

Our own idea is emphatically this—on heavy land, with an impervious subsoil, nothing would tempt us to make the ridges of a greater width than eight feet, and we would have the harrows constructed to cover the whole ridge, and the horses yoked to the whipple trees in such a fashion that they should walk in the open furrows, (we speak of course of sowing time) and never set a foot on the ploughed land, except in turning at the headlands.

The position that the ridges should occupy is easily settled—up and down the greatest fall—except in the case of a very steep incline, when they should slant across the fall, both to ease the horses in their work, and to avoid the too rapid rush of water from the spring thaw and the subsequent rains. In ploughing the last furrows of ridges—*crumb*, or *hint-end* furrows—we cannot sufficiently recommend the practice of putting the horses *atrip*, or one before the other. This need not be done till the day's work is nearly at an end, and probably a boy will be wanted to drive the team, as it is of great importance that these furrows should be well laid up, and not, as is too often seen, allowed to lie loosely scattered in the open furrows.

There should, it is hardly necessary to add, be cross water-furrows drawn after the ploughing is finished, and they should be numerous, particularly in the hollow places, and on side hills.

### FALL PLOUGHING.—PLOUGHING MATCHES.

To the Editor of the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

Dear Sir,—As we are nearing the close of the ploughing time, I thought a few notes would not be out of place. Some have already finished their fall ploughing, some would not be finished if it kept open all the month of November; not that they have so very much to do, but that slow half hearted way some people have of doing their work, always behind hand.

In one of my former letters to the JOURNAL, I was writing about ploughing, when a gentleman met me and asked why I did not tell people how to plough, of course I told him I was only reporting how much was done, and the way in which it was done, not the way to do it.

People usually are very apt critics, but all must know, whoever pretends to know anything, that

it is much easier to find fault, than it is to suggest a remedy.

Before beginning to say anything on ploughing, let me say that I was sorry to see so much splendid corn fodder wasted this year, not only among my neighbors, but on the island of Montreal. On the 15th of October lots of it not cut between Montreal and Montreal Junction, it seems to me to be a great waste, corn should be cut before the frost arrives, early in September if possible, otherwise there is a terrible loss. If there is no silo in which to store it, the corn should be made up into sheaves and tied, and put up in stooks until perfectly dry, when it may be stored in a mow or barn floor on end, never thrown down on its side, as it is so apt to mould and spoil it. If saved in this way it makes splendid fodder for cows and is very much relished by them when fed only once a day: this is perhaps enough on the corn question for this time.

The fall has been on the dry side for some who had very stiff clay, but the rain during the past three days will make it go well now. I am, Mr. Editor, of your opinion regarding shallow vs. deep ploughing, with the exception of ploughing in sod, I think deep ploughing much preferable. For turning in sod my idea is not over 6 inches deep, I think 5½ inches better, the second or third time an inch or so deeper each time, if the ground is of a clayey soil, if light sandy soil perhaps it would be just as well not too deep.

Farmers should try if possible and get as much as possible done in the fall, if they have any fields with bad weeds in them, plough early and get the seeds to sprout, and then if necessary plough again in the spring, it makes manure to plough in as much humus as possible—be sure and have all cross furrows cleaned, end ridges ploughed, and every avenue for the water to escape to be opened out—do not allow the water to lie on the ground if at all possible to prevent it.

With regard to ploughing matches there have been quite a few so far, and quite an interest taken in each one. I see reports from Compton, Beauharnois, Huntingdon, Chateauguay, Hochelaga, but no report from Deux Montagnes.

I visited the Hochelaga county match, held on the farm of Mr. James Fletcher, Longue Pointe, on the 25th inst.; there were twenty-two competitors in the several classes. I was very much surprised to see so many wooden ploughs, competing in the same class with iron ploughs, there were in all 9