

**PLASTER ON WHEAT AND OATS IN SPRING.**

J. E., in Co GENT. of Feb. 13, asks how it will do to sow plaster on wheat in spring. So far as my experience extends, it will not do at all—the plaster causing too succulent a growth, and thereby causing rust. Several pieces in this vicinity were very much injured by sowing plaster in the spring. If sown on, middling early in the fall, it greatly assists to form sufficient top to withstand our severe winters, thereby being of great benefit while it does not seem to cause rust the ensuing season. In fact, some of our best wheat growers are very much pleased with the plan.

As to sowing plaster on oats, if the oats are early sown the plaster will be of benefit; if late sown, it would without doubt cause them to rust. And here lies the great secret of oat raising in this region—that is, in early sowing. If the land is in ordinary condition, and the seed sown as soon as practicable after the frost is out of the ground, a large yield of sound heavy oats is almost certain.

As to the effect that plaster has on the young clover when sown on wheat in spring, it helps the clover very much, but to the detriment of the wheat. When sown on oats for the benefit of clover, the effect is spoiled by causing too large a growth of straw, thereby smothering out the young clover plants. The best way that I know of to get a good stand of clover in wheat, is to top-dress the ground in fall, before sowing, with a good sprinkling of well rotted manure. Care should be taken that the manure be free from all foul seeds, such as Ackley's clover, daisies, red-root, &c. This tends to make the soil loose and friable, and in fit condition to receive the clover seed, besides affording a mulch and nourishment for the young plants when most needed. In this way, the hardest clay knolls may be seeded splendidly, which without the mulch, would remain unseeded, and give but a very poor yield of wheat.

As to seeding oats, I never found it to be profitable; in fact I never saw clover take as well in oats as in wheat or barley. As to the amount of plaster to be sown per acre, from half a bushel to two bushels is usually sown here, although the amount of fertilizing properties contained in plaster varies in different localities—that of Michigan being very much stronger than that of New-York.—[Country Gent.]

**HOUSE AND HEDGE SPARROWS.**

Farmers and fruit-growers should without delay engage either individually or in clubs, in importing and diffusing throughout our Country these two species of Exotic Sparrows.

It is demonstrated beyond contradiction.

1st. That they will effectually keep in check many species of depredating insects.

2d. That the habits of these birds are in no instance seriously injurious to farmer's crops, and that imputations of that kind are founded in error.

3d. That these birds will increase and thrive when set at liberty in the vicinity of New York City. Both they and the European

Sky Lark are rapidly increasing on Staten Island and at Hoboken, where the SPARROWS have already exterminated the CANKER WORM.—THE GARDENER'S MONTHLY.

**THE MANAGING WOMAN.**

To be a good house-keeper is one of the most essential and useful accomplishments, and the man who secures for his wife one whose education in this respect has not been neglected, combined with a mild, confiding and loving disposition, has a most valuable treasure; and if his home is not agreeable and pleasant, he may be assured that the fault is with himself, and that he does not possess the manly and gentlemanly attributes necessary for such a partner for life. We commend the following just and truthful remarks to the attention of our readers:

"The managing woman is a pearl among women. She is one of the prizes in the great lottery of life, and the man who draws her may rejoice for the rest of his days. Better than riches, she is a fortune within herself—a gold mine never failing in its yield—a spring of pleasant waters, whose banks are fringed with moss and flowers, when all around is bleached white with sterile sand. The managing woman can do anything; and she does everything well. Perceptive and executive, of quick sight and steady hand, she always knows exactly what is wanting, and supplies the deficiency with a tact and cleverness peculiar to herself. She knows the capabilities of persons as well as things, for she has an intuitive knowledge of character. The managing woman, if not always patient, is always energetic, and can never be disappointed into inaction. Though she has to teach the same thing over and over again, though she finds heads as dense as boxwood, and hands as inefficient as fishes' fins, still she is never weary of her vocation of arranging and ordering and never less than hopeful of a favorite result."—Ex.

THE WAY ALL WIVES MAY RULE THEIR HUSBANDS.—After remarking that "it is a matter of considerable importance that, in estimating the extent of an act with its relative causes, we allow an ample margin for side winds," a London essayist observes: "To the husbands of ordinary strength of mind, anything like feminine despotism is particularly irksome. There are weak and not wholly indifferent men who like to be hen-pecked; but, as a rule, the best husbands are drawn from the ranks of those who detest conjugal tyranny. But the prudent wife will rule her husband—be he never so strong, never so self-willed—by the happy employment of the side wind judiciously set in motion. She weans him from this passion, directs him to that pursuit, controls the other failing, opens out new cares and new interests, until, like the sculptured virgin's foot, worn away by the kisses of innumerable worshippers, the angularities and nodosities disappear, though every application of the smoothing

process has been as soft as each adorer's kiss. The medal has its reverse, of course, and a fearful picture it presents of the side wind unwisely employed—of the nagging, the taunts, the want of sympathy, the thousand and one forms of domestic misery (none of them actual offences, all of them nameless, indefinable acts of oppression, mere side-winds of fatality,) which all alienate a man more and more from his home. But the former picture is the pleasanter and the more profitable to dwell upon. As within his own doors, so without in the world, a man is exposed to the side winds without number—in the mart, the studio, the pulpit, the field.

**AN ELOQUENT PASSAGE.**

"It can not be that earth is man's only abiding place. It can not be that our life is a bubble cast up by the ocean of eternity to float a moment upon its waves, and sink into nothingness. Else, why these high and glorious aspirations which leap like angels from the temple of our hearts, forever wandering unsatisfied? Why is it that the rainbow and cloud come over us with a beauty that is not of earth, and then pass off to leave us to muse on their loveliness? Why is it that the stars which hold their festival around the midnight throne, are set above the grasp of our limited faculties, forever mocking us with their unapproachable glory? And finally, why is it that the brightest forms of human beauty are presented to our view and taken from us, leaving the thousand streams of our affections to flow back in Alpine torrents upon our hearts? We were born for a higher destiny than earth. There is a realm where the rainbow never fades, where the stars will be spread out before us like the island that slumbers on the ocean, and where the beautiful beings that pass before us like shadows, will stay forever in our presence."—G.D. Prentice.

NEVER 'KNOCK UNDER.'—No never. Always rally your forces for another and more desperate assault upon adversity. If calumny assails you, and the world, as it is apt to do in such cases, takes part with your traducers, don't turn moody and misanthropic, or, worse still, seek to drown your unhappiness in dissipation. Bide your time. Disprove the slander if you can; if not live it down. If poverty come upon you, as the presence of a thief in the night—what then? Let it rouse you as the presence of a real thief would do, to energetic action. No matter how deeply you may have got into hot water—always provided that you did not help the father of lies to heat it—your case, if you are made of the right sort of stuff, is not desperate; for it is in accord with the divine order and sweep of things that life should have no difficulties which an honest determined man, with heaven's help, can not surmount.—Ex

—To be always intending to live a new life, but never find time to set about it, is as if a man should put off eating and drinking from one day to another until he is starved or destroyed.

Men will mourn for the evil which sin brings, but not for sin which brings the evil.

Tailor's revenge—Giving a customer fits.