

it will send out a bud from the *axils* (just as tobacco does after being disbudded), and this, taking the place of the original flower-truss, will produce plenty of seed to stock the land for a dozen more crops.

Flax.—Our Gloucestershire friends are still persisting in their practice of growing flax. Lord Bathurst has, at his own cost, erected a retting-vat, and seeding, breaking, and scutching machinery at North Cerney, in the above county. The great lesson has at last been learnt: a large crop of well-ripened seed cannot be grown in conjunction with a fine, even quality of straw for manufacturing purposes.

The frequent heavy showers of the middle fortnight of the past month have certainly freshened up the pastures, such as they are, on the Island of Montreal, but the hay-crop was past cure, and there is literally no clover to help with its second cut. Those who allowed this second crop to die on the ground last summer, would gladly welcome its presence in their barns just now. Hay must be dear next winter, more especially as the straw of all grain is very short indeed.

Improved practice.—We are glad to see a good deal of improvement in the practice of this neighbourhood. On the 17th of July, we were delighted to see a piece of land; that had just been stripped of its crop of tares and oats for green-meat for the cows, which, wanting it, must have been hard put to it to live, let alone to give any milk; ploughed, harrowed, sown with buckwheat, re-harrowed and then rolled. The next day, too, an adjacent acre, or so, of early potatoes was taken up for market, the land harrowed, ploughed, harrowed again, rolled, and sown with white-turnips. All this, particularly the rolling, on a farm where last year there was no such implement as a roller, was very pleasing to our eye. We may as well mention that, on the farm in question, every piece of grain was rolled as soon as sown, a practice especially necessary on such a light soil.

Another thing, that naturally greatly pleased me, is, that the second crop of clover, last year, that was treated after our English plan of cutting early and letting it *make itself*, turned out very well, the leaf being still adherent to the stalk, instead of having been left in the field as it usually is when the common practice, of letting clover stand

till the heads are brown, then turning it about, cocking it and breaking it abroad out of the cock before carrying, is followed.

To-day, July 19th; the mower is at work on the first piece of timothy, very little of which is present, but the bottom has profited greatly by the showers, and there may be half a ton to the *arpent*.

The grain ripens very slowly; oats, that have been out in full ear for three weeks, have not yet begun to turn colour. (1)

Swedes and carrots that last year were sown in the d-ill, this year were tried on the flat. (2) As the land is a dampish sand, and the dung was not allowed to heat, the weeds were rampant, and the hoeing must have cost a fortune. *Corn* looks fairly well.

The Poultry-Yard.

WYANDOTTES.

The Wyandotte is another of the general-purpose fowls, and is rated next to the Plymouth Rock. From the first, it sprang into popular favor, and has continued so to the present time. Its origin is comparatively recent, dating back less than twenty-five years. It came originally from the Dark Brahma, Silver Spangled Hamburg, and the Breda, a French fowl. Not a few authorities say that the Wyandottes have Cochin blood in them from the fact that their ancestors produced single combs and feathered legs.

For general purposes the Wyandottes have proved a success, being of medium size, weighing on an average a pound less than the Plymouth Rocks, hardy of constitution and prolific layers. They are easily cared for and bear confinement well. For table purposes they are of superior worth; their flesh is sweet, juicy and tender, making excellent broilers and roasters. As layers

(1) But a marvellous, almost miraculous change has supervened. Though the grain will not be multiplied by the fine rains, the oats look likely to yield a great crop of straw.

(2) Pity to grudge seed, especially of carrots; for they were a perfect failure here this season in consequence of too thin seeding. Ed.