

How are you to keep hogs within hurdles? Now, sheep are contented when confined, and will bear being restricted in their range; hogs would be always trying to dodge out of the fold, to undermine the hurdles, etc. For feeding-off green-crops, like rape, where they grow, does not mean turning a lot of stock loose into a ten-acre field, but "parking" the flock of sheep within a certain confined space; giving them a fresh piece at least every other day; so that the land gets an equal allowance of the droppings, both liquid and solid, over its whole surface, and the sheep have a clean plate, so to speak, and a fresh bite as often as is practicable.

"Sow more seed."—If, on the well-manured farms of Britain, four bushels of oats to the imperial acre is not too heavy seeding, how can the farmers of this country imagine that 2 bushels to the "arpent" is enough? The arpent is to the acre as 11:13, nearly; so the proper seeding here, on well prepared land, would be 3 bushels 3 gallons to the arpent.

#### UNEXHAUSTED FERTILITY.

This is a very live question in Britain and more especially in Scotland, where the tenant on a farm is allowed to claim pay for unexhausted manure he has put upon the land he rents when he is leaving. At a lecture recently given by Mr. John Speir, of Glasgow, the subject was well discussed. In answer to the question, "At what rate per annum is the manurial value of certain fertilizers exhausted, as far as the question has been tested by actual experiment?" the answer as far as it concerns farmyard manure on four crops at 17 stations, is as follows: First year, 50 per cent; second year, 24 per cent; third year, 16 per cent, and fourth year 10 per cent. Practically this means that land getting nothing but farm-yard manure should be dressed every fourth year to keep it in ordinary good condition. The best of Scotch farmers work on a system of rota-

tion of crops much akin to this. The manure is supplied in liberal quantity to the green crop—turnips usually—this is followed by a grain crop, then hay and another grain crop, followed by roots again. This gives two grain crops every four years. Few farmers in Canada have adopted a regular rotation of crops, and fewer still are working on a four year one. This gives no opportunity for pasture, but the Scotch farmer believes in working the land steadily and keeping certain fields for permanent pasture, quite apart from the working land. This system is well worth the careful consideration of Canadian farmers.

#### BARLEY.

Mr. Wrightson, Principal of the Agricultural College at Downton, England, has been growing barley for the last twenty-five years at least, and knows all about that crop. Our readers will observe that he, like ourselves, holds the soil to be the thing most to be considered in barley-growing for malting purposes:

#### IMPORTANCE OF THE SOIL.

If some agricultural chemist could lay bare the mystery of the land he would have accomplished a most difficult task. The success of barley-growing lies more in the nature of the soil and situation than in any other thing. The peculiarity eludes analysis. It does not reside in the excess of any particular constituent. It probably is due to a combination of texture, composition, subsoil, aspect, and local climate, aided by good cultivation and judicious management of the crop. There are districts in which good barley is grown, but the growers are not "scientific" farmers. If a change of tenancy occurs, the farm is still known for its barley. It is impossible to judge from analysis whether a soil is capable of growing good barley, neither is there any certainty as to the action of fertilisers upon quality.

The question is entirely a practical one. Barley soils are sandy, chalky, or loamy,