ing altogether was excellent, and the management of all the proceedings by the committee left nothing to be desired. At the close of the ploughing, which was at the rate of one acre in 11 hours, the following prizes were awarded by the judges, and paid by the secretary on the ground.

1st Class, Iron Ploughs—1st prize, Fanning Mill Alex. Campbell; 2nd do., $8, Hugh McKinnon; 3rd do., $6, Wm. Coxworth; 4th do., $4, Wm. Forbes.

2nd Do., Wood Ploughs.—1st prize, $8, Watson Leek; 2nd do., $6, Reuben Phillips; 3rd do., $4, Geo. Clark; 4th do, $2, Joseph Wood.

3rd Do. Patent Ploughs.—1st prize, $6, Wm. Armstrong; 2nd do., $4, John Clark: 3rd do., $3, Alex. Brown; 4th do., $2, Wm. Dolby; 5th do., $1, J. Galloway; 6th do., $1, Wm. Cox; 7th do., $1, Thos. Johnston.

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the committee, of sincerely thanking Mr. Wright for his kind and liberal present. After the distribution of the prizes, all went home more than satisfied with the day's proceedings.

NATHANIEL KIRBY, Sec. and Treas.

A Farm in Hungerford.

On my return home, I took the new road from Madoc to Downing's Rapids, and from thence through the north-western portion of the Township of Hungerford. This section of the country has been settled for some twenty years, and is one of the finest portions of the County of Hastings. The farms, generally, are in a high state of cultivation, and the buildings are of the better class, and everything about the farms betoken care, thrift and industry. To show what cultivation will do, and that the success of a farmer does not depend upon "luck," I will take the farm of Mr. John Graham, lot 3rd, in the 11th concession of Hungerford, where I remained over a few hours, and was entertained with true Irish hospitality. Mr Graham has 300 acres of land, which twenty years ago was a wilderness. It is rolling land and the soil is chiefly clay, with a mixture of clay loam, portions of the farm being stony. The flats, of which there are several, and which, a few years ago, to use the very expressive words of Mr. Graham, were "pigs' paint shops," have been reclaimed by an extensive system of ditching, and are now the most productive portions of the farm. Tons and tons of stone have been removed from the field, and made to do service for ditching and fencing. Mr. Graham, within the last few years, believing it to be cheaper to raise good stock than poor stock, purchased the fine Durham bull formerly owned by Mr. Woods, of Thurlow, and has now some as fine stock as you will see in the county. He has eight or ten spring calves in excellent condition, which, with his yearlings, would compare well with any shown at the Provincial Exhibition last year. Mr. Graham is largely in the dairy business, and with a view to make his cattle comfortable in the winter, and to make it convenient to milk and take care of them, he has built a stone stable 71x31 feet, with two rows of stalls, and accommodation for 36 head of cattle, besides room for calves. In the centre is a passage way, which leads to a large stone cellar, 30x31 feet, and 7 feet high, where the roots are stored, and from whence they can be wheeled in a barrow to the passage way and emptied on either side into the stalls. Above this stable and cellar is the barn, 101x34 feet, where, on the north, the floor is level with the ground. Here are trap-doors, where the roots, after being carted in, can be dumped into the cellar. All the arrangements about the premises, have been made with a view to the convenience of the farmer and the comfort of his stock.

Mr. Graham has a fine stone residence, his barns and sheds are of the most substantial class, and he may well take pride in having, in his latter years, surrounded himself with so many comforts and luxuries, the fruits of his honest toil.—*Belleville Intelligencer.*

Sowing Grasses without a Corn Crop.

The following letter on this subject has appeared in *The Times:*—

Sir,—The number of letters I have received making inquiries respecting the mode and utility of sowing grass-seeds without a corn crop – to which allusion was made in my communication to you upon "The harvest and the crops"—is my apology for soliciting your columns as the medium for briefly answering one and all of them

"The preparation for and mode of sowing do not widely differ from those usually observed in sowing grasses with a crop. Ploughing five inches deep so soon as the land is cleared of the root crop, frequent harrowings to secure a fine surface tilth before sowing, and a light harrowing after, and the soil left firm and compact by a heavy rolling, constitute the chief operations for this mode of grass culture. In addition to the varieties and quantities of clovers and grasses usually sown with a crop, 2lbs. of rape-seed per acre is allowed for the two-fold purpose of protecting the young clovers, and affording valuable fattening food for sheep. Grasses thus sown are ready in ordinary seasons for pasturing stock in the last week of June, and up till the end of October usually fatten from eight to twelve sheep per acre. The value thus obtained from such pastures the first season far exceeds, even with moderate prices for stock, that which a full average crop of oats yields. Nor are the advantages of the system under consideration only limited to the first season, for the grasses being strong and vigorous in a firmly compressed soil are not easily injured by drouths and frosts, the effects of which the roots and rootlets of cereal crops facilitate; but yield more value the second season also.

"The system is by no means novel. I have seen it adopted on a small scale in the Scottish border counties twenty years ago. Impressed with its merits in upland districts, the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, in 1860, offered a prize for the best essay on the subject, for which the writer successfully competed, and during the last three years it has rather extended—partly on account of the rapid progress of upland reclamation, and partly from the high prices obtained from wool, lambs, and mutton.

"Allow me to add, that any system which seeks to increase stock produce deserves the consideration of corn farmers, as the difference between the prosperity of the exclusive corn farmer and that of the farmer who adopts the mixed system of husbandry is gradually widening. Happily there are evidences in several quarters that corn farming is about to undergo a change, and it is hoped that the all-important question—How can clay land be farmed so as to carry sheep profitably? will be soon and satisfactorily solved.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"JAS. SANDERSON, Land Agent,

"15, *Manchester Buildings, Westminster, Sept.* 16."

Modes of Providing Seed Wheat.

To the Editor of The Canada Farmer:

Sir,—Almost every farmer in Canada knows to his cost how soon each variety of wheat degenerates, so that after sowing seven or eight times, it does not produce one-half as much as at first, even although sowed on land that never produced wheat before.

Now, everybody will agree that any plan which promises to lengthen the time that any variety will yield good crops is worthy of careful consideration.

I have thought for some time past that the following would be a good plan:—Suppose a farmer gets a new kind of wheat (as good as the Fyfe when first introduced into Canada), he sows it, and of the produce he lays by one-half, and sows the other half next season. The following year he takes one bushel out of the half he has laid by, and sows it to produce seed for be coming year. Next year he takes another bushel from the original stock laid by to produce seed for the following, and so on to the last as long as it will germinate. Or, suppose for example, a farmer gets one-half bushel and sows it. The first year's produce is ten bushels. He lays by five, and sows the remainder the second year. The third year he takes one bushel out of the five laid by, and sows it to produce seed for sowing on the fourth year. The fourth he takes another bushel out of the original stock laid by, and sows it to produce seed for the next year, and so on till the eighth year his seed is only the third growth from the original half bushel. The only drawback to this plan is, will wheat retain its vital power for four or five years? We know that some garden seeds will.

Could you inform me through The Canada Farmer how long wheat will keep without destroying its power of germinating? It would not matter much if one-half would not grow, for then a person could sow two bushels each year instead of one.

Hull, Sept. 5, 1864. DAVID CURRIE.

Herb Sanguinalis, the Clover of Calvary.—We have been favoured with the inspection of a curious plant, raised in the garden of the Hon. W. A. Black of this city, which in its conformation must be interesting to the eye of a Botanist, and calculated to excite strange emotions in the heart of a Christian. Every spot is sacred which has been hallowed by the footsteps of our Divine Redeemer; every tree,—every plant,—every flower has its associations, which grows, and blooms, and withers amidst the scenery, of Palestine. We connect every thing around the walls of Jerusalem with his labours, his sufferings, and his death, and we can hardly call that superstition, which strains the imagination to convert the natural objects of the Mount of Olives and Mount Calvary into symbols of our Saviour's martyrdom. In this manner we have almost transformed the Passion Flower into a sacred thing, and found in its stem and stamen, in its bud and blossom, something emblematic of the Immolation of the Cross; and although not so gorgeous, yet not less curious, not less to be admired, to this little *trifolium*, we are not sure of its botanical name, but it may be called by Christians, *The Clover of Calvary*. This plant is said to grow in great luxuriance in the place where our Lord was crucified; and although its flower is insignificant, in its marks and combinations it is very wonderful, and requires not the fancy of Jeremy Taylor or the poetry of Keble, to extract from it sacred recollections of the Divine love. On every green leaf there is a bright red spot, as though a drop of blood had recently fallen upon it, and as it withers it fades into the same dull color which blood assumes after it has lost its vitality and moisture; but the greatest curiosity is in its seed vessel, when fully ripe, which being carefully opened and unrolled presents the most perfect minature of a *Crown of Thorns*, so severe and elaborate as to be readily regarded by the pious enthusiast, as intended for nothing than the model of the sacred coronet which once encircled the brow of our loving Lord, and is now exchanged for a Crown of Glory. The Botanist will survey it with wonder and delight, and if he be a Christian it will be wonder mingled with emotion of awe and admiration, which are to be felt, but not to be described. And being hitherto unknown in this country, both the student of nature and the disciple of the Cross will be amply compensated by a careful examination of this beautiful specimen of Asiatic Grass.—*Church Record.*

Prevention of Smut.—The following preparation may be relied on to prevent smut in wheat. Spread the grain rather thinly on the barn floor, and sprinkle it with human urine at the rate of three to four quarts per bushel. Then add from one to two quarts of fresh slacked lime, and shovel the whole over until the kernels are uniformly coated. This should be done immediately before sowing, to prevent injuring the seed. This dressing will also give a quick and strong start to the young growth. A strong solution of blue vitrol, or sulphate of copper, used in the same way, is efficacious in preventing smut, but the first-named preparation is often available where the vitrol cannot be readily procured.

Curing Straw.—There is nothing that cures so finely as oat straw. A pale green tint, like that of hay, especially when cut by the straw cutter. The very smell is like the fragrance of hay. Then there is the berry—white, plump and heavy—heavier than when ripened too much. This seems strange, but it is true. We ripen too much. People are afraid to put the scythe in when yet quite green. Too often, however, will other work crowd the harvesting, till the straw is white and begins to break down. Mowed early; bound, or put up in cocks, a few days after—or sooner—and there left—the cocks with hay caps; or, if bound, in stooks crowned with a cap sheaf—for weeks or more. Then draw in. You will then be satisfied without further proof.—*Valley Farmer.*

German Economy.—A late tourist in Germany describes the economy practised by the peasants as follows: "Each German has his house, his orchard, his roadside trees, so laden with fruit that did he not carefully prop them up, tie them together, and in many places hold the boughs together with wooden clamps, they would be torn asunder by their own weight. He has his own corn plot, his plot for mangel wurzel or hay, for potatoes, for hemp, &c. He is his own master, and therefore he and his family have the strongest motives for exertion. In Germany nothing is lost. The produce of the trees and the cows is carried to market. Much fruit is dried for winter use. You see wooden trays of plums, cherries, sliced apples, lying in the sun to dry. You see strings of them hanging from the windows in the sun. The cows are kept up the greater part of the year, and every green thing is collected for them. Every little nook where the grass grows by the roadside, river and brook, is carefully cut by the sickle, and carried home on the heads of the women and children, in baskets or tied in large cloths. Nothing of the kind is lost that can possibly be made of any use. Weeds, nettles, nay the very goose-grass which covers the waste places, are cut up and taken for the cows. You see the little children standing in the streets of the villages, and in the streams which generally run down them, busy washing these weeds before they are given to the cattle. They carefully collect the leaves of the marsh-grass, carefully cut their potato tops for them, and even, if other things fail, gather green leaves from the woodlands."