cure, and of very poor quality when it is made. Most kinds of stock will reject much of it if they are not driven to eat it by hunger. The sod on which lodged grass and clover rest is always insured by being covered by a substance that acts like a mulch. Grass and clover are sometimes blown down by a violent wind, or beaten down by storms. When such is the case, it is necessary to cut and cure them as best one can. In many cases, however, the farmer can see, by the condition of the plants, that they will lodge unless they are cut very early. The stalks are so tall, and the foliage is so heavy, that it is difficult for the plants to sustain themselves. When this is the case, no time should be lost in putting in the mower or scythe. By cutting early, lodging will be prevented and the hay will be of good quality. This practice involves the necessity of cutting the grass or clover a second time, but it is much easier to harvest two crops that stand upright, than one that is stretched out on the surface of the ground. With the present means for harvesting the hay crop, the labour of cutting and curing is slight, when there is no delay in consequence of obstructions. Heavy grass and clover should be cut early, in order to prevent the stalks from becoming large and coarse. By cutting twice a large amount of hay can be obtained, and it will be of the best quality. That obtained by the last cutting will be of special value for young stock. —*Exchange.*

A VALUABLE TABLE.

The following table gives the quantity of seed and number of plants requisite to crop an acre of land, and will prove valuable to farmers and gardeners, and to families generally who may have only a small garden. It can always be referred to, to set one right in any matter of doubt connected with the subjects involved:

Asparagus in 12-inch drills, 16 quarts.
Asparagus plants 4 by 1½ feet, 8,000.
Barley, 2½ bushels.
Beans, bush, in drills 2½ feet, 1½ bushels.
Beans, pole, Lima, 4 by 4 feet, 20 quarts.
Beans, Carolina, prolific, etc., 4 by 3, 10 quarts.
Beets, mangolds, drills, 2½ feet, 9 pounds.
Broom corn in drills, 12 pounds.
Cabbage, outside, for transplanting, 12 ounces.
Cabbage sown in frames, 4 ounces.
Carrot in drills, 2½ feet, 4 pounds.
Celery, seed, 8 ounces.
Celery, plant, 4 by ½ feet, 25,000.
Clover, white Dutch, 13 pounds.
Clover, Lucerne, 10 pounds.
Clover, Alsike, 6 pounds.
Clover, large red with timothy, 12 pounds.
Clover, large red without timothy, 16 pounds.
Corn, sugar, 10 quarts.
Corn, field, 8 quarts.
Corn, salad, drill ten inches, 25 pounds.
Cucumber, in hills, 3 quarts.
Cucumber, in drills, 4 quarts.
Egg-plant, plants, 3 by 2 feet, 4 ounces.
Endive, in drills, 2½ feet, 3 pounds.
Flax, broadcast, 20 quarts.
Grass, timothy, with clover, 6 quarts.
Grass, timothy, without clover, 10 quarts.
Grass, orchard, 25 quarts.
Grass, red top or herds, 20 quarts.
Grass, blue, 28 quarts.
Grass, rye, 20 quarts.
Grass, millet, 32 quarts.
Hemp, broadcast, ½ bushel.
Kale, German greens, 8 pounds.
Lettuce, in rows, 2½ feet, 3 pounds.
Leek, 4 pounds,
Lawn grass, 35 pounds.
Melons, water, in hills 8 by 8 feet, 3 pounds.
Melons, citrons, in hills 4 by 4 feet, 2 pounds.
Oats, 2 bushels.
Okra, in drills, 2½ by ½ feet, 20 pounds.
Onion, in beds for sets, 50 pounds.
Onion, in rows for large bulbs, 7 pounds.
Parsnip, in drills, 2½ feet, 5 pounds.
Pepper, plants, 2½ by 1 foot, 17,500.
Pumpkin, in hills 8 by 8 feet, 2 quarts.
Parsley, in drills 2 feet, 4 pounds.
Peas, in drills, short varieties, 2 bushels.
Peas, in drills, tall varieties, 1 to 1½ bushels.
Peas, broadcast, 3 bushels.
Potatoes, 8 bushels.
Radish, in drills 2 feet, 10 pounds.
Rye, broadcast, 1½ bushels.
Rye, drilled, 1½ bushels.
Salsify, in drills, 2½ feet, 10 pounds.
Spinach, broadcast, 80 pounds.
Squash, bush, in hills 4 by 4 feet, 3 pounds.
Squash, running, 8 by 8 feet, 3 pounds.
Sorghum, 4 quarts.
Turnips, in drills 2 feet, 3 pounds.
Turnips, broadcast, 3 pounds.
Tomatoes, in frames, 3 ounces.
Tomatoes, seed in hills 3 by 3 feet, 3 ounces.
Tomatoes, plants, 3,800.
Wheat, in drills, 1½ bushels.
Wheat, broadcast, 2 bushels.

RECUPERATING PASTURES.

In England the pastures of the great county of Cheshire became so exhausted as to cease to be valuable for the purposes for which they had before been considered. With the other sections of England, bone dust was introduced and used particularly as a *top dressing* upon their grass lands, and the old pastures have increased in feeding stock from thirty to fifty per cent.; and we believe that in this country equally beneficial results are being experienced by the same means, and wherever it has been tried the farmer will be induced to extend the plan in the future. It not only gives the pasture a fresh start, but it is a dressing that will last quite a number of years; besides, the properties of bone enter the grass, thus giving the cattle in a natural way what they very much need, and saves giving them bone meal in their feed. A dressing of 250 to 400 pounds per acre would last a number of years. The bone dust should be sown broadcast, as early as possible in the spring, when the young grass is starting. Hen manure can be used with good success by compositing with ground bone, ashes or lime. Cover with loam or muck two or three weeks until it heats, then work it over and mix it well with loam or muck to reduce to the proper strength, and apply in the hills. It is one of our best fertilizers.

SHRINKAGE OF GRAIN.

Farmers rarely gain by holding on to their grain after it is fit for market, when the shrinkage is taken into account. Wheat from the time it is threshed will shrink two quarts to the bushel, or six per cent. in six months, in the most favourable circumstances. Hence ninety-four cents a bushel for wheat when first threshed in August, is as good, taking into account the shrinkage alone, as one dollar in the following February.

Corn shrinks much more from the time it is husked. One hundred bushels of ears, as they come from the field in November, will be reduced to not far from eighty; so that forty cents a bushel for corn in the ear, as it comes from the field, is as good as fifty cents in March, shrinkage only being taken into account.

In the case of potatoes—taking those that rot and are otherwise lost, together with the shrinkage—there is but little doubt that between October and June the loss to the owner is not less than thirty-three per cent.

This estimate is taken on the basis of interest at seven per cent., and takes no account of loss by vermin.—*Exchange.*

SMALL THINGS.

It is a small matter to take horses across the field for their water; it seems to cost nothing, yet if a farmer's time or that of his hired man is worth anything, it costs a great deal in the course of a year. It is a small matter to chop each day's wood upon the day it is used, and thus have it all fresh; but fifteen minutes in harvest-time is worth more than in January; besides, there are vastly more economical methods of making firewood than with an axe. It is a very little matter to tighten a loose nut, but it sometimes costs life and limb not to do it. A pear tree here, and a peach tree there, cost so little that one is inclined to think they are of no account, but when the fruit is ripe they are appreciated. A single step from one room to another is "only one step," but the thought of a stairway made of these steps during a lifetime is enough to almost make a woman's back ache. Look well to the details, that the little things are right, for it pays in the end.—*American Agriculturist.*

PASTURE GRASS.

The yield of grass in most pastures might be doubled by keeping the weeds out of them, and by not allowing the grass to be cropped too short. A large amount of the fertilizing material in land is allowed to be absorbed by worthless weeds and thistles. Grass should take the place of these, and would if they were kept weeded out. On a late visit to Kentucky we found most luxuriant pastures with scarcely a weed in them. This was soon accounted for as we seen gangs of men pulling out the weeds. Where they are very thick, as they are in most pastures, the mowing machine should be freely used, allowing none of the weeds to go to seed.—*N. J. Coleman, in Rural World.*

THE CLOVER CROP.

I cut when the heads begin to show about one-half brown. If the weather is clear, and I have one day of sunshine, I haul in the next day, commencing as soon as the dew is off. When the clover is extra heavy, in order to hasten the curing, I have it scattered. I cut no more one day than I can save the next. I have had but little experience in stacking clover, or anything else, as I always put everything in my barn. In mowing away clover I put in compactly, using about one peck of salt to the ton. If properly cured, I have never suffered any loss, mow-burning or moulding, and have good, bright, sweet food.—*Cor. Homestead.*

ORCHARD grass is one of the earliest to ripen, coming into flower with the June or Kentucky blue grass. For seeding and early mowing, two bushels orchard grass, one bushel June grass, and ten pounds common red clover make a desirable proportion. Orchard grass is too tender to bear very late fall seeding, but after the first year it is as hardy as other growers. Orchard grass should be cultivated on the best grass land, or such as may be expected, under high manuring, to produce heavy rowen crops every season. Fields sown early in the spring on rich land have given three heavy cuttings the same year. Dry lands, however, like sandy plains or gravelly knolls, are unsuited to it; so are level meadows, which are liable to overflow in winter and to coatings of ice.