SUBSOIL PLOWING AND DRAINING.—In another part of the Cultivator we have alluded to Mr. Smith's excellent lecture on draining and subsoil plowing. The following extracts we think are worthy the notice of those who have hitherto been doubtful on this subject; and some facts which have lately come to our knowledge respecting the use of the subsoil plow in this country, have convinced us that its general introduction would be of most essential service to our farmers. In the course of his lecture Mr. Smith said:

"A notion has prevailed with some people that it is possible to drain land too much. I do not think so, from the very fact that the pond becomes an excellent magazine for the retention of moisture. A circumstance took place in regard to this in my district, in 1826, a very dry season. In that year there was such a long period of dry weather, that the pond was dried up, and there was a great deficiency of crops. I had a field which had been treated in the way I have described, [drained and subsoil plowed,] and I had a crop of hay upon it. The hay in the country round was very poor indeed, producing not above half a crop. On this field which I had deepened to 16 inches, I had a very splendid crop. A proprietor of land in the neighborhood, one of the old school, resisted to the utmost all conviction with regard to the result of thorough draining and subsoil plowing. A person occasionally employed by me, was also engaged in doing work for him. He had asked about this hay, and the old gentleman was rather puzzled at the state of the crop, and expressed that he really thought I had drained my land so much that I should have no crop at all. He was immediately after this completely wedded to the system, and from that day has been vigorously engaged in introducing thorough draining and subsoiling all over his estate; and he is now having a great deal of poor soil, on a very large and productive estate, treated in the same way. Taking the average of that gentleman's estate, I should say that he now produces double the quantity of corn that he used to obtain. He now grows potatoes where he could not grow them before, and on the same day he produces regular and large crops of turnips."

In the course of the lecture the question was asked by a gentleman—"What effect thorough draining and subsoil plowing would have on the habit of throwing out the wheat plant by frost?" To which Mr. Smith answered, "There is no difficulty in answering this; because it is well known to be owing to the moisture, that the wheat plant is thrown out; and whatever removes the moisture will create the favorable tendency required. I have known many places where almost every winter the greater part of the plants were thrown out. Now the result of thorough draining and subsoil plowing is, that these places retain the plant perfectly well, and are very abundant crops."—*Cultivator.*

In a work lately published in England on the "General Drainage and Distribution of Water," the author says:—It is admitted by all who understand the subject, that where drainage has been carried on upon correct principles, and with proper skill and energy, 6 bushels or one quarter of wheat has been added to the produce per acre." The author further states, that 10,000,000 out of 12,000,000 acres of the arable land of England is undrained or ineffectually drained at present; and he supposes that if this land were perfectly drained, more than 3,000,000 quarters of wheat would be annually added to the produce of that grain alone in England. He endeavours to prove also, that the drainage water might be usefully employed in irrigation; and in giving mill power. The sewerage of the towns of England and Wales, he calculates would annually produce over 3,000,000 tons of disposable manure more than they do at present, capable of enriching an area of 2,000,000 acres. The work referred to, is highly recommended to the attention of land proprietors in the British Isles.

MR. COLEMAN—Through the medium of your paper, I wish to caution the farmers of western New York against sowing wheat threshed with a machine; for I believe it is one great reason, if not the only one, why we do not have wheat grow as thick now as it did before machines come in use. I came to that conclusion last year, and threshed my seed with a flail, and the result is, my wheat came up twice as thick as my neighbours, according to the quantity of seed sown per acre, threshed with machine, which was about one bushel and three fourths per acre, and it stands so yet. I further believe wheat should be sown as soon as the last week in August, for as far as my knowledge extends, wheat sown at that time has never failed to be of a good quality, when that sowed 10 or 12 days later has been very much injured by the rust.—*Genesee Farmer.*

AN EXAMPLE WORTHY OF IMITATION.—In the freshet which lately overflowed and devastated a large portion of the Roanoke country, not only the growing crops were utterly swept away, but large quantities of old corn were destroyed in the barns, carrying distress to all around. The immediate effect was to increase the price of that article from $2 a barrel, at which it had been selling, to ten dollars. At this period of gloom, a wealthy planter on the Roanoke, perceiving that some men were disposed to extort upon the people, promptly ordered three thousand barrels of corn to his factor in Halifax, with positive instructions not to permit it to become a subject of speculation, but to sell it out in such parcels as the demands of the people might require, at three dollars a barrel, two dollars and fifty cents to be paid to him, the planter, and the balance to be retained by the merchant, as a commission for his trouble. The consequence of this generous act, as may be readily supposed, was to restore comfort and diffuse joy among a depressed population.—*Norfolk Beacon.*

☞ This statement induces us to say that a similar course of action on the part of a Mr. Joseph Porter, of Danvers, who died more than twenty years ago, has caused us to hold his memory in high esteem.

Some where along in the years of '13, '14 or '15, when New England crops were short, and the British cruisers along the coast interrupted the transfer of corn from the Middle States to the North, the price of corn was up to $2 per bushel. Then this Mr. Porter, who had corn of his own raising, to spare, would sell to the *poor* for $1.33 per bushel, and would sell no more than four bushels to any one man, even though poor; and to those whose circumstances were comfortable, he would not sell at any price.

Such was the story, heard in our boyhood, and though we know little more of the man than this, we now seldom pass the farm on which he lived, without remembering the account, and thinking that he must have been a *good man.*—*N. E. Farmer.*

DEATH OF A MAN FROM GLANDERS.—It has long been known that the glanders was one of the most incurable and fatal diseases of horses, and contagious in the extreme; and within a few years the alarming fact has been disclosed, that man was susceptible of the contagion from the brute, and numerous cases are now on record, where hostlers and others, having the care of glandered horses, have fallen victims to well marked cases of the disease. A late No. of the "Veterinarian," gives, from the Lancet, an account of the death of M Rocher, a student of the hospital Necker of Paris, from this disease, contracted from a patient of which he had charge, and which died of glanders; thus proving that it may not only be communicated from the horse to man, but from one man to another. To demonstrate the nature of the disease from which M. Rocher died, M Leblanc, a distinguished surgeon, inoculated a horse with the matter discharged from the tumours formed on the body of M. R. previous to his death, and the animal died, exhibiting every appearance of acute glanders in its most malignant form. The facts of this case, which are recorded at length, show that great care should be used by those having the care of glandered horses; indeed, the public good requires that every such horse should be destroyed at once. It was the opinion of the eminent physicians, M. Berard and M. Leblanc, who attended the unfortunate Rocher, that he did not receive the disease by inoculation, but that in the acute stages of the disease there is a miasmatic infection, similar to that of scarlatina or variola, and consequently greater precautions are necessary than in diseases which can be only communicated by actual contact.—*Cultivator.*

IMPORTANCE OF THE QUALITY OF THE SALT USED IN MAKING BUTTER.—At a late Agricultural meeting in Augusta, Maine, Dr. Bates stated that the Quakers in Fairfield were in the habit of buying the best description of coarse salt, and cleaning it, and having it ground, and this they used in the manufacture of butter. The consequence was, the butter made by Quakers of Fairfield, had a better reputation, and bore a higher price than the butter made in other towns. He held them up as worthy of imitation. He stated that the loss of the butter manufactured in that state was greater in amount every year, than the sum raised for the State tax—more than two hundred thousand dollars. He believed that, if this fact was generally understood, if the people could be made aware of the loss incurred by bad manufacture, we should at once see an improvement in this article of which so much is produced and which enters into our daily consumption.