

and keep it till we are putting in our spring crops? It is in some places the practice to apply it often uncomposted, and scarcely to be called manure, to the stubble field intended for turnips and other roots. It is plowed in and allowed to lie till the land is stirred preparatory to sowing. This, it is true, saves much labor; it is the quickest way of getting rid of it. But it is to be doubted if this be attended with as profitable results as the composting the manure in a heap and applying it in the spring, when, having been applied in proper condition, it aids the germinating of the seed and the early growth of the young plant. It is objected that we often see in newly manured land great quantities of the manure sticking above the surface and in the middle of the drill, and this is not only the occasion of its being by so much a dead loss, but it is also an injury to the crop, the drought thereby having free access to the seed bed, to which moisture is so necessary. This can be best guarded against by having the manure well prepared, and by good use of the plow. In manuring ground, as in every other branch of farming, due regard must be had to climate as well as to soil. Here in a climate naturally dry, it is the more necessary not to apply manure uncomposted. We have sometimes seen it applied in such a state that we would expect a better crop from the soil not manured at all.

Agricultural Prizes.

In a late number of the *ADVOCATE* we expressed our preference for the system of giving prizes for the best cultivated farms, as in England, to that of awarding them for small select samples. We are pleased to find our opinions on this subject sustained by the highest agricultural authorities in the home country. The awarding of such premiums has been found to be the greatest incentive to improved farming in the several districts in which the farms entered for competition were situated. From our late English exchanges we abridge a report on prizes for the best managed farms in the various provinces in Ireland, read before the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland:

The committee appointed "to consider and report whether it would be advisable to offer farm prizes for the best managed farm in the county or province in which the society's show is held, and if so, to report further the conditions they would suggest for the competition, size of holdings to compete, prizes to be offered, and what steps should be taken to provide the necessary fund," are unanimously of opinion that it would be advisable to offer farm prizes for competition, and recommend that the area within which the competition be limited should be the province in which the society holds its annual show, in this way affording in each, in the course of four years, the opportunity of competing for the prizes to be offered.

They suggest that a grant of £50 should be made from the funds of the society to head a subscription list, and that a circular be issued throughout the country, and especially in the province of Ulster (in which the show of 1875 is to be held), inviting the public to contribute the necessary funds.

They also submit suggested form of entry, in which the conditions of competition are fully stated.

The committee are of opinion that the inspection of each competing farm by two judges at two different periods—say March and in July, just before the annual show—accompanied by one of the members of the society as steward, would probably be found sufficient. There should, however, be power given to the judges to call in a third in the event of their not agreeing. They should be called upon to give detailed reports of the farming

operations carried on upon each of the prize farms, with a general reference to the farming of the province, which could then be published with the annual proceedings of the society.

The committee estimate that the probable expense of carrying out the plan would be as follows:—

Total prizes	£130
Two judges paying two visits to each farm as suggested, at £30 each tour	120
One steward to accompany them	60
Printing, &c., expenses	20
Total	£330

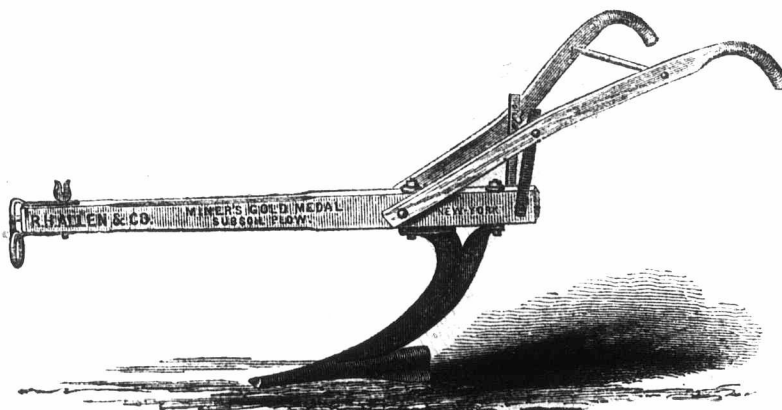
If the expenses connected with the judging can be kept lower, it would, of course, be so much the better, but the committee are of opinion that as the satisfactory working of the scheme depends upon the care with which the adjudication is conducted, no false economy should be attempted. They think at least £350 would be required, and if the response be large, a class of smaller holdings could be added, say from twenty pounds valuation to fifty pounds.

In conclusion, the committee desire to express to the council their sense of the importance of the movement proposed to be initiated, and feel that it will tend, if worked to a successful issue, to promote the best interests of the agricultural community.

They propose to contribute toward the expenses the sum of £450, and expect that subscriptions will be received, sufficient, with the addition of this sum, to carry out the design with entire success.

Subsoil Plough.

In response to enquiries made by one of our subscribers to give an illustration of a subsoil



SUBSOIL PLOUGH.

plough, we procured the above cut from New York. The plough is manufactured by R. H. Allen & Co. There are two subsoil ploughs made in Canada, and we are not aware that the manufacturers of either have a cut of them. One plough costs \$45; the other we believe the same price as Mr. Allen's. We do not yet know which is the most efficient. Mr. Lamb, of Strathroy, had a patent subsoiler. We intend putting Mr. Allen's subsoiler into operation if we do not find a better one. It may be seen at our ware-rooms in this city.

Clearing the Land of Wild Mustard.

PRIZE ESSAY, WRITTEN FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

SIR,—Encouraged by former efforts, I will again enter the list of competitors for the prize for the best essay on the destruction of the Charlock or Wild Mustard, which are one and the same thing. There is no way it can be so effectually done as by summer fallowing, provided it is done properly and in the same manner as was recommended for the destruction of wild oats. Neither that or any other weed seeds can live through a summer's fallow. Bring the seed with the plow and harrow within the influence of sun and air, and they will soon vegetate, and the same implements will equally soon kill them. But the wild mustard may be very effectually destroyed in the following manner:

In the first place, I presume you have a piece of stubble land, or any other from which the crop has lately been taken; plow it very shallow, or, what is far preferable, a skimmer or skirting plow, regulated by a wheel, as it is not easy to hold a plow as shallow as is necessary to keep the seed as near the surface as possible—always presuming the greatest part of the seed came from the last year's crop. You cannot plow, skim or skirt too shallow, provided the land is all turned. Then early in spring harrow it well, and let it lay, and it will soon be up green; let it be so until you have got through the rest of the crop, for your mustard is in a fair way to destruction, but at your earliest convenience plow it down regular depth, and there is nothing surer but every seed that vegetated must die; and so let it lie, except what is left in the ground should be too plentiful, in which case harrowing on a fine day is quite sufficient. Then, in July plow again and prepare your field for turnips, that is, if you can get manure, for they require good cultivation from first to last; then they are a very profitable crop, and you can depend on a good crop of grain the following year, as much as you would get from two or three acres not well cultivated.

There is another method to destroy this pest equally effectual, that is, in the absence of manure requisite for turnips, prepare your land by plowing and harrowing as I prescribed above for turnips (manure excepted), and in the same month—July—sow the field to vetches or tares, and what little Charlock seed might possibly have escaped, will then come up with the vetches, and, for a time, threaten to overcome them; but their triumph is of short duration, for when the vetch has properly taken its root, it grows rapidly if the land is not too poor. About six weeks after this time let the farmer take particular notice of its progress, for at this stage there are two methods to adopt. If the vetch grows very strong, it will assuredly kill any old seed that might have escaped, and the farmer can see if his field is cleaned to his satisfaction; if so, I leave to his own judgment what to do with the crop of vetches.

Now, the second method is, if the land should be poor, as is sometimes the case, and there is any charlock or mustard seen through the field and the vetch from eight inches to a foot in height, to stock it with his milch cows and also his feeding for fat cattle, and if the field is large enough, put in pigs, sheep or any beast that is healthy, and you will soon see the difference in the appearance, and any farmer must know the field must be the better for such a soiling as it would get.

The last method is this: if the vetch should not be strong enough to overcome the mustard by stocking the land, the cattle will crop every old head, if there should be any left; but if there is one left when the vetch is sown, and if it should be a poor crop, they will soon show their yellow heads, then stock the field, or cut and hawl them to the stable, and fed out there; but, be sure it is done before the seed is formed. But my opinion is, let in the cattle to eat it on the land; it will enrich it and have it in good state for the next crop. I have tried it and seen it done often in England, I can assure you, it is by the growing of grain crops that the English farmer pays his rent, rates, and taxes, and men's wages and I feel certain the sooner the farmers, the young ones especially, turn their attention to the growing of green crops, and raising fat cattle the better; and mark my words the farmer that first sets about it in earnest, and goes over his farm once will never again want to know how to kill or destroy wild mustard for it cannot flourish much where there is a state of good cultivation; now, I never heard that sowing grain one crop after the other did anything but impoverish the land, and equally so the farmer; but this comparatively new country with its virgin soil will bear considerable cropping before it will give in, and the first symptoms you may see in impoverished land is, the weeds which will multiply. THOS. SQUIRRES.

Leeds, Ja'y, 16th, 1875.

On account of the heavy loss sustained by delinquent subscribers, we intend to bring our business to a cash system. Persons who are in arrears for 1st year, if not paid within one month, will have their names struck off and account placed in suit for collection.

Old Church

From 'Notes of a

"In New York Trinity churches, had been converted into a school, instead of hauling them, and selling them too often the case. Grounds had been monuments. The with a fine selection &c. Along the bank English ivy had single Portulacae, flourishing condition. Portulacae contrasted ivy, producing a v. learned that a garden both churchyards, ance of the plants.

Could not some in New York? In our agriculture, we of our gardens and courage the beautiful land. The plant country is undoubtedly and such flower garden as those mentioned the minds of the nature, and their heart. In this well suited for the Post Office, in plot that might at a full flower garden, *Gardeners' Monthly* site that might be

Manufacturing

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The whole business advantageously as in Canada. The ing for terms. He to give liberal terms with the agents n agents would still would require im order, and some

The Patrons of chinery cheaper attend to the work it would be a mu of our manufacto most willing to a benefit of farmer leave or close the

At the present much for money and had not half were so sound an with him, and co bandry in Canada the country by ir reliability. Our Husbandry will to the country trade. The Pa