

things equal, the spring crops, which are early sown, give the best and largest products. The instant that your soil is properly dry, plough at a depth not less than six or seven inches, as barley enters deeper than many other kinds of grain. If the soil is well pulverized, as it ought to be after turnips, proceed to sow your barley broad cast, and cover all with your short toothed harrow; the last operation will be to sow and roll your clover seed, being your next crop in rotation.

Clover.—This is found in many countries growing spontaneously, as shown by its names: hence Italian, Dutch, Spanish, Clover of Normandy, &c. It has been long cultivated, say for two hundred years, and is now, and has been long an article of export from England to her West India Colonies, and even to the Spanish Main; it is considered good for its effect on the soil as an ameliorating production, from its peculiar roots and leaves. It is almost invariably sown with barley or other spring grain, and rarely by itself. The advantages of this practice are three: 1st, the preparation given the soil for the grain crop, is just what should be done for the clover. 2ndly, the protection given by the barley to the young clover, against heat and dryness; and 3rdly, the improved condition in which it leaves the soil for subsequent culture. Hence in sowing the barley, care must be taken not to sow too thick, else much and serious injury may be done to the young clover for want of proper ventilation. I add two more conditions to make all certain, and to ensure a good crop: 1st, that your seed be good; and 2nd, that it be equally and regularly sown. The tests for good seed are, its comparative size and weight, the largest and heaviest being always the best. Its plumpness, its yellow or purple skin, its clearness or separation from other seeds and from dirt. The quantity of seed to be sown per acre depends in a great degree upon the soil. If good and rich, ten or twelve pounds are plenty; if poor, twenty-five pounds may not be sufficient; hence select judiciously. Never sow your clover with timothy or rye grass, as all these do not ripen alike, nor with winter grain of any kind, as much of it will perish. Better wait for the soil to acquire a temperature congenial to vegetation. By the time your barley is harvested, your clover will be able to live alone, and if not pastured, to resist the ensuing winter, and during the next summer to reward your industry by two abundant crops of grass and hay. The proper time to cut your clover, depends on various circumstances: 1st, clover cut before it flowers abounds in water, has little nutritive matter, and is apt to produce indigestion in cattle fed upon it. This is called "*horing*," and is prevented by giving the cattle a little water before feeding. 2ndly, the stems of clover cut after seeding are hard and woody, and no longer hold the leaf. 3rdly, all plants permitted to seed, exhaust the soil; to this clover is no exception. From all these facts, and to conclude, the best time to cut your clover appears to be the short period between the flowering and seeding, whether regarded as forage or as an ameliorating crop; but if seed is the principal object, the Dutch practice is probably the best; when the first crop is cut, before it flowers, and the second is reserved for seed. Our next way to go to work will be to plough in the clover stubble, as preparing for, say,

Wheat.—This great staple of this and every other country, so useful to mankind, and forming so large a portion of human subsistence, is very fortunately found to adapt itself to a great variety of soils and climates. It grows luxuriantly in clay, in loam, in calcareous earth, and even in sand when aided by suitable manure, or a prudent succession of succulent crops. Say potatoes, peas, vetches or clover, &c. It is found in the frozen regions of the north, and in the south under the scorching sun of Africa. And it yields, according to Pliny, more than one hundred-fold. On its introduction to ancient Rome, its use soon usurped and superseded that of barley and rye, and in Europe at the present day it is christened *Corn*, par excellence. Of this invaluable grain there are four species, say, Polish, Many-headed, Spelt's, and Common Wheat. These are the kinds known generally in Europe, and here partially, but of late several others have been introduced, as the Siberian, Black Sea, Fay, Soals, &c. These varieties are now being tested in our district, but it would be imprudent to give any opinion on their merits, till sufficient time elapsed for the trial. Besides these noted, there are many other varieties, indeed so numerous that it would be useless to mention them, but the most general classification is according to colour, hence Red and White, Spring and Fall. The White Wheats are considered more delicate than the Red; but the latter, though seldom sown on rich or warm soils, are generally found most profitable, being more hardy and early on poor and inferior land, and even in a more unfavourable climate.

The most important matter to which I would call the particular care and attention of the farmer is the selection of the seed, and its preparation for sowing; without which all else is vanity and vexation of spirit. Seed selected from a good crop of the preceding year, and fully ripe, as seed should always be, and also well preserved, put through the fanning mill two or three times, and then washed in hot water with fresh lime thrown in; clean and new ashes will do well also as a substitute. This washing must not be forgotten, for this good reason also, that all the shrunk and shrivelled grains, and even any foreign grains, will float on the surface, and hence be skimmed off. This will remove the dust of smut and rust, &c., &c., and prevents their propagation. Next process, roll well the seed in flour of gypsum till dry.

The time, mode, and quantity ought next to arrest our attention. Early sowing, either for spring or fall, seems the best practice, but this depends on circumstances. The hand is the best machine yet discovered; but some approved machines have been used with much satisfaction and saving, hence again no opinion is of much use. Rich lands require less seed than poor, but experience has found that if attention be paid to early sowing, less seed will do better than a much larger quantity sown later. Two to four bushels per acre are used, and with various results, as the soil,