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ON THE AGRICULTURE OF CANADA.

No. VII.

Mr. Editor,

AMONGST other remarks I offered with the view of improving the present system of Canadian Husbandry I proposed, (after pointing out the proper method of dividing the farms,) the introduction of drill crops.* In recommending these I had two powerful reasons. In the first place because these are the most efficacious means we can employ for bringing old, foul and worn out land under a proper system of culture; and secondly because drill-crops are far better adapted for the season and climate of Canada, than what are termed naked fallows, as will appear from a consideration of their nature and mode of cultivation. Ground under a drill crop is frequently stirred and well pulverised, by the operation of the hand-hoe, the plough, the extirpator or horse hoe; all or either of which must be used in clearing the crop from weeds on old land; and for which description of work the farmer has the whole summer season at his command or that part of it when his other duties are not so pressing. In the system of using naked fallows the very reverse of this happens. The farmer cannot commence upon these until his seed time is over; a season in the most favourable years too short for the labour which ought to be performed in it. Should the spring be late or wet, his seed-time will be protracted so that he cannot commence on his fallows till mid-summer, and if his ground be of a clay nature he will then find it too dry and hard

* See Canadian Magazine, p. 220.