

the muck, he turns under the surface vegetation, and puts on a crop of clover, always accompanying this with the clover, and after the year's crop from this last, he never fails in a fair yield of corn. On a field thus treated, without any dressing of muck, he got twenty seven bushels of corn per acre for the first crop, and after an interval of another season, obtained thirty three bushels on the same land, showing a decided increase in the productiveness of the soil. A slight dressing of plaster is generally, though not always, used, and never exceeds half a bushel to the acre. Mr. C. admits that more plaster might be useful, we think that one to two bushels per acre would be applied with decided advantage, but it is purchased at a high price, about \$10 per ton, and as economy and a self-sustaining policy has been a prominent principle in this system, this is all that has thus far been afforded. The muck would in all cases be a valuable, remunerating addition, but this he has not always the time to give, and at the price he has paid for his land, he can afford to leave it once in two or three years. In clover, by which it is renovated, and for the present perhaps this may be the most judicious plan. As lands become dearer, however, which they are rapidly doing under this management, they being now worth \$20 to \$30 per acre, of no better quality than such as he bought a few years since at \$8 to \$12, the policy of manuring will become more expedient, though the rapidly improving nature of this system will give greater efficacy to the clover crop as a fertilizer.

It is surprising to see the elevated hills and barren plains, that so lately exhibited nothing but a crawling sand, by the operations of the clover roots in this otherwise impracticable material, gradually changing its inhospitable character to a firmly connected mass, showing a future since that would gratify the most practised eye. Mr. Clark acknowledges his surprise at the facility with which the clover takes, and attributes it mainly to the use of the roller. We are inclined to concede much to that instrument, but think for his name and other clover he is greatly indebted to the plaster. Of this we have more to say hereafter.

We observed the woodchucks, who are arrant epicures and gourmands in their selection of esculents, and especially of sweet and abundant clover fields, are thoroughly colonized over all the fields of Mr. C. They follow him, as our politicians do the successful candidate of executive dispensations for John Randolph's seven principles, the five leaves and two fishes. They snuff his green patches of trefoils, and instantly abandon the poverty-stricken fields of his unthrifty neighbors. His crop of woodchucks, though not as important as the shoe crop at Lynn may soon be well worth the harvesting.

Mr. C. has not pursued this cultivation sufficiently long to have matured a system of rotation, which, however, he virtually practices with some variations, from his own judgment. A little more experience will enable him to determine, whether a crop can be taken more advantageously every second or every third year; but we are satisfied with a moderate dressing for the corn, the rotation might be of three years duration, affording alternately corn, rye, and clover, the last to be added entire when dry, to the soil, for its improvement. Green crops are never used as improvers, they always being allowed to mature before turning under. Plaster should always be added, unless ashes or lime can be more economically applied; but the former is limited in supply, and the latter is to be had only at a price which will effectually prevent its use in this region.

Here, then, we have a system for reclaiming barren wastes within every one's reach; costing nothing, and yielding a great deal; and if this were rightly carried into practice, how soon should we see the naked sand banks, that exist, to a greater or less extent, everywhere between the Alleghenias and Atlantic, converted into verdant, luxuriant fields. Yet for the want of the application and steady perseverance in this plain, straightforward, simple course, how many will continue to live on in ignorant poverty, when they might with less toil, and the use of a moderate share of intelligence, have a competency. A single bar left down in this practice, lets in the whole herd of Pharaoh's lean kine. Without the roller and plaster you get no clover; if you cut off the clover when grown, you get no subsequent crops; or if you crop too closely or rapidly, the clover-bearing properties of the soil are exhausted, and new manures, or years of idle, wasteful fallow are necessary to resuscitate it; whereas, by a careful observance of the above plan, the ground is constantly and profitably at work, bearing its burdens on equitable shares, giving one-half or two-thirds to you, and reserving the remainder to itself, to enable it to continue the supply. Though

Mr. C. does not connect any grazing or stock feeding with the operations, it is easy to see how it can most advantageously and profitably be associated with them. Cattle and sheep can be put on to the rye fields both in the fall and spring, when sufficient wheat and stout to justify it, and when well sodded over with clover, what more mutually advantageous to cattle and land than such copartnership.

We must add a word for the benefit of such of our readers as have no sandy or sterile soils, nothing but virgin fertility, has been enumerated to be exhausted. We beg all such to consider the principles for reclaiming, are the principles for preserving such that no land is so rich but that it can be exhausted, unless by judicious managements, and that there is more profit in sustaining their fertility in the highest condition of fertility, than by a wasteful system of cropping, first to reduce them, to be resuscitated again by some painful efforts, or abandoned to posterity to be gradually reclaimed by the sure, though diuturn operations of nature, to waste its fertility in which they might easily have been preserved.

There are some particular advantages that attach to the tillage of light sandy soils. They require the least possible effort to plow and harrow, and these operations can be performed at an early season when not frozen, no season is too wet, or too early for them. They require no underdraining, and the food for vegetation in whatever shape it is added, however crude and indigestible, immediately converted into pabulum for the required crop. The amount of corn and rye afforded per acre would not satisfy a Western farmer, and very properly too, but he must recollect that the prices seldom exceed one-half of those obtained at the East, rye corn being worth usually sixty to ninety cents per bushel, and straw and stalks go far towards meeting the wants of culture. The luxuries also of good buildings, which are always to be had for less than east, good roads, schools, and churches, and all the accompaniments of a matured and well ordered society are to be had, and are cogent reasons for reconciling the reflecting mind to the absence of that superabundant fertility which so universally characterizes the West.

RECIPES

TO DYE WOOL BLUE.—Put into the copper 40 gallons water, potash, 6lb bran, and 3lb madder—make it boil. Grind 6lb Indigo fine in water, and put it in and stir it carefully. On the vat, place a slow fire about it, stir it every twelve hours, 48 hours, or when it is green with coppery flakes, or blue sea is fit for use.—Wet the wool in warm water, squeeze, plunge it and keep it moving, often airing it, till it is deep enough. When the dye grows weak add a little more potash, madder and bran. *Berthollet.*

BEST BLACK ON WOOL.—Dye deep blue; then well washed. 50lb of wool, take 8lb logwood and 8lb of galls powdered; put it in a bag for 12 hours. Put one-third the liquor into a boiler, with one pound of verdigris; work the wool in this very hot but not boiling for 2 hours—take it out, add another third 4lb coppers; let it cool half an hour, then put in the stuff, work it for an hour, then spread it to air; add the last third, in ten pounds dried sumach leaves, make it boil; put in cold water, and 1lb coppers. Work the stuff in it one hour, then wash, air, and put it in again for an hour—wash till the water is clear, and then put it in a moderately warm yellow dye with weld.—*Berthollet.*

BLUE FOR COTTON AND LINEN.—1 part indigo, 2 parts copper and 2 lime, (fresh burnt, and of the best quality.) Grind the indigo fine with water, then mix all in cold water, stir it for 24 hours, then let it stand two days. Dip the yarn in the dye, wring it, repeat this three or four times, and bring it put to dry it will be a light blue. If this work is repeated the two following mornings it will be a dark blue, a very bright colour, but not so durable. Much depends on the goodness of the lime, which should be white and very strong.—Ed. C. F.

"THE COLONIAL FARMER,"

TITUS SMITH, EDITOR; R. NUGENT, PROPRIETOR, Is published semi-monthly at the Novascotian Office, Halifax.

TERMS—One copy, 3s., Six copies, 25s., Twelve copies, 45s., Twenty five copies, 100s per annum—in all cases in advance.