

1843 - in meadow, pasture and summer crops.
1843-4 - - - - - in wheat.

The four year course in four divisions—Field A.

1840 - - - - in wheat, seeded.
1841 - - - - in meadow and pasture.
1842 in meadow, clover-seed, and summer crops.
1843-4 - - - - again in wheat.

But whatever course an enterprising and thinking farmer may pursue, if he has a system and plan of proceeding, and pursues it constantly, he will soon come to a result as to what process is best adapted to his soil. Without regularity, system, and a code of rules and reasons, no course will succeed, nor any valuable result be reached. It is said that bad habits regularly followed, are not so pernicious to the human system as an irregular and mixed course of life; and the remark is peculiarly applicable to the arts of husbandry. We say—*system! system! system!* and follow it, good or bad, and conviction must follow, by comparison with others pursuing a different course.

The Committee can conceive of no better system of farming than that of 100 acres of arable land, (or double or treble that amount, if you please,) of which one-third, say 33 acres, is put into wheat producing from 800 to 1000 bushels; with one 100 to 150 fine woolled sheep producing from 300 to 500 pounds of wool, worth from 40 to 50 cents per pound; and the balance of land in grass and summer crops, every item of which should be consumed on the farm, to subsist the family, hired help, and farm stocks, and, perhaps, to help to pay mechanics; all the offal, hay, straw and roots, going to increase the manure heap, which, with a plentiful use of plaster and clover, will more than compensate for the wheat and wool subtracted from the soil, and sold.

The Committee in awarding their premiums, have selected those who, in the words of their instructions, came the nearest to their standard of excellence—“*reference being made to the general system of management, and the profit obtained: rather than to natural advantages, or expensive improvements.*”

Elisha Harmon, of Wheatland, to whom was awarded the first premium, cultivated a farm of 400 acres, 300 of which are improved; has been settled 40 years; the soil a sandy loam, inclining to gravel, abundantly filled with a limestone shale; on a part of which are beds of plaster, which are opened, and manufactured for use and sale, averaging 1000 tons per year. This tract was originally an oak opening with gentle undulations, and, is, altogether, a splendid wheat farm. The dwelling house, barns, and out houses, are of a superior construction and finish. He has this year over 92 acres of wheat yielding over 2000 bushels—has raised an average of 50 bushels of clover-seed for the last 15 years—usually alternates his crop, by wheat one year, and clover two years, but has one field that has produced wheat every other year for 15 years past, without any deterioration of the land. Plowing commences, for the sum-

mer following, on the first week in June and second week in September, using his sheep and the wheat cultivator intermediately between the plowing sows from the 12th to the 20th of September, 5 pecks to the acre of pure White Flint. His stock consists of 400 sheep and 106 lambs, Saxon and Merino. His clip of wool this year was 1,600 lbs., which sold in market for 40 cents; 7 cows, 12 horses and colts, and 30 hogs, a part of them fine Leicesters; and what particularly commended itself to this committee was, over 4 miles of stone fence. His summer crops were 8 or 10 acres of corn and oats each, root crops, potatoes, &c.

William Garbutt, of Wheatland, to whom the Committee award the credit of being the only farmer accountant, that they visited, who kept this accounts of profit and loss on every crop on his farm, and the produce and cost per acre, and the general result for some 20 years past. For a description of his farm, and his system of farming, they propose to let him tell his own story:

To the viewing Committee of the Monroe Agricultural Society.

My farm consists of 200 acres of cleared ground, but the mill-pond overflows 10 acres, which is of little value except for pasture in autumn and dry seasons, and six acres are occupied with roads and yards; which leaves 184 acres for cultivation. I generally calculate, when circumstances will admit, to have 45 acres in wheat, 15 in barley and oats, 15 in hoed crops, 40 in pasture, 40 for hay and clover-seed and 30 in fallow. The ground intended for the hoed crop is always in clover, if practicable, highly manured with rotted manure, and plowed under in the fall. The barley stubble is twice ploughed, receives a light dressing of manure, and is sowed with wheat; so that about two-fifths of my wheat crop are raised after summer crops, the remainder after fallow (viz: clover pasture:) the whole of the wheat always seeded with clover and timothy. I annually sow from 10 to 12 tons of plaster, and the two seasons past have put 4 tons, each year, or my manure in the yards. My general average stock has been 300 sheep, 30 hogs, 15 head of cattle, and 8 horses; keep three good teams, and a span of mares for breeding, and odds-and-ends.

I stable or yard all my stock in winter, and make all my forage into manure. I keep the stock in the yards in the spring as long as I conveniently can, seldom turning sheep out before the first of May, cattle the 10th, and team not until spring work is done. My first pasture is my fallow; second, clover, which is intended for hay and seed.

The cattle are wintered on corn-stalks, straw and roots; sheep on chaff, straw and shorts, of which I feed annually from 1000 to 2000 bushels. I always endeavor to feed as well as I can with the fodder I have—not to pamper nor waste.

The amount sold from the products of the farm, from 1830 to 40, was great, averaging from \$2,200 to \$3,200 per annum, independent of our farm living—it being only the amount sold.