

grass among the clover. This farm (100 acres) was on a chalk subsoil and averaged, formerly, 56 bushels of barley, and 44 bushels of wheat to the acre, so the loss to the proprietor, who farmed it himself, was something fearful.

Tares, or Vetches. (1)—This is the next crop on our list, and well known to every farmer. It will grow well on all soil, but prefers a clay-loam. On sands, or gravels, it demands a fair dressing of manure, but on heavy land, in tolerable condition, it can do without. As tares are inclined to fall down when they are at their best, it is customary to sow 2 or 3 pecks of rye, or oats, per acre with them, but as rye soon becomes uneatable, and horses don't care much for green oats, half a bushel of wheat, at present prices, would be worth trying.

The quantity of seed required is $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, when the land is in fair order, but 3 bushels would not be too much in rough ground. There are two sorts, the winter and the spring tares; the seed of the former is small, that of the latter much larger, but the quality of the forage of the winter tares is so much superior to that of the spring tares that, in the East of England, they are sown invariably to the utter exclusion of the other sort. A couple of bushels of plaster to the acre, on the young plant, will materially assist the yield. It is well to observe that nothing is gained by very luxuriant crops of tares, as they always fall down and waste themselves, unless cut at the critical time of coming into bloom.

A very productive mixture for forage is: $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of tares, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of pease, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of horse-beans and $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat. Of course, the roller must follow the harrow at seed-time, or else the unhappy man who mows the crop will lose his temper, and the Farmer's time, pretty frequently. Two sowings should be made, one 3 weeks after the other; the second will, probably just fill up the interval between the first and second crops of Clover.

As to maize or Indian corn, every farmer in the Province knows more about its value and cultivation than we do, so there is no need for us to expatiate on it, except to say that, in case of general failure of other fodder-crops, like this season, we should recommend, if late, its being sown thick; as the best means of making it come to the scythe

rapidly. The quality will not be so good, of course.

(To be continued.)

THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF SUCCESSFUL FARMING.

Mr. D. M. Macpherson discusses Prof. Robertson's and Dr. Saunders' Theories and makes a practical proposal.

To the Editor of Farming:

I have read with considerable interest and amusement the different articles written of late on "The basic principles underlying successful farming," by two of the most prominent professional teachers of agriculture. "When doctors disagree patients should take their prescribed medicine with caution." So when it is so apparent that there is a disagreement and difference of opinion as to the correct diagnosis, and prescribed requirements to discover the causes of loss in farm work, and create new conditions which will increase profits, as defined by Prof. Robertson and Director Saunders, their statements must be taken with caution. Such being apparent it is quite proper that these important matters should be investigated, tested and, if possible, establish who is right and who is wrong. Having carefully perused the writings of these two gentlemen bearing upon these topics I take the liberty of offering a few observations to be printed in your journal if you consider it proper to do so.

The conclusions arrived at as to the difference in theories propounded by these two gentlemen are very small indeed. Both are right up to a certain point, and both are wrong otherwise. Each in their different departments of scientific skill expresses a part of a truth as to the combination of facts which make up the whole truth. Such being the case, a part of the whole truth expressed and discussed is a very difficult position to define as being correct or in error.

The whole truth or basic principles which underlie *maximum, progressive, and profitable farming* is a combination of scientific principles backed up by natural law practically applied. When fully understood and put into practice they cover a wide field of scientific truth woven into a combination so intricate and ultra-dependent that when one part is omitted or overlooked the whole

(1) Erroneously called by the French-Canadians "lentille," which is quite a different thing—*la vesce* is the proper name. Ed.