

3440; Meadow Grass, 12,000; Crested Dogstail, 6400; Meadow Foxtail, 19,200; and Sweet-scented Vernal Grass, 1600. With these facts before us, and the apathy which too many farmers evince in relation to this matter, it is no wonder that cultivated crops should so often be found injured or ruined by worthless weeds.

MOWING FIELDS MORE THAN ONCE.

The complaint which was made against the American hay that was sent to England last year was that it was too coarse,—an objection that we think not a few have noticed on this side of the Atlantic. Such hay may give a large yield to the acre, but much of it will never be eaten by stock, and much of what is eaten, will never be digested. There is another difficulty connected with our present method of cutting grass after the stalk has attained its full size and has put forth blossoms or has matured its seeds. Unless such stalks can remain until desiccation commences, it is injurious to the roots to cut them. That it is not injurious to the roots to clip the foliage of grass before the stalks shoot up any considerable distance, appears to be proven by pastures. Here, the grass is clipped many times during the season, and still the vitality of the roots does not appear to be injured in the least.

Most farmers have noticed that grass lands will run out quicker when they are mowed, than when pastured, and that it requires more power to break pasture turf, than that in a field that has been cut with a scythe, an equal number of years. The oftener lawns are cut, the finer the grass becomes and the firmer the turf. Grass in a lawn that is mown every week or two, is not half so likely to winter kill, as that in a field that is only cut once in a season. A team that will draw a plough through a field that has been in timothy hay five or six years, with as much ease as through a field of wheat stubble, would be "stalled" if taken into a lawn or pasture of the same age.

Nature, in providing grass as the food for domestic animals, seemed to have designed it for frequent clipping. Can we not, therefore, make our hay of better quality, and at the same time give greater permanence to the crop, by cutting the grass oftener than we do? We know there would be more work attending such a practice, than in having hay cutting come but once a year; but we do not think the increase of labor would be as much as it would at first thought appear to be. We should be in no danger from lodged grass, and the trouble of curing hay would be greatly lessened, as little spreading would be required. It might be necessary, also, to exercise more care in the application of manure in the solid or liquid form, to fields that are to be mowed more than once; but in this case, as in all others where manure is applied, the additional yield will more than compensate for they outlay.—*Gairie Farmer.*

HOW TO HAVE GOOD MEADOWS.

Mr. N. Platt, of Bradford county, Penn., in a letter to the American Institute Farmers' Club, gives his experience as follows:

"My land is adapted to all kinds of grain and to timothy grass and red clover. My practice is, when I sow a piece of grass, not to plough it again in less than eight years, and I frequently let it lie a much longer time. I have a meadow now which has been mowed for sixteen successive years, and it was never better than now. In fact my meadows, under the right treatment, grow better as they grow older. I do it by returning to a meadow all the hay made that was taken from it, and sowing a bushel of gypsum per acre each year. In that way the yield of grass is heavier and finer and richer as the sod thickens. I use manure only for top-dressing the meadows; in that way I get double price for it. It produces as much worth of grass as it would in grain, and also reproduces itself again in the turf. My turf, when ready for ploughing under, is a solid body of grass roots twelve inches deep or more, and so thick on the top that no soil can be seen. I consider one such turf, when turned under, equal to 160 tons of first-class barn-yard manure per acre.

Land so often plowed for grain gives up to the grain all the bone, beef and tallow there is in it; consequently the grass crop is so destitute of nutriment that farm stock will not thrive well upon it, without grain a portion of the season. It furnishes a plenty of skin and rib, as the cattle are witnesses, but the flesh is minus. Grass grown upon land kept in the right kind of order for grass will keep stock in first rate order at all seasons of the year. I have seen it tried in both ways, and know whereof I speak. Raising grain on ground three seasons to two of grass enriches it in the same ratio that paying three dollars for two dollars would enrich a man. Like produces like, in grass as in breeding, consequently manure made of good hay is the best for meadows. It stands to reason for meadows to grow better when their own production is honestly returned to them.—Many of our writers on agriculture have incomes from other sources beside their farm, and can follow any system of rotation and have plenty of time and leisure. But the man who begins at the foot of the hill, runs in debt for two-thirds of his farm, all his stock of tools, then clears his land of stone and stumps, walls it in, enriches it and puts on the buildings, and raises a family of children, must sound all the depths of true economy; in that case he must not raise too much grain; if he does the sheriff will sell some of it for him."

THE ART OF HAY-MAKING.

Don't dry your hay too much. Hay may be dried till it is as worthless as straw. As a good coffee-maker would say, "don't burn your coffee, but brown it;" so we say, "don't dry your hay,