appearance, he spared no expense to effect this. Keeping the land free from weeds and frequent applications in moderate doses of fertilisers, such as farm, town and portable manures, were the leading features of his practice His minute attention to the details in the field exercised no considerable influence in improving the practice of those farmers, who going to and from the weekly market at Haddington, had the opportunity of witnessing the operations in progress, and strangers from a distance who came to examine into the advanced practice of the county invariably formed a highly favorable opinion of his general management. As a breeder and a feeder of stock, he was pre-eminent. Those who are familiar with the premium lists of the Highland and East Lothian Agricultural Societies, must have observed that no name occurs so often as a successful competitor as that of John Brodie, while his essays on various subjects are recorded in their transactions, and are valuable expositions of his practice, particularly as a successful feeder of stock. The number of premiums taken by Mr. Brodie was certainly greater than that of any other farmer in Scotland."—*London Economist.*

GROW YOUR OWN CLOVER SEED.

We are acquainted with intelligent practical farmers in Western New York, who believe it profitable to seed down *all* their wheat and barley land every year with red clover. A well known and successful cultivator of light land near Rochester, has abandoned altogether, the use of the summer fallow, depending on corn and other hoe crops to enable him to keep the land clean. After corn he frequently sows barley, seeding it down with 10 lbs. of clover per acre, and, in the fall, after the barley has been harvested, the clover affords good pasture for sheep or cattle, or, if feed is abundant, it is allowed to grow uncropped, and is turned under, the same fall, and the field sown with wheat on one furrow He is satisfied that the value of the feed in the fall and the fertilizing effect the clover roots, &c., have on the subsequent wheat crop, more than pay the cost of the clover seed. Others are convinced that, where corn is to follow, it is highly profitable to seed down a wheat or barley crop, with clover, and allow it to get a good start the next spring before the land is plowed up for the corn crop. The clover, also, in this case furnishes much fertilizing matter, and the practice has the additional advantage of furnishing green food for the grubs and worms till the corn has attained a good start, and is capable of sustaining their depredations without material injury.

It is possible that, under such a system, the land may in time become exhausted—not of potash, soda, or lime or of sulphuric or phosphoric acid, but of some peculiar combinations of these or other elements of plants which, as yet, neither the chemist in his laboratory, nor the experimenter in the field has been able to discover. In other words, our fields, like the light soils of England under the four course system of rotation, may become "clover sick," and refuse to grow red clover oftener than once in eight or twelve years. But, at present, we apprehend no such a result. We believe clover sickness is unknown in this country, and should be glad to hear from our correspondents on this point. Our object is rather to commend the extensive cultivation of clover, and to recommend the systems alluded to, or a modification of them, to those who have hitherto seeded down, at most, only a portion of their wheat or barley crop with clover. Be assured that, on all farms where wheat, corn, barley, oats and other cereal grasses are extensively cultivated, *it will abundantly pay* to grow as much clover as possible.

Why clover, peas beans, tares, sainfoinilupins and other leguminous plants are so advantageous in rotation with wheat, barley, oats, Indian corn and other grain-eous plants, we will not now stop to inquire. The fact that they are so cannot be denied, and whether it is owing to their requiring a different proportion of mineral substances, or whether, principally to the fact that they do not require for their growth more ammonia than they contain, while the wheat, corn, and other plants of the same order destroy large quantities of this expensive fertilizer, is a question which it is not necessary to decide before we can act upon the teachings of experience.

In order to induce farmers to sow more clover, it is very important that they be persuaded to *grow their own clover seed;* for it will be admitted that he who has to pay $5 to $8 per bushel to the city merchant or seedsman will be much more sparing of clover seed than the farmer who raises an abundance of his own. Fortunately this climate is not only well suited to the growth of large crops of clover for fodder, or for turning under as a fertilizer, but it is also well adapted for the production of large crops of excellent clover seed. Why, then, is it so high? why is it that every farmer, does not raise at least as much as he needs for his own use? There is certainly no more necessity for buying clover seed, than there is for buying seed wheat, corn, barley or oats.

If not already done, let every farmer select a few acres of his cleanest clover, cut it as early as possible, and then allow it to go to seed. If the land is in good heart, and clean, nothing more is required; if poor, 150 to 200 lbs. of good Peruvian guano per acre sown broadcast as soon as the first crop is removed, during showery weather, will be found a beneficial, and we have little doubt a profitable application. Plaster increases the foliage of the plants, but, it is said, retards the ripening of the seed. Four bushels of clean seed per acre is a fair, average crop; but eight bushels may easily be grown by cutting the first crop early, or by eating it off by sheep till the middle of May or first of June. If the land is not rich enough it should be well manured, early in the spring or, still better in the fall, with well rotted barn yard dung. It is important to have the clover as early as possible, since it is frequently injured by frosts in the autumn After the seed is matured, however, *frost does not hurt it;* and, now that we have several excellent machines for taking off the heads of clover seed, thus avoiding the expense and labor of curing the clover in cool wet weather, it may be left out late in the fall without any loss or inconvenience.

We repeat, and we would that every farmer in the country could hear us, *grow your own clover seed,* and never, without special reason, sow a field of wheat or barley without seeding it down, in the spring, with from 10 to 15 lbs. of red clover per acre. We believe it will pay, even though the clover sod is plowed up the next spring. We will add, too, that, where plaster can be had for less than $5 per ton, and where experience proves it good for clover, the practice of sowing a bushel of plaster per acre *at the time of sowing the clover seed,* is worthy of extensive adoption. We think it of great benefit in enabling the young clover plants to stand the drouth.—*Country Gentleman.*

When pinks are in flower, their beauty may be prolonged by giving them a little shade at mid day.