

cause of the differences of soil and circumstances. He did not follow the same rotation in every field himself, but changed them to suit circumstances. He proceeded to speak of what he conceived to be the foundation of any rotation—viz., successful grass-growing, and especially that of clover. If the rotation would not permit of the growing of a good crop of grass, no matter what the rotation was, it would not be successful. He considered this to be one of the pillars of successful grass-growing. This was a matter which baffled him more than anything else. The usual plan he found to be a complete failure, but it was when he attempted to seed down a field freshly manured that he had better success. He grew his roots on a field like that after grass, ploughed the seed under late in the fall or early in the spring, followed that with barley, then manure and wheat, and then seeded down if it needed rest. They should bear in mind that when the grass was seeded down the ground got the benefit. Of course the number of years depended upon circumstances, but three years was his aim. The idea that farmers had of barley this year, wheat next year, and something else the following year, was all wrong, and did more to ruin farmers than anything else. If they nursed their farms more, and were not so hasty in attempting to get rich, they would find in ten years that they had made more money. The plan of growing all of one article in a year, to the exclusion of other things, left them always a year behind the high-priced product. When barley would be a good price this year they would have all wheat, and so with other things. If they would work without paying so much attention to making money, they would find that they would have something that would pay well, and they would make more money in the long run. For

#### MANURE IN THE GROWING OF CLOVER

he depended almost entirely upon two things—plaster and barn-yard manure—as he need not look for anything better. A great many had the idea that the plaster ought to be scattered upon the leaves when damp, but that was a mistake. It ought to be got into the ground before it would have its effect. It should be sowed early in the spring, so as to get the benefit of the spring rains. As to barn-yard manure, the best was required, and stock would have to be fed pretty well in order to produce the best. He would not call him a successful farmer who devoted his attention entirely to grain-growing, and kept a few cattle just to consume his straw; or the man who could show some grand specimens of live stock, and at the same time had a field full of rubbish. Every department should receive due attention, and in this way they would be most likely to reach the success which they desired. If they kept stock, they should endeavour to keep the best. They could not all go into fancy stock raising, but it was profitable to secure good stock by using the males of those different varieties which made the best kind of animals. In this way they should endeavour to produce the best meat with which to get their share of the trade in the markets which were opening up to them in the Old World. A requisite to successful stock raising was the care of animals during their first

year. The importance of this he could not urge too strongly. And while taking good care of them, if they got a pound of flesh on the animal they should not let it off, for they would only have to put it on again, which would add to the cost of the animal. Mr. Dryden then gave some practical advice as to the manner in which all farm work ought to be done. Whatever was worth doing at all was worth doing well, and should be done in the best manner possible. If anyone supposed that a lazy, brainless fellow could make a successful farmer, he was mistaken. He did not know of any industry which required more judgment, thought, wisdom and discretion. The last element of success in a farmer to which he called attention, he did not think would be readily assented to. It was

#### PAST FAILURES.

They were very inconvenient and embarrassing when one had a certain sum of money to raise, but they forced people to stop and think whether they were upon the right paths, and discuss things with their neighbours, and to make comparisons. People said that there was not so much advancement made in agriculture as in other pursuits, but they must remember that it took a year to make an experiment, and almost a lifetime to come to a right conclusion in connection with every matter. And this could be remedied to a great extent by meeting and comparing notes, and thus saving themselves the trouble and expense of going through experiments themselves. He congratulated the club on the success which it had attained. He concluded by urging the members to realize the nobility of their calling, and to strive to elevate it to the position which it ought to occupy among the industries of the country; and thus they would be able to do their part in raising Canada to her proper position as first among the nations. Mr. Dryden resumed his seat amid loud applause.

#### POTATOES UNDER STRAW.

Several years ago there was much said about growing potatoes under straw, and we published at the time several reports from those who had tried the method with success. Interest in the subject appears to be renewed, to judge from inquiries. The method is very simple: the land is prepared in the usual manner and the rows marked off; the sets are dropped along the rows, and very slightly, or not at all, covered with soil. The whole field, or bed, is then covered with eight or ten inches thickness of old straw. Nothing more is required until digging time, unless some strong weeds should make their way through the straw, and these may be pulled. It is claimed that the yield is larger and the potatoes are much handsomer than those treated in the usual manner.—*American Agriculturist*.

GROUND for early peas is best manured in the fall. If that has not been done, plough in the manure early, letting the ground warm a day or two, then harrow and let it have a day or two more of sun in which to warm up. By this practice you will get peas earlier than if you put the seed into the cold ground as soon as ploughed.

#### OREAM.

Oh! a wonderful thing is a seed,  
The one thing deathless ever,  
The one thing changeless, utterly true,  
Forever old, forever new,  
And fickle and faithless never.

Plant hate, and hate will spring,  
Plant love, and love will grow,  
To-day you may sow, to-morrow will bring  
The blossom that shows what sort of a thing  
Is the seed: the seed that you sow.

SHE told him that she could read his mind like an open book; and then softly added, "blank book."

THE flower which we do not pluck is the only one which never loses its beauty or its fragrance.—*W. T. Alger*.

I BELIEVE in a boy who has something of the man in him, and I believe in the man who has something of the boy in him.—*P. S. Henson*.

I would not waste my spring of youth  
In idle dalliance; I would plant rich seeds,  
To blossom in my manhood, and bear fruit  
When I am old.—*J. A. Hillhouse*.

A LITTLE Irish boy fell down and bit his tongue. He arose from the ground, crying and sobbing, and said to his brother: "Oh! Staphen, d'ye think will I ever spake again?"

A MAN was sitting for his photograph. The operator said, "Now, sir, look kind o' pleasant—smile a little." The man smiled, and then the operator exclaimed: "Oh, that will never do! It is too wide for the instrument."

ON Sunday morning she told her little niece to put on her things and take the bundle under her shawl to the lady's house. "Nobody will see it," she said. "But is it not Sunday under my shawl, aunt?" asked the child.

"WELL, neighbour Simmons, how much shall we put you down for to get a chandelier for our church?" *Neighbour S*: "Nothing. What do we want a chandelier for? We haven't got anybody in the parish who could play on it after we get it."

MRS. PARTINGTON is thinking about keeping a carriage. She says she has thought it all over, and come to the conclusion that brooches are almost too large; that coupons are too much shut up, but a nice stylish pony phantom seems to be just the thing.

"EDWARD," said Mr. Rice, "what do I hear? that you have disobeyed your grandmother, who told you just now not to jump down these steps?" "Grandma didn't tell us not to, papa; she only came to the door and said: 'I wouldn't jump down those steps, boys;' and I shouldn't think she would—an old lady like her!"

MRS. CROSSPATCH advertised for a servant, and on one appearing whom she wished to secure, began in a roundabout way to confess her fault of impatience. Bridget interrupted, declaring, "Och, mam, it's meself as don't mind a crossh mistress at all, at all." The lady engaged this treasure forthwith, but shortly found that added to capability was a will to do as she pleased in opposition to the mistress. Calling her to account, the latter excitedly demanded, "Why do you not obey my directions?" "Sure, I tould ye at first I wouldn't mind a crossh mistress, an' now more will I, troth."