

The expense of taking them in is trifling; they keep well in cellars, and are eaten by all kinds of cattle.

To keep a large kind it would perhaps be necessary to import seed frequently from Germany. The root diminishes in size and improves in quality by raising the seed here. I formerly raised the seed of this kind of beet for forty years in succession, during which time it had changed to a dark red beet scarcely distinguishable from the common blood beet of the gardens.

The large crop above-mentioned was from seed raised here from beets which were grown from seed from Alsace. T. S.

EXPERIMENTS WHICH MAY BE TRIED BY MEMBERS OF SOCIETIES.

Choose two cows who give nearly equal quantities of milk and let one of them be put in the stable at night and fed with as much young grass as she will eat, to be mowed from a piece of rich land. The other to be pastured in the usual manner. Keep an exact account of the quantity of milk given by each through the seasons; or of the butter and cheese made from the milk, and also of the quantity of ground required for the grass. Couch grass, Foxtail, sweet scented grass, and white clover, grows quickly after mowing, and will in most seasons bear cutting four times. Timothy does not grow so freely after cutting, and buttercup should be avoided, as cows do not eat it willingly, till it is made into hay.

In those parts of the Province where the soil is free from stone, it is not uncommon to give Potatoes so little manure that the crop will not exceed 180 bushels per acre. In these situations the following experiment would be useful:—plant an acre of Potatoes with the usual allowance of manure; adjoining this, plant half an acre, with the same quantity of manure that was applied to the whole acre. Let both be planted in the last week of May, that there may be time for the potatoes to acquire their full growth. The next year sow both pieces with grain and grass seeds: keep an exact account of the time expended in raising each crop, and also of the produce. When the hay on the third season has been cured, it will be easy to decide which way of using the manure has been most profitable, although the trial is not then past, for on the fourth year the half acre will continue to yield the best crop.

Plant a piece of ground (not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ acre) with potatoes; using for the first four rows whole potatoes about the size of hen's eggs, for seed, which should be 2 feet apart in the drills; for the next four rows cut pieces, at the customary distance, then planting again four rows of whole potatoes, &c. till the whole is planted, taking care to plant an equal number of each. When taken up let the produce of the whole and of the cut seed be measured separately. This experiment has formerly been tried near Halifax. When the whole crop was small there was a considerable difference in favour of the whole seed. When the crop was very great, the difference was trifling. In both cases the plants from the whole seed were first in flower. T. S.

Although the Marshes on the Bay of Fundy always have a great depth of fertile reddish loam near the creeks and rivers, yet in some broad marshes there are portions remote from the creeks where this loam is not perceptible, the soil being a blue clay, which, although it produced good crops of salt hay when exposed to the tides, yields very little of any thing when dyked. This sterility is caused partly by vitriolic salts, of which, I have observed it con-

tains a considerable quantity. (Of this any person may convince himself by placing a quantity of this clay under a shed where it will be exposed to the air, but not to the rain, wetting it several times with urine, and then allowing it to lay through the hot season, during which it should be turned two or three times; it will then be found to contain a considerable quantity of allum.)

Let a bushel of unslacked lime be covered with four or five bushels of earth, and after the lapse of a fortnight, or as soon as the lime is well slacked, let it be well mixed with the earth and spread upon the blue marsh. It would be well to try it in the proportions of a bushel, half a bushel, and a peck of lime, to a rod of ground. If this were spread upon a long narrow strip in the latter part of summer, the next spring it might have a shallow ploughing and be sowed with clover and grass seeds, with some kind of grain. Before the application of lime the marsh should be well drained, or else the vitriolic water of the subsoil would in the wet season be raised to the surface, and render the lime useless.

Let a cartload of the soil of the blue marsh be laid upon the upland, bury in it a bushel of unslacked lime, and when it is thoroughly slacked turn and mix the heap and apply it as a top dressing to two rods of grass on the sandy upland. T. S.

From the Mechanic and Farmer.

MR. STRICKS:—Sir,—Want of confidence in the adequacy of the means to accomplish the end, may be the cause of failure in an undertaking. This may be applied to agriculture in common with any other affair of life. It is no uncommon thing to hear such observations as, Nova-Scotia has never been intended for a farming country.—There is so little of it good soil, and the climate is so miserably bad, and so short time to put in crop, that no quantity of it can be raised; and then the winter is so long that it eats up every thing that grows in summer, and people are just slaves to their cattle; and that there is not capital in the country to carry on improvement, and so on: and 'till if it were not for the timber trade there would be no making a living in it. Were these well established truths (now that the timber trade is like to fail), it is time we were packing up for a start to Wiscasset, or some other Eden. But as this would be attended with a good deal of trouble, it may be worth while to inquire a little into the capabilities of Nova-Scotia to support its inhabitants; and now seems a very suitable time for doing so, the legislature having set apart a portion of the revenue, to aid the farmer in introducing improvements so much needed; and to give us a fresh start, and it may be hoped, effectual start on the road to independence for at least bread stuffs.

I shall in the first place, express an opinion long entertained, that Nova-Scotia is susceptible of being improved to maintain, not only its present inhabitants, but ten times their number, and then take up the objections here stated, and answer them by some short observations; first, "that there is but very little good soil." I admit that the soil is not all equally good in this country more than any other; but I do think there is as great a proportion of it naturally excellent, or susceptible of being made productive by cultivation, as in most countries with which we are acquainted. Bring under review, the heath-clad hills and moors of Scotland, Wales, and part of England and Ireland, that many of us have seen—the dreary arid wastes and frightful swamps of Africa—the alpine regions and morasses of other parts of the world, and Nova-Scotia will suffer but little by the comparison. There is but a very small proportion of it but what may be brought to yield support for man. There is, I conceive, a great part of its whole extent capable, by proper cultivation, of yielding from thirty or forty bushels of wheat the same or more of barley, from forty to sixty of oats, and the same of beans, from three to four hundred bushels of potatoes, and from three to four tons of hay to the acre; and if it is true, as I have heard some people say, that the soft-wood land on which fire has destroyed the wood, after being blown down and the roots become rotten, if it is ploughed and sown with either pease or buckwheat, crop after crop, it will get richer every year until it is fit to carry any species of crop without manure, it goes far to prove that a great proportion of what is considered poor land may be brought into a profitable state of cultivation by means