

In conclusion I hope I have shown what I designed, a cause, and its remedy. If so I trust that some of the more enterprising of your readers will try the experiment. They will never regret it. Let them not be afraid of a dollar or two, they will find themselves amply repaid for their outlay. Moreover, I hesitate not to say, that if artificial manures are used regularly and freely, the ravages of the slug, grub, wire-worm and grasshopper will diminish, and I am persuaded we should hear less of the Midge and Weevil, and there will be no occasion to say that the land is worn out or exhausted, if my suggestions are experimented on and adhered to.

Yours truly,
 PLOUGHTAIL.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

BREAKING STEERS.

Mr. Editor—Sir—I saw, in the "Farmer's Advocate" for September, an article with the above heading. I have been accustomed to breaking steers, I might almost say, since I was able to walk after them, and my experience does not entirely accord with the opinion of Mr. Goodhue. I believe that any farmer who has steers and intends to break them, will find it to his advantage to have them yoked before they are two years old, and have them driven a short time, repeating the dose occasionally, until they are old enough to do some light work. I do not advocate working them at so early an age, but I maintain that by making them accustomed to the yoke and even to draw light draughts when they are young, a great deal of time and trouble may be saved, besides making better oxen of them; and I think I can prove my position. Let us, for instance, take a man who has never been accustomed to any kind of work, and put him beside one who has from boyhood been forced to earn his bread by the sweat of his face, and the latter will, with ease, perform the work that the other would be unable to do in the same time. You may say the case is not analogous. Why not? In both cases the muscles have not attained the same degree of hardness and strength, because they have not been exercised in the right way to bring them to that degree of strength and power of endurance, necessary to perform the labor required of them. I said a great deal of time might be saved by yoking steers young. You may not understand how it is a saving of time to yoke steers and drive them for nothing. Well, you can yoke them in winter, and by yoking them the winter before they are two years old, and giving them a lesson occasionally, they will not forget it entirely until the next winter when you can begin to do some light

work with them, and keep on working them increasing their labor as they increase in strength. If they are very wild at first, yoke them two or three mornings successively and let them run in the yard, going up to them and patting them whenever you pass near them. The main point in successfully breaking steers, may be expressed in three words; "Keep your Temper," never allow yourself to get in a passion. Be sure that they understand what you want them to do before using the whip to make them do it. When you have them yoked, follow them round saying "Haw" and "Gee" according as you see them turning either way, and if they stop say "Woa."

The best oxen I ever saw, were broken young.

Feed your oxen well and they will work well. Any person not accustomed to steers and following my plan, will, I feel sure, be thankful to

RUSTIC.

We request farmers to communicate to us any useful information, and we will find room for all that we think of service to the country. We sometimes have received such as are of not sufficient import, but very seldom. Write! farmer! write for your "Advocate."

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

CHOPPED FEED.

KING, October 23d, 1868.

DEAR SIR:—Having recently seen the "Farmer's Advocate," I feel well pleased with it, and if all its numbers advocate our interest like the one I saw, it will certainly bring about a better system of farming, and improvement both in stock and implements which is much needed.

As you allow farmers to converse with each other through your columns for their mutual benefit, I will say something on the above subject. I for one find it profitable to make the most of my feed by chopping it myself. As an instance of profit I fed three head of cattle about five weeks with chopped feed ground by Mr. Summers' Feed Mill, and sold them in Toronto for three hundred dollars, likewise some pigs seven months old, which weighed 185 lbs. each. But such results are incredible to some of my brother farmers. I got a Chopping Mill from Mr. Summers, of Woodbridge, which was rather a poor affair being one of his first efforts. Since then I have got one of his Patent Feed Mills, a valuable article to any farmer who has stock to feed, and will repay him in one year for the outlay.

I find coarse, unheated chopped feed will stay longer by animals, and they will bear more feed without being disordered. The result is they fatten quicker. I consider I save one-third by my mill.

Yours, &c.

JOSEPH LARKIN.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

POTATOES.

ALBURY, Sept. 12th, 1868.

WM. WELD, Esq.,—Dear Sir:—What can you furnish the Early Rose Potato at per lb. this Fall? Please state the price, and how they did with you this year. The few that were planted here are beyond all expectation. "Early Goodrich" have done excellent. There are four persons here that will have 100 bushels at least, and perhaps more.

"Harrison's" are the most productive potato, from present appearance, that I ever saw. There were two barrels of these planted this Spring, divided among three persons here, and there will be no necessity for having to send to Montreal for them next Spring.

Yours, truly,

JAS. H. PECK.

[Answer \$1 per lb. They have done well, and from all our exchange papers we see great accounts of them. They will pay for the investment—Ed.]

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

EXETER, October 15th, 1868.

SIR:—I have a field of fall wheat on which I have purposed trying some experiments, and about which I am therefore more curious.

On the 31st of August while sowing the wheat there came a very heavy thunder storm which obliged us to desist, leaving a portion of the grain uncovered. During the storm the field got almost inundated, and when we returned next day, we found that the water had collected the grain into little heaps, which harrowing could not sufficiently scatter, and as a consequence now I find the wheat is growing in bunches. But the curiosity is that the portion which was left exposed to the storm is so much better than the rest, being over fourteen inches, while the rest will scarcely exceed seven. Will you or any of your numerous subscribers tell me if you can, what could have made the difference?

Yours very respectfully,

R. MANNING.

[The reason is simple, your seed floated with the rain, and as it drained off was deposited in lower parts of the field, hence the bunches, and as regards the wheat being so much higher where it was uncovered was this, the grain got saturated with the rain, and consequently germed and rooted itself, and thus being at the surface it was so much further ahead of what was harrowed in. This latter was under ground, and had to germinate and get to the surface before it could commence to grow. All seeds would be best at surface, provided we could depend on moisture enough at the beginning, and dull weather, so that they could get firm root.—Ed.]