

ten inches, and then harrow it down. The following spring, about the 15th of May, I draw on all coarse horse manure made the previous winter, and commence to plow it in about the twentieth of May. After plowing, drag it thoroughly. I now take a marker, which is made by boring holes four feet apart in a four by four scantling, and placing therein large pegs made of hard wood, then bore holes and place some poles in for shafts, fasten on your whippetrees, put in your horse, and commence to mark your ground, both ways if you like. I generally try to plant straight one way by stakes, put from four to six grains in a hill, cover with fine fresh dirt, spat it down with the hoe, and keep your feet off. Just as soon as you can see it coming up sufficient to follow the rows, start the best cultivator you can find both ways through it. In the course of a week or two cultivate again and follow with the hoe. After you are done hoeing plaster it lightly, say one handful to four hills. By the time the corn is a foot high run a small plow through, throwing the dirt towards the hill, then with the hoe dress it up, removing all weeds and suckers, if the grain is your object; if not, let the suckers grow, and my word for it you will have a crop you will be proud of, and willing to try again.

Duffin's Creek, May 10th, 1863.

S.E.C.

ON LAYING DOWN MEADOWS.

EDITORS OF THE AGRICULTURIST.—*Gentlemen*,—We hear of and see a great deal of misery amongst the cattle of Canada, caused by the poor system of our farmers of sowing so much wheat and neglecting what ought to be sowed—hay, and plenty of it. I know by experience, and they would find out if they would only try it for a few seasons, that they would be gainers by it. It is absurd to think that the farmers of Canada cannot keep their cattle alive when they have the means in their power to do so; but they are too blind to see that they are standing in their own way to fortune. They think that they are doing great things when they have got all their fields turned over ready for sowing with wheat; but they are greatly mistaken, for they have done the very worst thing they could do. Where is their hay and oats to keep their teams in working order? They have neither. When spring comes they must go and hunt up enough of hay and oats to put their team through the fork, and it mostly turns out that their neighbors are in the same fix as themselves, and they cannot get what they want; so they have to do as they can, and that is not very well you may suppose, but still it has to be done, and no help for it, unless they change their ways.

Now is it not infinitely better to have enough to keep their cattle, and have the pleasure of seeing them in good order than to have them like two boards stuck together? But it will always be the same way unless they make some alteration in their domestic economy. They may ask what alteration they can make? Well, I will tell them what they can do; but it will take some time to realize anything, on account of the state of their land. They must first take one or two of their fields, and get them into good heart by manuring them well, and then get them well ploughed—they know how to do that by this time, for they have done it often enough—then sow it with wheat or oats; the first is the best, but the latter would not take so much strength from the ground, but if they are sown too thick they are bad for smothering the grass, so wheat is preferable, as it is not so close at the bottom, and it will give the grass a chance to grow. Then, when they have got them in working order, they can proceed as before. The fields that were sowed first can lie in grass for three years, not more, for then they begin to get worse, and they will not pay to keep them any longer, but turn them up and sow peas on them, and then they will come in to sow fall wheat on, if convenient, if not they will come in very well in the spring, and then you will have a crop that will pay itself, which you could never have by sowing grain every year on the same field. Rotation is the thing, and that you will find out to your gain, if you will keep at it, and you will have no trouble to decide what you will put on this field and what on that—it is as plain as a black spot on a sheet of white paper.

Messrs. Editors,—hoping that the farmers will consider this well before they condemn it,

I remain,

Yours, &c.,

JOHN DOBIE.

Mosa, C. W., April 30, 1863.

HEMP.

We are of opinion that the cultivation of Hemp is deserving of much more attention than it has heretofore received in this Province. In view of the importance of directing the attention of our farmers to the production of some textile fibre as an additional item in their operations, considerable prominence has been given in the pages of the *Agriculturist*, for some time past, as well as in many other public journals, to the culture of *Flax*. But the cultivation of Hemp equally deserves the