

tive value on different crops, and time of sowing, can only be arrived at by experiment. In England, it is found in many soils to be utterly valueless, probably because the said soils already contain a sufficient supply in themselves for the crops raised thereon.

We are, however, fully of opinion with Mr. Vernon, that the best time for its application is in the Fall, as we have frequently found that when sown late in the Spring, its effects were scarcely perceptible, while the ensuing crop plainly shewed when it had been previously applied. We should however except peas, as we believe it enters so largely into the composition of that crop as to absorb all its beneficial qualities.

The hints of our very humorous Correspondent, "A Canadian Farmer," (for which we thank him,) shall be attended to; and we hope our brother farmers will experiment in the use of salt as a manure, and report to us the result. We ourselves once tried it on an old timothy meadow, by using one bushel of salt to two of leached ashes, on two acres, against one of plaster to two of ashes on the same quantity, and the salt certainly had a decided preference on the dry land, but was not perceptible by its effects on the low, moist portion. And we find by the English Agricultural papers, that on the coast, when sea-weed had been used as a manure for potatoes, they escaped the prevailing infection. We shall certainly bring before the notice of the Northumberland Agricultural Society the expediency of importing some of the minor, though by no means insignificant articles, lately beneficially employed in England, for experiment; for should it so happen that our present staple cannot be made a remunerating article of export, we must try something else,—Dairy produce, for one, which, of course, involves the Glass Milk Pans.

The communication of "Scotus," he will find we have inserted in this number, and fully coincide in opinion with him, that a vast amount of benefit would be conferred on the majority of our Agriculturists, by the more experienced coming forward, and stating in plain terms their own practice in the various departments of Agriculture, their treatment of the different soils for the various crops, and the result of their observations generally; for it must be remembered that, among such a number of young Farmers, there are far more who require

instruction, than those who are fully initiated are aware.

We would call the attention of our readers to the possibility of the extinction of the Potato as an article of food for man and beast, and would be glad to receive their opinions on the most suitable substitute; taking into the account, that the substitute should be as palatable, as nutritious, as well adapted for general use, as easy of culture,—and last, though not least, as prolific.

The enquiry made by our Cavan correspondent, will doubtless be answered by Mr. Vernon, and we hope his query as to the season for sowing the Black-Sea wheat, will be replied to by some of our readers who may have grown that variety.

Our own opinion with respect to all the summer wheats is, that they cannot be got in too early.

We shall feel obliged by the continued correspondence of "A Cavan Farmer," and more particularly by his promised remarks on the subjects to which he adverts in his communication.

ERRATA in last No. of *Newcastle Farmer*.—Page 55, 8th line from bottom,—for "heavy days," read "heavy clays." Page 56, 11th line from top,—for "more organic," read "inorganic."

To the Editor of the *Newcastle Farmer*.

Sir,—I believe you are pretty correct in your lately expressed opinion, that the occasional communications of neighbouring Farmers would have a tendency to render the *Newcastle Farmer* still more interesting and useful,—exhibiting, as they doubtless would, many useful suggestions and experiments in the practical department of that hitherto much neglected science.

You are aware, that in this Province a very large proportion of those in the occupation of land, have had little or no experience in its management, previous to their settlement here; of how much importance is it to those individuals, and for the welfare of the Province generally, that practical information should be extensively diffused by men of experience and understanding.

As it is my misfortune to belong to this apprentice class of farmers, I hailed with much delight the appearance of your cheap and useful paper, and I fondly hope that, for the sake of my class, many of the thorough-bred farmers of the District will exert themselves, through its pages, for our instruction and improvement.

Would it not be a good plan to establish a Museum in Cobourg, where all makers or inventors of implements of husbandry could place a model or working instrument, which would at all times

be open to the public for inspection, and where the intending purchaser could compare the merits of the different implements, and select the best? This would obviate the difficulty complained of by Mr. Wad, when remarking on the very sensible Letter of the "Northumberland Farmer."

Can any of your correspondents furnish information relative to the manufacture of Corn-stalk Sugar, so as to make it a remunerating crop? Of course, I mean more remunerative than allowing the corn to come to maturity, or even as a potato crop, as that crop has seemingly ceased to pay. I am, Sir,

Your's respectfully,
SCOTUS,

Hamilton, February, 1847.

To the Editor of the *Newcastle Farmer*.

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to the communications which appeared in the last number of the *Newcastle Farmer*,—and particularly to your able remarks on Fall Ploughing. Mr. Vernon states that he has "sown plaster with Fall Wheat, and harrowed it in with the wheat, with very good effect."

Will Mr. V. have the goodness to state through the medium of your valuable publication, for the information of his readers, whether the land was a naked or green fallow, and if there was any manure applied exclusive of the Plaster,—the nature of the soil, and the time of sowing. Mr. Vernon's reasons for sowing Plaster on land in that state, in the Fall, ought to be properly solved, and the benefits, if successfully, generally known; and I know by experience, in sowing Plaster in the Spring, on clover, much depends on the quantity of the article, and the nature of the soil upon which the application is made. "One word" on Fall Ploughing: "To prepare the land of considerable declivity,"—Use the side-hill plough, and it will remedy the "injurious effects apprehended in the retention of the valuable properties being carried off by the surplus rains in the Spring." In my next, I will refer to the subject of *Summer Fallows*.

An English writer, speaking of the prejudice against deep ploughing, says,—"It would puzzle a computer to tell why a Farmer always digs his garden 20 inches (where he always gets good crops,) and ploughs for his field crops only five inches." Will any of your numerous readers give any information with respect to the best time in the Spring of sowing Black Sea wheat,—the quantity per acre,—and the soil best adapted for it? I think the information desired could be correctly procured from a Brockville paper,—where the most of the Spring Wheat, if not all of that description, is sown. I fear I am getting tedious; in my next I will advert to the use of salt as a "top dressing for Potatoes."

I am, Sir, Respectfully yours,
A CAVAN FARMER.

Cavan, 9th February, 1847.

A GOOD BANK.—The best bank ever yet known is a bank of earth; it never refuses to discount to honest labour; and the best share is the plough share, on which dividends are always liberal.

"What an extraordinary curve your horse has in his back-bone," said a gentleman to an Irish farmer; "can you account for it?" "By the powers, Sir, and to be sure I'm able. I have heard that before the baste was mine, he was backed against another horse, who *bate him hollow*, and he never could get straight again."

Published by H. JONES RUTTAN, at "The Cobourg Star" Office.