

Europe and America, consider themselves abundantly well paid if they can realize for their wheat from two shillings to two shillings and sixpence per bushel.

The question to be determined is one of very simple solution, and the practical farmer must work it out practically on his own farm. If wheat cannot be grown profitably to compete with other wheat growing countries, in those markets where we send forward our surplus breadstuffs, then it is obvious that less of this great staple will be cultivated, and other branches of husbandry made to supersede it. If possible, the cost of production must be reduced, so as to enable the wheat growers to afford the article at a less price than they have formerly been able to do. The expensive system of making summer fallows, as we have on former occasions endeavored to impress upon the attention of our readers, must if possible be discontinued. The loss of a year's rent of land, the extra expense of cultivation, and the loss of a crop are not required to secure to the farmer a crop of wheat, yielding some twenty to thirty bushels per acre, which affords sufficient inducement.

On a former occasion we gave practical directions at length, showing how to cultivate clover in connection with winter wheat, thereby to get a full average crop, with one half the labour required to make a summer fallow. The period has now nearly arrived when the correctness of the opinions therein set forth can be practically tested.

If the proper appliances were at hand, to execute the work in a business-like style, a clean clover sod, ploughed the last week of August, to nine or ten inches in depth, would be preferable to two ploughings; but as these cannot be had without incurring a heavy expense, it would be better not to risk it. A failure of crop, occasioned even from causes in which the farmer might be notoriously in fault, would, in the eyes of those who do not take the trouble to investigate them, be sufficient to induce the suffer-

er to repudiate the whole system. On this account it would be decidedly better to plough up the clover sward immediately after the grass crop is harvested, which, according to an average of seasons, would be in the early part of July. The sooner the plough is put to work, after the heavy crop is harvested, the better will be the condition of the soil for wheat. On most soils, a furrow of from eight to ten inches in depth should be made, which will require a strong plough, and a heavy team to work it. By turning up two or three inches of new soil to the action of the atmosphere, a consistency will be given to the old soil, which had become too light for wheat; besides this, the roots of the wheat plants will strike more deeply than on a thin soil, thus lessening the risk of loss from the action of spring frosts.

When clover sward is ploughed in July, it should be allowed to remain undisturbed until the period when the second or seed furrow should be ploughed, which in most cases would require to be performed the latter part of August, so that the seed could be sown the first week in September. By allowing the inverted sod to remain untouched with either harrow or cultivator during the months of July and August, wild grasses and roots of weeds in the ground will undergo decomposition, and be much more thoroughly destroyed than if it had been expensively worked with those implements.—The second ploughing, or seed furrow, will turn up rather cloddy, to sadden the tastes of some farmers, but those who understand the habits of the wheat plant do thoroughly appreciate the importance of keeping land for winter wheat in a cloddy condition, provided that weeds and grasses be destroyed. A well-managed crop of clover, if hay be worth two pounds per ton, will pay the entire expense of management required for both the clover and wheat crops. This fact should be borne in mind, because it is of much greater importance than would at first sight be supposed.