

crop forced from the land unreasonably. A farmer who is a proprietor, cultivating his own land with skill and experience, if he understands the quality of his soil, and state of his fields, will know what crops are most likely to grow well in each; he will know what is most in request, both for his own use, and in the market, and he will act accordingly. But if he allows his land to be impoverished for want of rest or manure, or to run wild with weeds, he does not exercise the experience, judgment or activity, necessary to make his profession and pursuits profitable, whatever his skill or experience may be.

The system of rotations is adapted for every soil, though no particular rotation can be given for any one soil which will answer in all cases. In some situations much depends on the kind of produce for which there is the greatest market demand; indeed, this will influence rotations directly or indirectly, in every situation. But whatever the system of rotation that is followed, if the several processes of labour which belong to it are properly executed, land will rarely get into a foul or exhausted state, or at least, if foul or exhausted under a judicious rotation, matters will be much worse when any other system is followed.

The particular crops which enter into a system of rotation must be such as are suited to the soil and climate, varied by local circumstances, such as the proximity to towns, where there is generally a demand for potatoes, carrots, turnips, hay, &c. In a thinly peopled district, peas, beans, tares, flax, summer fallow, clover, and timothy might be interposed between corn crops on clay soils, and potatoes, carrots, Indian corn, clover and timothy, on dry loams and sands. A variety of plants, such as peas, tares, flax, Indian corn and carrots, might occupy a part of that division of a farm which is allotted to green crops, and on good lands, well managed, these plants might be grown to prepare the soil for wheat without perhaps resorting to summer fallow, except very rarely.

A farm of strong, rich soil, divided into six fields or enclosures, might have half the farm under different species of cereal grasses, or grain crops, peas, beans, tares, roots, or plain fallow; the other half under cultivated herbage, meadow and pasture. The rotation and distribution of crops might be the following:

One field or division, equal to one-sixth of the arable land, to be under wheat certainly, if the soil is suitable, if not, barley or oats should be substituted. The wheat is to succeed green crops, or summer fallow, and the land, with this crop, or any other crop substituted for it, to be sowed down invariably with clover and timothy, or other grass seeds. Second field, one-sixth, ploughed in the previous fall, after pasture, to be in peas and oats, or perhaps all oats. Third field, or one-sixth, (following after oats and peas

the year before,) to be manured with beans, manure, wurtzel, potatoes, carrots and flax; and should the farmer be unable to find manure for the whole division, he may fallow the remainder, or sow tares, or some other green crop that he might plough in as manure if necessary. This last division will be prepared for wheat or barley the ensuing spring, and be seeded down with whatever crop is sowed. The other half of the arable land comprising three fields or divisions, should be in meadow or pasture. One field or division, equal to one-sixth of the whole, coming annually into tillage, to replace the division seeded down yearly with the crop of wheat or barley as before stated.

On farms of light or sandy soils, divided into nine fields or enclosures, the tillage should not exceed one-third of the arable land, or three fields in tillage, and six in meadow or pasture. By this rotation, the land would be under grass six years out of nine, instead of three out of six, as in the first rotation, the management and course of cropping for the part in tillage, to be the same as that laid down for the rich, or clay soil, varying the distribution of crops to suit the quality of the soil, and introducing Indian corn in this rotation.

It may be expedient to vary from these rotations. The experienced farmer will understand when and in what manner it will be prudent to do so. I believe, however, that the more nearly the rotation adopted in Canada, is conformable to these general rules, the more certain will be the profitable improvement of agriculture. This system of convertible husbandry, is the most suitable to the present circumstances of this province, and of British America. Under this course of husbandry, the lands would be constantly in good heart, capable of producing abundant and excellent crops, and though the largest portion may be under cultivated herbage and grass, I am well convinced the gross produce of the land, and the farmer's profit, may be augmented two or three fold, if the produce be judiciously applied, and the rearing and feeding of cattle, for the dairy and the shambles extensively introduced. Peas, beans, tares and roots, may be raised in this rotation in great abundance, for feeding cattle and hogs and a greater quantity, and better quality of grain produced in one year, than under the present system of farming can be produced in two.

No food, no cattle; no cattle, no dung; no dung, no corn, is a maxim that ought to be fixed in every farmer's mind.

In a report of select farms in England, one in Cumberland, of excellent soil has adopted the following rotation: On clay soils of the best description, first year, summer fallow, sometimes green crop; in either case, the land thoroughly cleaned, limed, and manured. Second year, wheat, with grass seeds for pasture. Third and fourth years, pasture. Fifth year,