

perience, I have thought it might not be amiss to state to my brother farmers, through the medium of your widely circulating papers, the mode in which I have for many years past been most successful in raising this valuable crop. It is this:—

I take a meadow, or pasture, on which the grass is getting thin; cover it as thick with manure as can well be plowed under; then proceed to plow about six or eight inches in depth, taking care to have every furrow laid completely over. If the ground be uneven, or not well plowed, I follow with a heavy roller, which closes many a crevice, and prevents the grass from choking the young plant, and also prevents the harrow, which immediately follows lengthwise the furrow, from disturbing the soil. After completing the field in this manner, if not perfectly mellow and smooth, it is either cross-harrowed or gone over with a two-horse cultivator lengthwise the furrow, which most effectually accomplishes the object.

The ground should be plowed thus deep for two reasons. First, in the spring, after planting, and while the corn is coming up, should the season be wet and cold, the water settles underneath the furrow, which prevents the seed from rotting, or the plant from drowning, as is frequently the case. And second, in the summer, should it be very dry, as is frequently the case after a wet spring, the root of the plant penetrates the deep mellow earth to where the fermentation of the manure and soil creates a moisture that steadily forces the corn on to maturity.

Corn ground, however, should not be plowed so deep as to throw up subsoil, that being of too cold a nature—though for wheat is highly beneficial.

I mark my corn ground both ways, the rows about three feet four inches apart, taking great care to have them perfectly straight, that the cultivator or plow may be less liable to disturb the hills while tending it. In planting, five or six kernels should be put in a hill and covered with mellow earth—dry lumps and stones are hard things for a tender plant to contend with. Some farmers might think six kernels too many; and so it would be if all grew; but they do not always, and if they do, it is easier to pull out than put in. It is well to mix plentifully with pumpkin seed, as they injure the crop but little, and are thought by most farmers to go far to lessen the expense of raising the corn.

When the corn is sufficiently advanced to see the rows, it is passed through twice in a row both ways, with a one-horse, s-tooth cultivator. This destroys the grass and weeds, if any, between the hill, and a few men will soon eradicate what remains in the hills. It is then dressed with about a table spoonful of composition, of equal parts, lime, plaster and ashes, which serves, when sufficiently moistened by rain, to drive the grub and wire-worm from the hill, if any there be, and hasten rapidly forward the plant. In about two or three weeks it is passed through again, either with a cultivator or light plow, both ways, twice in each row. This time, one hand with a hoe to cut an occasional weed or thistle, and to straighten up any hills that may be disturbed by the horse or plow, will do all that is necessary. When it is about, or a short time previous to, its tasselling out, it is plowed one and sometimes both ways,

deep, turning the furrow towards the hill. This, with a little labor with the hand hoe, will cause the stalk to throw out its brace roots higher up, which keep it in a perpendicular position, and aids very materially in facilitating the cutting, should that be performed, or in husking, should it not. It is then left to ripen.

When the ears are about three-fourths glazed, it is cut up near the ground, and from thirty to forty hills put in a shock, and tied securely at the top with a band of straw—not with grass, weeds, or a stalk, as many do—and left to cure.

It may be thought by many farmers, that the period for harvesting which has been mentioned is too early to secure the greatest weight of grain; to which may be said in answer, that the stalk being separated from the root while green, much of its vitality will be drawn by the unripened ear, and bring it to maturity. Consequently, in most cases, a greater gain is realised than when endangered longer by early frost.

Corn raised after the above manner, frequently yields me 40 bushels of shelled per acre; and the stalks are equal for fodder to from one and a half to two tons hay per acre.

EXPERIMENTS WITH POTATOES.

For several years my potatoes have failed with the rot. In the fall of 1851, I thought I would try my hill land, without manure. I took my team, plough and drag, and measured off 150 square rods of ground, and commenced ploughing as deep as the plough would go, about nine inches. The next May, I dragged it until the top was very mellow. I then took the one horse plough and marked it out three feet square. As seed was hard to be got at one dollar per bushel, I procured three bushels of very small potatoes, and all that I could find that was as large as a good sized hickory-nut, I cut in pieces and put three pieces in a hill. I had one half bushel of quite large potatoes; these I cut and planted by themselves, which made three and a half bushels of potatoes, all told.—These I planted, on 149 square rods of ground. I planted the middle of May. When my potatoes were up about four inches high, I ploughed them out both ways with the small plough, and hoed them very well; I then took half a bushel of unleached ashes and half a bushel of plaster and mixed together, and put about one large table-spoonful on the side of each hill, except two rows through the middle of the piece, on which I put nothing. In about two weeks I ploughed them out again both ways, two furrows in each row; hoed as before, and then took three pecks of unleached house ashes and put on the side of each hill as before, except the two rows, and this was all that I did to them. The two rows that I did not put anything on, looked quite sickly and yellow, and the tops were about 12 to 15 inches high. The other tops were very large and rank; some of them three feet long. I commenced digging the fourth week in October, and dug the two rows that I put nothing on first, and got three bushels and a half and three quarts, all told. The next two rows that I plastered and ashed, nine bushels and a half and five quarts, making more than two-thirds difference in the two rows. I dug from the piece, two hundred and fourteen bushels of the best potatoes that I ever dug—not one but