

In the covering of oats a liberal application of the harrow is very essential; and when the furrows are open, and yawning, a single turn of the harrow prior to the seed being sown is highly necessary, otherwise the seed can never be covered at a uniform depth, and the deep buried grain protrudes through the surface like after shots. When the seeds of clover and grasses are to be sown at the same time with oat or barley, the grain should be sufficiently covered before the small seeds are sown, then one turn of a bush harrow will give ample covering to the clovers and grasses; when too deeply covered few of the seeds vegetate.—Clover need not be sown upon deep moor, bog or wet ground except the bog or moor has been drained and highly top dressed with some earthy material, or with a good dose of lime.

We would recommend, by all means, that potatoes should be planted as early as possible, as the best means for the prevention of disease. Notwithstanding all we have seen published on the subject of the rot in potatoes last year, previous to their being taken up, we are still of the same opinion as we published at the time the rot was discovered, namely, that it was occasioned by the peculiar state of the crop in the latter end of August, being then in an extremely luxuriant and soft state of growth. The weather exceedingly moist and warm, produced too great a degree of heat in the manure and soil which surrounded the young potatoes in their soft state, and hence caused disease. We have not seen any other reasonable cause assigned. The use of charcoal and lime, we are satisfied would be beneficial, and we would further suggest, the expediency of planting in newly broken up land, and not to apply too large a quantity of manure in the drills, but rather to mix it through all the soil. We have often recommended the ploughing in manure in soil intended for potatoes, the fall previous if possible; but even in the spring the manure might be applied in this manner, if short and not containing much unrotted straw.

Cote St. Paul, April 28, 1845.

THOUGHTS ON AGRICULTURE.

We copy the following article from the *Mark Lane Express*, making such alterations as we find necessary, to suit it for Canada:—

That the bad state of cultivation and the defective system of husbandry generally in Canada, arises from two causes—want of knowledge and

deficiency of capital. That there is not at present any thing near a sufficiency of capital employed in agriculture to farm the land properly and to the best advantage. That capital has not and will not flow into agricultural channels whilst farming is so commonly an unprofitable occupation.

That it has been unprofitable hitherto from unequal competition with foreign produce, restrictions on our trade with the Mother country, (now fortunately removed) from want of knowledge, and from deficiency of capital: all combined and acting most unfavourably. That were the necessary capital forthcoming, there is not, amongst farmers generally, a sufficient agricultural information to apply such increased capital profitably.

That to employ even the present capital to the greatest advantage, the quantity of land kept in tillage should be diminished in extent nearly one-half, and the labour and cultivation of the part kept in tillage doubled.

That there exists amongst farmers generally, an unprofitable desire for large buildings, with a small employment of labour, capital and implements. That the generality of farmers consider from £2 to £3 per acre, a sufficient investment, whereas, double that sum is scarcely an adequate profitable capital, affording the means of effective cultivation.

That the remedy for these evils is the communication of agricultural knowledge to farmers.

That this knowledge will be best promoted and diffused by agricultural schools or colleges, with farms attached, on the principle of that excellent one now establishing at Cirencester, England.

That there should be one or more such establishments in every county in the Province.

That there should be agricultural endowed colleges of the first order under authority, where students should qualify by superior practical and theoretic knowledge, passing their examinations and obtaining their agricultural diplomas the same as in law or medicine.

That such qualified individuals would thus spread over the country agricultural schools and farms, advantageous alike to themselves and to the rising generation of farmers, who would imbibed sound theoretical and practical instruction.

That such instruction would render farming a more uniform, more profitable, and more gentlemanly occupation.

That in consequence capital would more rea-