

ing apple trees do not more generally obtain some of the earlier sorts. They make a family so comfortable at this season of the year.

Some sorts of apples are remarkably forward and fine. The kinds I have mentioned, together with the Ribston Pippin, Baldwin, Greening, Gravenstein, and Emperor, are large and handsome, and I think will be earlier than usual. The Nonpareil and Iron apples are yet small, but they often swell out very much in the early part of October. The Belfleur, or Bishop's Pippin is very indifferent this year. This was the case two years ago, when the Exhibition took place at Kentville. There was not a good specimen of this apple to be had that season, but I must say they promise better this year. The apple crop will undoubtedly be a short one; but with myself and some other orchards in this vicinity, I never saw certain kinds bearing much better, I have actually had to support the limbs of some of my Gravenstein trees they are so loaded.

Warm weather, with occasional showers, will improve the fruit crop very much.

The plum crop seems very uneven. In some localities the trees are bearing abundantly, and in others there is a total failure. I think this is owing to the frost being much more severe in some localities than others.

With me the trees are bearing very well.

I have some very fine Nectarines, the earliest variety of plums cultivated by us, which were fit for use a week ago.

The Washingtons and Gages are fast coming to maturity, the former generally proving to be a shy bearer, but in some instances quite the reverse, soil and locality being the cause.

I have from twelve to fifteen varieties of plums, but none can exceed the old French Gage in richness, &c., but I am sorry to say that they are very liable to the black knot.

Pears are so little cultivated generally that I can scarcely say anything about them.

There are many old standard trees in this section of the county which continue to bear pretty well, and until within a few years, but few persons have gone into the cultivation of the pear to any extent. Many are now setting out dwarfs which I find are doing very well. They suit our light soils better than the standard.

Out door grapes are being cultivated by many persons, and this year I think are doing very well. The Isabella is the kind most generally cultivated, but within a few years past some persons are introducing new sorts from the U. S., viz.: Hartford, Prolific, Concord, Rebecca, &c., which so far have succeeded very well. My Sweet Water and B. Cluster

are bearing very well, both English sorts. I am trying a Hamburg in the open air, but it will not fruit for a year or two yet. The only known vine of this sort bearing fruit in the open air is, I believe, in a garden at Windsor, and why not fruit in Cornwallis?

Our weather is now fine, and is fast bringing every kind of crop to maturity, and on the whole, I think the farmer has no cause for complaint this season, for in cases where the crops are not abundant they are well matured, and so far secured in good order.

I hope we will be able to have a good Exhibition of fruit, vegetables, &c., at our show at Wolfville, the 11th October next, and that the people generally will evince sufficient interest to come and see for themselves.

It is contemplated to hold a County Cattle Show at the same time, when it may be expected that there will be a fair show of Cattle, Horses, &c.

#### A RIVAL HAY FIELD TO MR. WRIGHT'S.

*Clare, August 26th, 1865.*

I notice in the August number of the Agricultural Journal that Mr. Wright's Hay-field at Sackville, was very good, that the timothy ears reached nearly to the top of the fence. I do not know how high the fences are in Sackville, but last season was here an extraordinary season for timothy and red clover; it was quite common in my father's field to pull timothy by the ears out of the swath, that measured five to five and a half feet long.

ANSLEM M. COMEAU.

#### PASTURE MANAGEMENT.

MR. EDITOR:—

Observing in your paper a request that some of your readers would give the views respecting the necessity and propriety of ploughing and re-seeding pasture lands, the writer gives it as his opinion that in order to keep pastures in a good state for dairy purposes, and fattening cattle, it is necessary to plough and manure the land every five or six years. The grass is much sweeter and more nutritive on land that has been recently ploughed than on that which has been a long time without ploughing; it becomes sour on old land and neither horned cattle nor sheep will eat it, unless pinched with hunger. It has been the practice of the writer, frequently to plough up and put under crop, several acres of his pasture land, and to turn another piece out, keeping the land sometimes three years, under the plough, and giving it one coat of manure, and sometimes four years, and giving it two coats. When land is intended for mowing, we sow with timothy and clover, but seldom put grass seed on land intended

for pasture. If the land is made rich, as it ought to be, the seed that is in the manure, together with the white clover seed which is in the land, and the couch grass which is so common to most of our fields, will form a coat of grass which will generally by the second year cover the ground well, and give good pasture for cattle.

A HANTS CO. FARMER.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture.

#### ON MANURE.

NO. VI.

While on this stale old subject, I should like to ask those who feel interested in the matter, whether it ever occurred to them that under the surface of some soils, there is, as it were, a natural manure, or refresher of the worn out surface, only waiting to be brought into use.

Many will perhaps remember reading of the old plan of shallow farming, or as it was sometimes called—"Skinning the surface," how soon lands so cultivated became run out and barren, and how, when such poor worn out farms, fell into the hands of more intelligent men, and the shallow system, was superseded by deeper, and still deeper, ploughing, what a wonderful difference was soon seen in the crops, and how astonished the old inhabitants were at such apparent necromancy.

Now the secret of all this lay chiefly in the fact, that the lime, and other natural food of plants was exhausted out of the thin coat of soil cultivated by the shallow farmer, and this want being supplied by the turning up of a portion of the lime-bearing sub-soil, again made the surface to smile and bring forth abundantly.

The same law of exhaustion is at work here, and the same remedy can be applied. If the surface of old ploughed lands lacks lime, and the sub-soil has it, bring a little sub-soil up to the surface, and an improvement is sure to follow.

The same with pastures, which, as a general rule, get so completely run out of lime after a few years grazing. If you cannot turn them up, the sub-soil may be dug out, where nearest and richest in lime, and carted and spread out for the winter to mellow, and make it fit to be brush harrowed in the spring. There is hardly anything better adapted as a cheap top-dressing for old, dry, or gravelly pastures, than the clay which is sometimes so much in the way after digging a well, or cellar, or deep drain. This is generally rich in lime; but as a test to ascertain whether clay, or any sub-soil has a sufficiency of lime in it to make it good enough for a top-dressing, try it with vinegar. Take a cup, and put a small portion of the loose soil into it, then pour