

From Mr. James Cross, Caledonia.

(No. 9.) *Caledonia, Sept., 1849.*

C. P. Treadwell, Esq.:

SIR,—As our committee have decided on not sending delegates to represent our Society at Kingston, I send you a statement—in accordance with the wish expressed in your circular—of my manner of farming.

I carry on my farms on the rotation system. I sow all kinds of grain, varying the crops according to the seasons, as our seasons have been very changeable, but not sowing two crops of the same kind one year after another on the same piece of land. I plough green sward either in the fall or in the spring. I sow oats, peas, or peas and oats mixed, as soon as the ground is in proper order for seed. I plough the same land again in the fall, and again in the spring, and plant potatoes, corn or turnips for the second crop. I sow spring wheat with grass seed for the third crop. I find this system to be the most remunerative for growing hay and raising stock to make manure, to enable me to carry on my farming operations with advantage. I sow three-months wheat (white chaff) in April, and Black Sea wheat in May. I plant corn and potatoes from 10th to 20th May—ground as well manured as possible; and as one of the experts of the district agricultural society, I find, on careful examination of the different farms, that those farmers who pursue this system have the fewest weeds and the best crops.

I am, Sir, your most obedient,
JAMES CROSS.

From Mr. John Hunter.

(No. 10.) *Hawkesbury West, Sept., 1849.*

Charles P. Treadwell, Esq.:

SIR,—With respect to your agricultural enquiries, I beg to reply to them in accordance with my experience and knowledge.

In the first place, oats are cultivated with the greatest success on my farm. I am of opinion that for spring crops, neither oats nor any other kind of grain should be sown, till the trees have begun to show signs of vegetation. The quantity of seed I put on an acre is as follows:—Oats, 3 bushels; wheat, 1½ bushels; barley, 2 bushels; potatoes, 13 bushels; peas, 2½ bushels; hayseed, 12 quarts. The kind of manure I use is barnyard manure; but I prefer black muck to any I have tried, on account of its durability and aptness to produce good crops. Hay this season is light, but the quantity I generally cut averages yearly about 12 tons. That which I consider most neglected is hay; for if the meadows were covered with manure or muck, they would yield double the quantity, and of better quality than they now do in their present neglected state. I think that if some scientific agriculturist would come forward and deliver before each agricultural society, a lecture on the utility of good husbandry; or if agricultural schools could be established in every district, it would confer an advantage of no small importance to the farming community.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient,
JOHN HUNTER.

From Mr. Peter Hickey.

(No. 11.) *Hawkesbury, Sept., 1849.*

C. P. Treadwell, Esq.:

SIR,—In answer to your circular, I have to inform you that I have raised 30 bushels of wheat per acre, sown on the 1st of May; 50 bushels oats per acre, sown on the 20th May; from 40 to 50 bushels corn, planted on the 10th May; 450 bushels potatoes, planted 20th May; hay, 2½ tons per acre. As to manure, I have used none but that made in the farm yard; and with good ploughing and hoeing, it is certain to produce a good crop.

I am, dear Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
PETER HICKEY.

From Mr. George Hutchinson.

(No. 12.) *Hawkesbury, Sept., 1849.*

DEAR SIR,—In reply to the inquiries in your circular of the 20th August, I would beg to state, that the only kinds of grain I am in the habit of raising, are wheat, oats, and Indian corn. The proper time for sowing Black Sea wheat is, in my opinion, about the 21st of May, and when the land is of a heavy soil, richly manured, and deep and well ploughed, we can get 30 bushels to the acre. The quantity of seed will depend on the nature and quality of the soil, a rich and heavy soil requiring less seed than a poor and light one. In general, it may be stated at from 3 pecks to one bushel and a half per acre. I commonly begin to plant my corn about the 15th of May; and when the land is in what I consider a good state, I can raise a hundred bushels to the acre. Oats, although a light crop this season, generally remunerate me well. I always sow three bushels of good clean seed to the acre; and where the ground is in good order and well manured, I can get from 70 to 100 bushels per acre. I can say little in favour of root crops this year, although I have had great success in other years, having raised at the rate of 1200 bushels of carrots per acre, and 1 bushel potatoes to each single rod of a common drill throughout a large field. The manure that I use is from the horse and cow stables, and my mode of applying it is this:—About the end of March I take the manure to the fields where it is to be used, and place it in heaps. As soon as the snow has disappeared, I scatter it over the ground, and when the land is fit, I plough it down. I then plant or sow my grain on the top, and harrow well. In a short time the roots find their way down. I think, Sir, if we were to cultivate less land, and do it better, we would procure greater crops, and of better quality.

In conclusion, Mr. President, permit me to return you my sincere thanks, as a zealous advocate and liberal supporter of one of the most noble and honourable callings of the human race.

I am, dear Sir,
Your obedient servant,
GEORGE HUTCHINSON.

C. P. Treadwell, Esq.

In closing the Report of the Ottawa District Agricultural Society, I beg to make a few remarks