

Charles Hunt

J. L. Thomas ^{1/2}



"Agriculture not only gives Bishes to a Nation, but the only Bishes she can call her own."

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WORK FOR THE MONTH.

THE harvest being now generally ended, the farmer's year may be said to be completed; but his toils are never ended; no sooner is one harvest finished than he must prepare his ground for another.— From the first to the fifteenth of this month fall wheat should be sown; and to judge from the past few harvests, it would appear that the period for sowing had a material influence upon the crop—that which had been sown during the first week of September has almost invariably been more productive than what was sown during the second and third weeks of the month. No one now-a-days at all skilled in wheat-growing, thinks of sowing after the twentieth of September, excepting upon new land, or rather that which had been recently cleared from the forest, in which case it might answer a good purpose, under favorable circumstances, to sow as late as the first of October.

Every pains should be bestowed in selecting good seed; that which was grown upon very lean land is to be pre-

ferred to that which was grown upon a rich vegetable mould. No one should think of sowing their seed-wheat without steeping, and thoroughly putting it thro' a course of purification; for without this precaution frequently the most thorough cultivation will prove unavailing in securing a profitable crop. What we wish to have understood by purifying the seed is, that *chess* must be eradicated, and also rye and every other species of grain than wheat; and the fungus deposited upon the grain by the weevil or any other insect which is supposed to attack the wheat plants, to be destroyed by a powerful steep, which we shall presently describe; and above all, that most calamitous disease called smut, should be destroyed, which can be effected by the same simple remedy.

Of all the steeps used to prevent smut, that of sulphate of copper, or blue vitriol, is the most efficient, which may be prepared in the following manner: Into two gallons of boiling water put one pound of blue vitriol; and while it is quite hot, three bushels of wheat are wetted with