

exposure, or other causes may explain. Well, now a word or two on after-culture, which is labour not thrown away. We suppose seed broadcast, hence light harrowing and rolling is good practice, as grass may be sown in spring on winter wheats; the harrow and roller are used to loosen the soil and cover the seeds; even this to the wheat alone on many lands is of great benefit.

Again, rolling on dry and open soils in spring, ought never to be omitted, the frosts leaving the roots of the wheat loose and exposed to every kind of injury, besides the roller is better than the harrow in pulverizing the clods, and in bedding the ground for the snath in harvest next.

Reaping.—Wheat should always be reaped ere ripe, as a greater loss is generally sustained by being too ripe, than is commonly suspected.

Peas.—The pea is a native of Southern Europe, but is also found growing spontaneously west in our own Continent. There are many kinds, but the field pea is what we have legitimately to do with. Of these there are two varieties, the *Green* and *Grey*. Both are prolific, wholesome, nutritive, and agreeable food for man, and highly recommended for cattle; also green or dry, sheep, cows and horses are very fond of them, and hogs are more economically and promptly fattened on them, and also when mixed with barley meal in a state of acetous fermentation, than almost any other kind of food. Following turnips, the labour for peas is not much, two ploughings will do, and sow at once without loss of time, but not too deep. Two methods are practised in sowing, row and broad casting. By the former, the seed is economised and the product increased, affording better tillage for the soil. The latter saves much time and labour. Experience adds, to assist the feeble pea, sow beans, oats and rye, and it is said much advantage occurs from this. Such a crop can be turned to many useful purposes on a good farm.

Indian Corn.—It is a native of our southern Continent, its prolific and other good qualities are well known, and have brought it into general use, for it is now cultivated wherever this is permitted by the climate; even in England, Cobbett introduced it, and sold the cobs for seed at 7½d. cy. each. Many attempts were made to grow, but not generally with much success, the climate being too cold for it. With proper care and attention, it does well in a great variety of soils, but prefers old and rich grounds, artificial meadows, warm loams, and moist vegetable mould. There are numerous varieties, but the White and Yellow are generally preferred, and of eight and twelve rows. It should not be cultivated oftener than once in six years on the same land. The seed selected from the best ears of the last year's crop, and from the stems on which the largest number were found. Care also should be taken to steep it in a strong solution of nitre, at least twenty-four hours before planting. Hills at least eighteen inches apart is general in planting this, but if the soil is strong, twenty-four to thirty inches is better. But ere you plant, let the weather be genial, else you may lose your labour and seed; and observe, if late, you may be too late for a crop. No crop requires more nursing, but none repays better the care. Weed, hoe,

harrow, be liberal with Plaster of Paris; should you have moist and warm weather, your crops will be excellent.

[To be continued.]

DRAINING LAND.

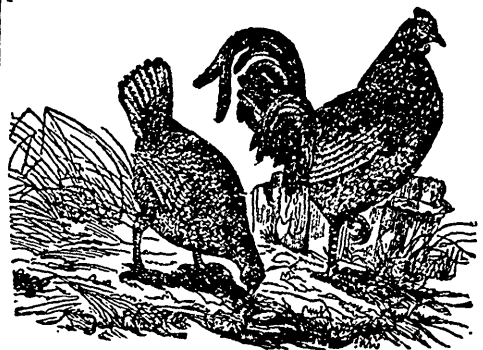
Of so much importance is this means of agricultural improvement considered in England, that, in addition to the immense sums annually expended by private individuals, the government, in 1846, authorised a loan of three millions sterling, that is two millions for England and Scotland, and one million for Ireland. In less than a year, applications for English estates were made to the amount of £508,659; and for lands in Scotland to the amount of £2,188,331. Among the applicants are the names of some of the largest landowners. Ireland, we presume, has not been in a condition to avail herself of the proffered aid, to any large extent.

POULTRY.

THE OSTRICH FOWL.

We copy the following remarks from that excellent work, recently published by C. N. Bement, Esq., "The American Poulterer's Companion;" a book that should be in the hands of every farmer. We are indebted to the politeness of the proprietor of the *Genesee Farmer* for the cuts, which are also copied from that work. We shall occasionally present our readers with further extracts from this book, feeling satisfied that information on this subject will add to the variety, interest and usefulness of our publication.

Among the many varieties of the domestic fowl, described by Mr. Bement, the "Ostrich Fowl" would seem to be as valuable as any for all purposes.



This valuable variety, we have understood, first originated in Bucks County, Penn., hence they are called by some the "Bucks County breed." Some of this breed were first introduced into this vicinity