains is taken in preparing grain for market, as well as in the selection of seed and the general cultivation of the soil. In purchasing seed grain, turnip-seed, the grasses, &c., farmers often display a want of judgment and ordinary prudence, by selecting such articles as are cheap, or rather low-priced, for that is not really cheap which is not genuine; and we can conceive no greater pest in an agricultural neighborhood, than "*a cheap seed store,*" in the but too common acceptance of the term.

The fecundity of some weeds is truly astonishing. Professor Buckman has counted 8,000 seeds in a single plant of black mustard, and in a specimen of charlock 4,000 seeds. The common stinking camomile produces 46,000, and the burdock 26,000 seeds; and the seeds of a single plant of the common dock produced 1,700 little docks.

A fruitful source of weeds may often be found in rough, undecomposed barn yard manure. Not only should fermentation in some degree be allowed in the dung heap, in order to effect the necessary decomposition and moisture of its several materials, but great care should be taken that weeds, the seeds of which have become matured, should not be mixed either with the litter of the farm yard or be allowed to enter the compost. Weeds mown thus ripe had much better be burnt; but the proper time for cutting them is before they get into flower, thus obviating the heavy demands which all plants make in maturing their seeds, and of course preventing all chances of propagation. With perennials and such weeds as increase by roots, the only sure and speedy way of extinction is deep and clean cultivation. A well-made, naked fallow, on heavy lands once in five or six years, is even now, in the most advanced agricultural countries, had recourse to for sweetening and clearing the soil, and for bringing it into a perfect mechanical and chemical condition for the profitable growth of crops. This occasional practice, with the introduction of new crops and consequent horse-hoeing tillage during the period of growth, as far as present circumstances will allow, together with a judicious system of rotation and manuring, appears from all experience to be the only sure and profitable way of raising heavy crops of pure quality, and of *preventing*, which is much better and cheaper than *curing*, the growth of weeds.

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### PULPING FOOD FOR CATTLE.

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The changes that have taken place in the mode of feeding live stock within the last thirty or forty years are very instructive; indicating in the most unmistakable manner the progress of science—more particularly chemistry and animal physiology—in its applications to practical agriculture. The old practice of feeding cattle upon uncut hay and straw, and unbruised grain, has for some years been displaced by a far more rational and economical system. • The chaff cutter, many years since, taught the farmer that a mixture of hay and straw cut into short lengths, was far better for horses than when these materials were sup-