

most hardy and vigorous plants, consequently will be less liable to winter-kill; and as like produces like, we may look for an article in the increase equal if not superior to that which was sown. Add three quarts of dry, fresh-slaked lime to every bushel of wheat; mix up thoroughly two days or two weeks, previous to sowing. *This is important—neglect the lime, and nine cases out of ten you will have more or less smut, which will depreciate the value of the wheat.*

**Preparation of Ground, Seeding, &c.**—The ground, if rich and strong enough, may be sown after peas, otherwise after summer fallow. In either case, manure on the surface, and plow or drag in with the wheat. I prefer to use about fifteen loads to the acre thus prepared; then, after sowing thinly, to plow it in. The seed, by coming in immediate contact with the manure, receives a thrifty and vigorous start, which it otherwise would not attain. This I think is highly important to insure success. I have never used the drill, but in its stead Ide's cultivator, which answers a good purpose. If you harrow in the seed, in no case roll afterwards, as the inequalities of the surface will prevent the snow from blowing off, and the plants will be less liable to be affected by frost. But if covered with a drill or cultivator, this precaution is unnecessary, the seed being so much deeper, and the roots less exposed. When the ground is settled in spring, go over with a heavy roller; it covers many exposed roots and often adds five to seven bushels per acre.

Have the ground well pulverized for sowing; it is useless to sow on lumpy and badly prepared soil. In case there is no manure to be had, cover the surface immediately after sowing and before the wheat starts, with a layer of straw; the wheat in a short time will come through, and prevent it from blowing off. The straw will act as a mulch, and the ground being shaded will retain the moisture; and if the soil is not very poor, you may expect a good paying crop. Two and-a-half bushels salt per acre tends to prevent rust, makes the straw strong and bright, and gives the young wheat a dark color. If any one doubts the truth of this statement, I hope he will make the experiment, and my word for it, he will at once adopt the practice. I know of no better mode to prevent the ravages of the midge than early sowing, and even this sometimes fails. The last week in August, or the first in September, I would prefer but this depends upon circumstances; if the weather is dry and not, I would rather wait until October.—Some years since I made an experiment to test early and late sowing. One piece was sowed the last week in August; one the last week in September, and one the middle of October, on the same kind of soil and treated in every respect alike. There was no difference in the time of ripening or in the quality of the grain, but the

earliest sowed produced the longest heads, consequently yielded more per acre.

I do not sow plaster on wheat, as it tends to rust, and increases the bulk of straw but not of grain.

### A Two-story Milking Stool.

"Something new under the sun," in the shape of a milking stool for kicking and unruly cows, is described by a correspondent of the *Iowa Homestead*. The stool can be made of inch boards, and has many advantages over the old fashioned one. First procure a piece of board of sufficient size to accommodate the milker, and have, in addition room for the milk pail. This may be put on legs of about eight inches in height. Then upon this erect another seat or stool, covering half the space of the bottom one, for the milker to sit, thereby giving him a chance in front to let the pail remain firm and steady, not liable to get kicked over, and by being up from the ground kept free from dirt and mud, and so close to the udder as to prevent loss from milking over, &c. If a cow is in the habit of kicking, the milker, by using a stool of this description, can have both hands to prevent her heels from coming in contact with the pail, which sits firm upon the front part of the stool, steadied by his knees. He could in a short time effectually break a cow of the habit of kicking while being milked.

## Horticultural.

### Toronto Horticultural Society.

#### SECOND EXHIBITION OF THE SEASON.

The second Exhibition this season of the Toronto Horticultural Society was held yesterday in the Gardens, and was attended by a very large number of visitors. In the afternoon the band of the 30th regiment was present and played a number of select airs. The flowers, fruit, &c., were shown in the large pavilion, which in the evening was brightly illuminated, and presented a very pleasing and attractive scene, crowded as it was with the youth and beauty of the city. In some particulars the exhibition was superior to many which have previously been held by the Society, and in others a great improvement was apparent. There was a magnificent display of foliage and green-house plants, which possessed beauties for every taste and were really the first of their kind. In this department Hon. Judge Harrison was an extensive exhibitor. In one collection of twelve plants from his conservatory, there were some very fine specimens—among them the *Raphis belliformis*, not before shown in Toronto, and