

affords a protection from the sun, and usually the driest and hottest weather of the season is past before the clover is advanced enough to be injured by it; while at the same time, it will obtain hardness enough to withstand the winter frost. To succeed well with clover, gypsum should be sown each year, from one to two bushels per acre.

2nd. *Clover lays are permitted to remain too long before they are brought under the plow.* The clover, as I think, is a triennial plant, and is allowed to remain four or five years before plowing. The advantage to the soil as a green crop, are nearly lost. 'Tis true, if some portion of it is suffered to ripen each year, new plants will spring up to succeed those going to decay; but I should recommend taking it up at least as soon as the third year. The action of clover in improving the soil is not only in supplying a large amount of vegetable matter, but it acts mechanically. Its tap roots penetrate the soil, and as they decay render it friable and permeable to heat and moisture.

3rd. *The common way of curing clover hay is bad.* The common practice of spreading and letting it lie until entirely dry, causes most of the leaves and blossoms to crumble off before the stalk is sufficiently dry, and where lying thick, must remain over night in the dew, and no kind of grass is injured so easily by wet and drying as clover. The plan I would recommend is, to cut and spread it, and as soon as thoroughly wilted, to rake and put it in cocks, and if the weather is favourable, by the second day it will by its sweating and handling over, in drawing, be sufficiently cured, and at the same time, retain the leaves and blossoms, together with its bright green color and flavour. For hay, clover should be cut as soon as about half the blossoms have come down. When an after-crop of seed is intended, it should, in this latitude, be cut from the 10th to the 25th of June.

One great objection of the former to sowing clover, and more frequently turning it in, is the cost of seed. This as I before observed, after the first season of sowing, every farmer ought to raise his own. If a hulling machine is not at hand to clean it, it is even better in the chaff, when intended for his own use, (as I have proved by experience,) for the chaff or hull is a sort of protection to the young and tender roots at its first start. It is a piece of folly for the farmers of Michigan to pay such a tribute to the State of

Ohio for clover seed, when we have every facility that they have, for raising our own, and even for exportation. I should not, however, recommend taking more than one crop in succession, from the same land, as I think it would be running the land rather hard, especially if the first crop in the season is cut for hay. Lastly, though not leastly, by the use of clover, and by it alone, and a proper rotation of crops, the farmer is enabled to dispense with the naked summer fallow, and at the same time keep up the fertility of his soil, thus enabling him to nearly double his profits, without increasing his expenses in cultivation.

Kent county, March 12, 1847.

—*Mich. Farmer.*

*Composition for Roofs.*—The following Recipe which we copy from the Maine Farmer, "for the information of an incombustible wash, to be applied to the roofs of dwellings and out-houses, is published for the benefit of those who, although they may have hitherto neglected a most important duty, are yet sufficiently wise to profit by a gentle hint.

Slack stone lime in a large tub or barrel, with boiling water, covering the tub or barrel, to keep in the steam. When thus slacked pass six quarts of it through a fine sieve. It will then be in a state of fine flour. Now to six quarts of this lime add one quart of rock or Turk's Island salt, and one gallon of water, then boil the mixture and skim it clean.—To every five gallons of this skimmed mixture, add one pound of alum, half pound of copperas, by slow degrees add three fourths of a pound of potash, and four quarts of fine sand or hickory ashes sifted.—We suppose any kind of hard wood ashes will answer as well as hickory. This mixture will now admit of any coloring matter you please, and may be applied with a brush. It looks better than paint, and is as durable as slate. It will stop small leaks in the roof, prevent the moss from growing on and rotting the wood, and render it incombustible from sparks falling upon it. When laid upon brick work it renders the brick impervious to rain or wet.—*N. Y. Far. & Mech.*

*Apple Jam.*—Equal weight of fine flavored sour apples pared and quartered, and of white sugar with the addition of one quince.

*Orleans Plum Jam.*—Equal weight of fruit and sugar; improved by the addition of a few ripe raspberries or gooseberries.