

We notice in our exchanges, that in some sections of the country, owing to the scarcity of fodder and the severity of the winter, cattle are in a state of starvation, and some have even been compelled to sell their stock at a great sacrifice to their more fortunate neighbors, who had the means of keeping them.

Now, if every one who keeps stock will make provision for drouth, no matter how good his pasture and meadow lands may be, by sowing corn in drills to cut when just forming the ears, there would not be such a complaint another season. We must expect our seasons to become more and more in extremes from year to year, consequent upon the clearing up of our forest lands; and no wise farmer will hereafter neglect making ample provision for soiling of cattle during the latter part of our summer, and before the commencement of fall rains. We know of one individual in a neighboring town who was not obliged to feed out hay at all till near spring, simply for the reason that between four and five acres of corn sowed for fodder furnished him with an ample supply of forage for his stock.

SAVE YOUR SAWDUST.—Dr. DODD, in a communication to the *Practical Farmer*, writing from Cleveland, recommends highly the use of sawdust as bedding for horses. The livery-stable keepers of that city use it in preference to straw. Among its advantages, he enumerates the following: It is a great absorbent of fluids, is easily removed from the stall—what little may be attached to the hair of animals is easily cleaned off with curry-comb and brush. Also it is adapted for loaming heavy soils, causing them to become more friable and porous, while at the same time it takes the fertilizing atoms with itself for use by the growing plants.

Inquiries and Answers.

OUR river-bottom lands consist of a bed of pure sand, covered over with five or six inches decayed vegetable matter. Would it be advisable to make use of the subsoil plow, or at what depth should such ground be plowed? We raise corn on our bottom lands equal in quantity and quality to that raised on the Scioto and Miami bottoms, and if we were as good farmers as our brethren of Ohio, I am inclined to think that our Big Sandy Valley would yield more per acre than any of their far-famed bottoms. At all events, I am, for one, inclined to profit from the valuable contents of the *FARMER*, as well as your private advice. C. P.—*Coalgrove, Pike Co., Ky.*

In lands of the character described above, it will not do to plow often, or expose them freely to atmospheric influences. On the contrary, the roller is a valuable implement on such soil, while lime and leached ashes never come amiss. Those grasses which are naturally adapted to your soil, and which make the firmest sod, will protect it from washing by rains, and enable you to increase your stock, by whose aid you can in turn increase the fertility of your land.

TO A SUBSCRIBER.—Wisner's Patent Wash Tub can be had of Messrs. J. BUNKER & Co., of Rochester, N. Y. Price, \$5.00.

MR. EDITOR:—I wish to make an inquiry of you in regard to the improvement of a piece of worn out land. It has considerable sorrel on it, and is a very dry, sandy soil. It has been cultivated with rye, two crops in succession, which has worn it down and apparently exhausted it. The reason for putting on two crops of rye was in consequence of the failure of seeding with clover in the spring. Last year the yield of rye was about 10 bushels to the acre. Many of the heads did not fill. Last spring I sowed nearly two bushels of clover seed, which failed entirely. I propose to plow it this spring, sow to buckwheat, plow it in as a green crop, then in the fall cross-plow as summer fallow, &c., sow with rye, and next spring seed down with clover. *Chatham.*

From the prevalence of sorrel in your land, there is presumptive evidence that lime, at the rate of from twenty to fifty bushels per acre would materially benefit it. On light, sandy soils plow as little as is consistent with keeping the land clean, and follow with the roller. Such soils require to be made more compact, and any treatment that secures this object is advantageous. Gypsum has an effect similar to lime in clay and sand. Clay marls are of value also—particularly ashes, leached and unleached. When once you can induce a good growth of grass and clover, the difficulty in their cultivation is mostly surmounted. It is an advantage to keep sheep on sandy land, as their treading tends to pack the soil closely, producing an effect similar to that of the roller.

A FRIEND wishes me to ask where the best guano can be got what it costs per ton, and how it can be applied to the best advantage in a deep, gravelly loam, with a firm, clayey subsoil.

See advertisement of A. LONGETT, in the present number.—From \$46 to \$48 per ton of 2,000 lbs. Break up all the lumps with a maul, and mix thoroughly with charcoal dust or dry loam—two parts loam to one of guano—and apply at the rate of 200 or 300 lbs. per acre. Plow it in with a plow guaged to run from four to six inches in depth.

WILL you be so kind as to inform me through the columns of your valuable paper what manure would do the best to apply to a piece of red clover sowed last spring with oats on opening land? Soil loamy, mixed with sand. Lime can be had at eighteen cents a bushel. *CHARLES STEIN—Waukesha, Wisconsin.*

Sow a bushel of plaster per acre early in the spring. If your soil is very light, roll it with a heavy roller. Some advise top-dressing with long manure. Perhaps orchard grass would be better adapted to your soil than clover.

I SHOULD like to be informed through the medium of your valuable paper of some method of destroying the pea bug. It is on its march to the west of Canada, and is every year becoming more destructive. This is the first year I have noticed them in my peas. *J.—Wellesley, C. W.*

Will some of our readers answer the above inquiry.

CAN you tell me what will destroy a species of bug, or rather louse, that infests tulip trees? I have tried a decoction of tobacco and soap, with but partial success. *W. RICHARDS—Springhill, Champaign Co., Ohio.*

ON some of the best land on my farm the wheat crop is half destroyed by chickweed. Is there any remedy for it? *B. KING—Rochester.*

Will those of our correspondents who have had any experience similar to the above, please suggest a remedy?