

European Countries have followed the example, although with inferior success; and the United States are now beginning to follow with an earnestness of purpose, and the advantages of accumulated knowledge, which bid fair, at no distant day, to place them in the van of the march of agricultural improvement.—Will Canada content herself with slowly jogging on, while the rest of the world is progressing with daily increasing speed? We trow not. Our progress hitherto, in several important departments of human industry, at least, is not to be despised; and by concentrating our efforts, in the spirit of an enlightened patriotism, on objects of undoubted utility, this country may be brought to a high state of cultivation, wealth and happiness.

Every effort, we are informed, will be made by the Directors and Local Committee of the Provincial Association, towards increasing the attractiveness and utility of the next exhibition. We trust their exertions will be liberally supported by the public. Apart from a hearty co-operation on the part of the people, it is impossible that any movements of this sort can prove successful. Government ought, and no doubt will, do something; but it should never be forgotten, that the people only can render efforts of this nature of great and permanent value to the country. We have heard complaints that several of the premiums of the Provincial Association are too small, and that sufficient inducement is not held out to ingenuity and enterprise. There is without doubt some justice in these complaints; several productions that we could name, both of our soil and of our mechanics' skill, should have higher awards granted them. Now this defect admits of but one remedy, which the public has in its own keeping, viz., a more general and liberal support of the Society from all classes of the community. The Provincial Association, it should be borne in mind, is not a sectional or class institution; it is by no means limited even to agriculture, unquestionably by far the largest interest in the country; but it seeks to encourage and receives within its wide embrace, every art and industrial pursuit—the ornamental with the more obviously useful—that ministers to the necessities or refinement of mankind. A Society, therefore, having such high and comprehensive aims, has an undoubted claim on the liberal and hearty support of all true friends of their country.

ON PRACTICAL FARMING.

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TO IMPROVE SANDY SOILS.

Draw on clay in the autumn, and spread it on the land, so that the frost will pulverize and make it firm. The quantity depends on the soil. If very sandy, more will be required: I think about forty to fifty good loads per acre will be enough. One hundred bushels of lime ought to be put to the acre once in fifteen years. Under this process, and with proper manure, I will warrant a good crop of wheat, or any other crop you please.

CLAY LOAM SOILS; OR FIRST RATE LAND.

If the land is in a rough state, full of stones, &c.,—I do not mean new land, stumpy—but full of thistles, and weeds and trash, as farms in general are, the same plan must be followed, the stones being taken off, and the land brought into a proper state to stock with wheat, as noticed before. Stock with eight or ten pounds of clover seed, so as to provide a ley.

TO COMMENCE A ROTATION OF CROPS.

Sow, first year, peas, corn, potatoes, or any other roots. On land treated in this way with long fresh manure, I have this year obtained the first premium on peas and potatoes. It will stand the drought better than any other way that I have tried. Second year, spring wheat, barley, and oats. Stock with eight or ten pounds of clover seed. Third and fourth years in clover: one year cut for hay; two crops in the second year. Let it grow until in blossom: turn your swine and cattle in, to tramp down, but do not feed too close. Then, about the end of August, plough all under together. The manure that falls from the cattle, with the clover, will make a good coat of manure for fall wheat, to follow immediately. Ridge from sixteen to twenty feet. In this way you will get four crops in five years by one coat of manure from the barn—two of wheat, if you prefer it, or barley and peas, which are valuable crops. Sow plaster on your clover.

Thus far the extracts—to which I would add this suggestion. As the culture of root crops is progressing amongst us, and as the winter wheat crop is becoming so precarious, as to render a resort to spring wheat advisable, the following course would be better adapted to our husbandry than the one recommended above.

First year.—On clover ley and long manure sow peas, corn, potatoes, and roots.

Second year.—Spring wheat, with clover seed.

Third year.—Clover, cut, and followed by turnip, or, if you prefer, let your clover grow after cutting, and pasture.

Fourth year.—Barley or oats, with grass seed and clover seed.

Fifth year.—Cut for hay.

Sixth year.—Pasture.

In this way seven crops would be obtained in six years: three of them would be decidedly ameliorating, and two particularly exhausting; while four of the six years would yield pasture in autumn.

Two objections may be started to this course:

First, that clover cannot be cut in time to get in the rutabaga in the third year. Clover, however, (cut by the 20th or 25th of June), and white turnips four weeks later than this, will do.

Second, that sowing clover and grass seed twice in the course, or rotation, is too expensive. To this I answer, that I have found the sowing of clover seed with all small grains profitable for pasture, paying for the seed besides providing clover ley for the land.

The other qualities of land described above I have upon my own farm.