

tell them;" so he took the precaution to loan out the few thousand dollars he had before he went on the farm, his wife retaining but a moderate sum, and no one but himself and she knew how much she had or where it was placed. He had been told that if the people knew he had money they would all want cash from him for what he purchased; whereas if his credit was not impaired, and he had no money, he could buy all he wanted on long time and without any money down. And this suited our Scotch friend much better than paying away all his ready money.

The land was soon located, as in those days it was not so hard to find a quantity of well timbered wild land as it is now, and the price was reasonable.

THE BEGINNING.

These early struggles are sometimes amusing, and often instructive; and as I was on the best of terms with my host, and as he was as fond of talking as I was of listening, I soon had him in full swing.

"When I look around on the homestead," he began, after casting his eyes over his belongings with something of the air of a monarch of all he surveys, "I feel I have much to be thankful for," and raising his bonnet with a devout air, "I trust I am thankful. I left Scotland with a wife and four children—two boys of 10 and 12, and two girls of 9 and 13 years of age. Since that time four more have been born to us, two of each kind. Good children are the girls, and obedient and industrious are the boys, as I could desire. Ye see, I early came to the understanding with them that I was to be 'maister' and their mother mistress, and if our love for the family would na' do better for them than any other body's money, I thought it would be strange. To effect this I was well aware that something substantial was absolutely requisite and necessary for the future. Boys will grow up, and must be provided for if they are to be kept at home on the farm in Canada, so I took 'heart of grace,' and went again to Toronto, and within three months after I was settled on the old farm of 200 acres I had agreed for the purchase of four hundred more at the same price, with the one condition, namely, that as I paid no money down, (you will remember I was a poor man), I should clear ten acres on each lot each year, and pay the taxes and the interest if I could; if not, the interest was to accumulate until I could pay it. The clearing was looked on as abundant security for payment for the land. The land was as you see, so situated that I could clear the ten acres on each lot, and having only the concession road between the lots, I could still have all my clearing in one block, and immediately around the homestead. This restriction also suited me as well as any other would have done, as I felt that after a few years my eldest and second boy would begin fully to realize that he had

a farm in future, and that his farm had to be paid for out of the general fund of labour. I now fully realized the value of my prudence in 'not having any money.' I went all through the country, and by showing my agreement for 600 acres of the best land, I readily bought all I wanted from those who had it to sell, and you may generally trust a Scotchman for not paying more than the things were worth. If one man would not sell another would; a high price, or more than the article was worth, I would not pay; and although I seldom or never paid cash, I never paid more than I ought, for I reasoned thus: Some person has more of the particular article I required than he expressly wants, and he also wants money at some future time, and eighteen months' credit will not therefore hurt him, and will greatly benefit me. After I had thus bought all I wanted, I hired all the men I could get, and set on clearing at a furious rate. Here again I found no difficulty. I agreed to pay as much as they required to get clothes, and very little did for that, and the balance I was to pay when the crop came off. Now, you smile, but I tell you it is so, and no one was the wiser all the while as to the money. If my crops proved a failure, why my money must go to meet all demands; but if my crops proved a success, and I was sanguine they would if well put in, they would pay my dues and demands, and I would just go on the same gate again for another year."

C.

Cabbage as a Field Crop.

Farmers in all sections are expecting a shortness of fodder for the ensuing winter. We know of no crop that will yield a greater amount of food to the acre of the best quality than the cabbage. The work of setting out appals many farmers, but it need not. There is time enough before haying or the middle of July. We should take advantage of rainy weather to set out our plants. The land should be rich and thoroughly cultivated. The plants should be set in rows, two-and-a-half feet one way, and two the other. The plants are then dibbled and puddled. It is a good plan to make a mixture of clay and dung, saturated with the drainings from the stable, into which to dip the roots before planting.

Take the dibble in the right hand; let a boy carry the bunch of plants, and separating a single plant, hand to the dibbler, who makes a hole, which is filled with water by another boy carrying a watering can; the plant is placed in the hole, and the dibble again driven into the soil close to the whole, and the soil pressed against the root of the plant.

In placing a cabbage plant the hole should be made deep, and the plant lowered as far as possible, and then slightly drawn up before pressing into position. The sides of the hole catch the small fibres that are at-

tached to the tap root, and thus gives them a slightly downward turn, which is their natural position. A smart man will thus plant from four to five thousand in a day.

In the fall, when pastures begin to fail, cabbages make an excellent feed, and are a good preparation for cattle intended to be put up to stall.

Let the soft heads be then pulled and fed and leave the firm ones for winter keep.

The method of keeping is very simple; place them on a dry spot, head down, and cover with straw and earth, leaving the root and part of the stalk exposed.

In winter they are much relished as a change upon turnips by fattening cattle, are greedily eaten by pigs, and are the very best of green food for milch cows.

C. D. W.

Milk Weed.

A. B. Currie, of Aldboro', wishes to know a remedy for the "milk weed," with which he is much annoyed. The "milk weed," though not as generally diffused as some others of our regular enemies, is yet a most troublesome plant when once it has obtained a fair foothold. The best plan for its eradication is that which is also applicable to thistle and to "docks." Cut it with the scythe just before going to seed. Nature has at that time given all the growth and vigour that she intends to the plant, and the weed is then in its weakest state. It is useless to cut these hardy plants when young, for such cutting has only the effect of pruning, and the new growth will be stronger than the old; but when cut just before seeding, not only is the plant very weakly, but the stem being hollow, the rain is enabled to enter, and falling to the crown, will rot the root.

We do not say that this plan is final, but the greater part of a patch will be thus killed; and if persevered in each season, the whole farm may be freed from the weed in a few years.

Where there are but a few to contend with, doubtless the best plan is to pull them up by hand, grasping the weed near the crown, and helping up the root with a knife or garden trowel, thus breaking them off as far down in the soil as possible.

CUTTING CLOVER VS. PASTURING—In considering this question, the *Mark Lane Express* takes the ground that land from which a second crop of clover has been cut and carried away, is in better condition for the growth of wheat than when the same clover is consumed upon the field on which it is grown. Indeed, we may go so far as to say that even when such clover has been allowed to stand for seed, it is not uncommon for the same result to be observable. It thinks that pasturing dwarfs the growth of the clover plant, and it does not, therefore, accumulate so much vegetable matter in the roots, as when allowed to attain full growth as before