

Publications Received.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the following:—Abstract Returns of the Agricultural Society of Massachusetts—Transactions of State Agricultural Society—do. do. of Nantucket—do. do. of Middlesex County—do. do. of Norfolk County—do. do. of Maine Society for promoting Agriculture—do. do. Second Annual Report of Main Board of Agriculture. Our usual Exchanges with the exception of the *Genesee Farmer*. The Annual Circular of *The Rural Empire Club*—West Macedon. N. Y.—Dr. Van Courtlandt's (of Ottawa City) Pamphlet on The Building Stone of the Ottawa District, of which more hereafter. The Monthly Journal of the California State Society—The Shrewsbury Journal &c., &c., &c.

HEMP AND FLAX CULTURE.

We shall now again, from time to time, resume consideration of a subject, to which we gave attention several years ago in Canada, and had the satisfaction of receiving the thanks of the then existing Government. We still think that the growth of Hemp and Flax might be prosecuted to advantage on many of our rich soils. Hemp requires a deep rich mellow alluvial soil to insure perfect success. It should be cultivated as a green crop in the rotations. The land should be cross ploughed in spring, and harrowed, and cleaned, and pulverized, as if for Flax, or Potatoes, or any similar crop. But the young plant is very susceptible of frost; so, care must be taken as to the period of sowing. To succeed in the best manner, deep and thorough ploughing, with subsoiling, when practicable, should precede this crop; and not being remarkably hardy, nor well able to bear sudden and excessive changes, it should not be sown until all danger of severe frosts may be considered over. The seed of the year immediately preceding should be used, as older seed may not vegetate. Five pecks, to two bushels an acre are recommended. The sowing is generally done broadcast, but drill machines perform the work more rapidly, and will no doubt come into general use. The roller should be used after the seed is sown, as it causes a general and more even vegetation, and permits the stalk to be cut very close to the ground—increasing both quantity and quality of produce, the lint being heaviest near the root—one inch being worth *two* in the upper part of the stalk. On this continent, after the seed has been covered and rolled, there is seldom any other cultivation. When the drill culture comes into use, we can then pursue a more careful system of cleaning in the early stages. In the Middle States, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri and Indiana it is extensively sown; and when the operations connected with its preparation are conducted on the land whereon it grew, so much is returned to it, that Hemp cannot be considered an eminently exhausting crop. American Hemp was formerly considered of inferior quality—being all dew rotted. But new and improved processes of preparation have been