

CLEARING LAND.

To the Editors of the Central N. Y. Farmer.

Believing that some portion of your readers who have new lands to clear, cannot but feel interested on the subject, and desirous of knowing the practice and experience of old farmers, I send you a brief statement of the mode adopted by me when clearing up my farm—which from the experience I have had seems a better mode for clearing up heavy timbered lands, than any other I have ever heard suggested. My experience will only benefit those who have lands so situated that it would not be an object to get off the timber for wood or lumber, but who are obliged to burn or dispose of it on the ground. It is not so much an object to the farmer to have his farm cleared up hastily, as it is to have the land when once cleared, productive and in an easy condition to till. The soil of those farms where the timber is very heavy, is never as productive when the timber is felled and cleared off when green, as it would be if the timber was to be girdled and allowed to stand until entirely dead. My practice has been after selecting the piece I desired to clear, to girdle all the timber high up from the ground, and allow it to remain standing at least four years. The object in letting the timber stand that length of time, is to allow that portion of the tree below the girdle to become tender, which will in that length of time become extremely so; the roots and limbs to rot, so that many of the stumps can be removed while "fallowing," and it requires not more than one half of the labor to fell the timber, that it would require if felled when green.

If it was not convenient to allow the timber to stand but two or three years, it would prove proportionally beneficial to girdle the timber, and save in the end much labor in clearing, from the fact that girdling can be done at that season of the year to advantage, when it would be extremely inconvenient to do any other kind of labor in cutting down the timber, still more is saved in preparing the fallow for logging. When the timber is once down, one man in about five days, if the weather is dry and favorable, will prepare ten acres for logging, by a process called among old land clearers, "niggering," which is to take your fire, place it upon the tree where you would desire to burn it in two, place a few sticks upon the fire sufficient to kindle, and thus go over the fallow, putting up the brands as the fire dies down, and by the time the five days are up, your fallow will be ready for logging and the immense amount of labor required to do the chopping will almost entirely be saved. By felling the trees side by side, many of them might be entirely consumed, but if inconvenient to fall them so, it would then be better to fall them across each other, as the fire can be more easily kindled, and will not require so much tending. The girdling can be done at any season of the year, but it would be advisable to do it in the winter season, as time is not then as valuable as at other seasons of the year, and the timber can be girdled high without trouble, the only inconvenience attending it would be that of getting around.—By adopting this mode in clearing up my land, I found that the stumps could be removed earlier than they could be if the timber was cleared off while green, and the soil prepared much earlier for plowing and agricultural purposes.

Yours, &c.,

SAMUEL DENNISON.

NO INQUIRY WITHOUT ITS USE.—It seem to be a necessary condition of human science, that we should have many (apparently) useless things in order to become acquainted with those which are of service; and

as it is impossible, antecedently to experience, to know the value of our acquisitions, the only way in which mankind can acquire all the advantages of knowledge is to prosecute their enquiries in every possible direction. There can be no greater impediment to the progress of science than a perpetual and anxious reference at every step to palpable utility. Assured that the general result will be beneficial, it is not wise to be too solicitous as to the immediate value of every individual effort. Nor is it to be forgotten that trivial and apparently useless acquisitions are often the necessary preparative to important discoveries.

RHUBARB.—This valuable plant should occupy a corner in every garden, however limited; and the cottager will find it useful and wholesome for himself and children from its cooling properties. Independent of the cheap pies and tarts which are made of the stalks, they may be boiled and eaten with bread; by blanching the stalks, which is readily done, they are not only improved in flavour, and come to perfection earlier, but one half the quantity of sugar only is required; to accomplish this, it is only necessary to exclude the light; a large flower pot or old butter firkin will do this, or a few hazel rods or rails covered with fern or straw, or any similar means, as circumstances may dictate. If the crowns have been mulched during winter, they will be forwarded.

TRANSPLANTING TREES.—Trees may be transplanted in this month with every prospect of success, where reasonable attention is paid to them. As the nourishment of trees is derived from the fibrous roots, as many of these must be left as possible when the tree is taken up. The practice too common in transplanting trees, is to dig a small hole, then cut off the roots in order to fit the hole, and thrust it in regardless of the situation of the roots. The fine roots are lost in this way, except in very young or small trees, and a failure of many must be expected. The roots of a tree should never be dry from the time they are taken from the earth till it is replanted. Trees taken from the forest require more care than those from the nurseries or open fields. Evergreens must be removed later than other kinds, or the operation is not apt to succeed, though we have planted them in April with good success. Few are aware of the value imparted to a place by having the grounds planted with useful or ornamental trees, independent of the pleasure which every person of taste must feel in their observation. And how often do we hear people regret, on seeing their neighbors' gardens abound with choice fruit, that they too had not planted in times past. The season of transplanting fruit trees is unavoidably limited to the season of defoliation, when the growth is dormant, and the excuse of men generally is, that they neither had time, or forgot to put out trees when alone the work could be done. This reminds us of the man who suffered his family to be drenched with rain, because he could not patch his roof when it stormed, and because there was no need of doing it when the weather was fair.

LAW.—Of Law there can be no less acknowledgment than that her seat is in the bosom of God, her voice the harmony of the world. All things in heaven and earth do her homage; the very lowest as feeling her care, and the greatest as not exempt from her power. Both angels and men, and creatures of what condition soever, though each in different sorts and manners, yet all with uniform consent, admiring her as the mother of peace and joy.