

to produce as thick a growth of plants as the land will sustain. If set too thin on rich soil, the stalks grow too large producing a coarse and inferior lint; on the contrary, if seeded too thick, the growth proves so short as to materially affect the value of the crop.

In the latitude of the hemp-growing section of Kentucky, the seeding is mostly done from the 1st to the 15th of April, and the land generally ploughed the fall before.

In Iowa the seeding should be done as soon as the ground proves to be in good dry working order. Although the seed itself seems very tender, its vitality easily affected, and its germination after sowing often seriously disturbed by unfavorable circumstances, yet when once above ground, and fairly set, no ordinary frosts that destroy other vegetation seem to affect it; hence but little danger need be apprehended from late frosts, that prove so destructive to corn.

The seeds being sown, proceed to cover them up with a tight harrow by running both ways to secure uniform results; the more shallow the seed is covered in a moist soil the more certain the vegetation. If the season and soil be dry, a somewhat deeper covering may be necessary. Under favorable circumstances, the crop makes its appearance in a few days, and with proper sun and moisture it rapidly covers the ground. From seed time until harvest the laborer has only to watch its almost magic growth from day to day.

After having once covered the ground, the crop is generally considered safe by the grower; yet he is sometimes doomed to disappointment. Hail storms prove very destructive to the tender watery plant; high winds damage the yield, but never entirely destroy the crop.

[The remainder of Mr. Bradford's instructive treatise, which we extract from the Reports of the Agricultural Department at Washington, will be given next month.]

GROUND BONES AND THEIR USES.

Of all the special manures Bone Dust is the safest for the farmer to buy. It holds out the least inducement to the manufacturer to adulterate, and contains weight for weight as many valuable fertilising qualities, as the best Peruvian Guano, or any of the numerous Superphosphates. If it is not so readily absorbed by the soil, or does not so quickly act on the crop as either of the two mentioned, the purchaser should bear in mind that it is only half the price by weight; and if he is satisfied to have his returns divided over three years, he actually gets double the value, by laying his money out in bone dust, that he would have received had he purchased either Guano or Superphosphate. And if it is considered that eight hundred of the one can be bought for the same price as four hundred of

either of the other two, it follows, therefore in theory, that a given amount of money laid out in dust would give twice the results in three years that the same sum would do invested in either of the others; and I believe the same result will be found good in practice, for if eight hundred of bones, about a fair quantity for turnips or potatoes, be put through a fine sieve, about one-third will be found as fine as flour and immediately available for the crop, and two-thirds more for gradual absorption by the first and two succeeding crops.

I purchased from Mr. Stanford, last spring, four tons of fine ground bones, which I used as follows:—

	Acres.	Cwt.
Turnips.....	3	24
Indian Corn....	0½	6
Barley.....	4	32
Potatoes.....	0½	8
Hay.....	3	10
	11½	80

The results were—turnips, one thousand bushels; corn, twenty six; barley, seventy-five; potatoes, one hundred and twenty-five; shipping hay, no increase whatever. The results are nothing to boast of, but the land, a sandy loam, is very poor and run out from constant cropping with but little manure, and very weedy from poor cultivation. To that, the dryness of the season, and the bones not having arrived, owing to delays in the transportation, until the end of May, I ascribe the poorness of the results, and not to any deficiency in the manure. For when I compare them with some crops on the same sort of land on farms adjacent, put in with barn-yard manure, I find the turnips, barley, potatoes equal, and the corn superior; and though there were no results from the bones put on grass, neither was there from the land round it top-dressed in April with barn-yard manure, finely spread and well harrowed in. This, I think, may be also laid to the dryness of the season, for after cutting the hay the manure lay about like chips, and has only now disappeared and melted into the ground under the fall rains. As it is, I feel so satisfied that bone dust affords the readiest and cheapest means of restoring a worn out farm, such as mine, that next year I intend to use twelve tons and grow with it my whole crop, putting all the manure I make on the hay land, and by that means to bring it from what it cuts at present, about half a ton, to two or perhaps two and a half tons to the acre.

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HORACE GREELY ON FARMING.—Mr. Greeley purposes to write a series of essays on Farming, to be published each week during 1870, in THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE. The essays will all appear in the Daily, Semi-Weekly, and Weekly editions of THE TRIBUNE. He means to demonstrate that Agriculture in the future is certain to be very different from what it has been in the past, and hopes to embody words of cheer as well as hints for guidance to the future farmers of our country. The first essay was published in the WEEKLY TRIBUNE of Jan. 5.

THE "CANADA FARMER."

Yarmouth, Dec. 24, 1869.

TO THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE:

Gentlemen,—A circular recently received from the Publishers of the *Canada Farmer*, offers so liberal a discount to Agricultural Societies only for 1870, forty per cent on 200 copies and over, and free of postage, that I venture to suggest no more useful appropriation of a portion of the grant for the past year can be made by the Board than to order, say, 20 copies of the *Canada Farmer* for 1870, to be addressed to the Secretary of each Agricultural Society in the Province, deducting cost, \$12, from the grant to the Society for the year 1869. The papers could be either sold to members at cost, distributed by lot, or otherwise disposed of, as the managers should decide best. I have ordered 30 copies for our Society. There seems a greater disinclination than usual this year to subscribe for papers, or I should order more at once. I have a large club for the *American Agriculturist*, 96 copies ordered in 1869. Of ten copies of *Nova Scotian Journal of Agriculture* for which I subscribed last year, I was obliged to give away three. Am sorry not to be able to contribute more to its support—shall order ten copies for 1870 next week. The Board can estimate as well as I the effect of the distribution of 1000 copies of a good agricultural paper,—they would be so many centres of improvement radiating near and wide year after year. It would be better for Societies to pay cost; as gratuities the papers would not be duly appreciated.

Yours, &c.,
CHARLES E. BROWN.

(Extract from Circular.)

"The Proprietors of the *Canada Farmer* have resolved to supply Agricultural Societies with that journal for the coming year (1870) at the following very low rates, free of postage:—

A Club of 10 copies and under 20.	30 cents per copy.
" 20 "	36.80 "
" 30 "	40.75 "
" 40 "	60.70 "
" 50 "	100.65 "
" 100 "	200.62½ "
" 200 copies and over	.60 "

[The foregoing communication being addressed to the Board of Agriculture, we have printed it in the *Journal* as the readiest means of reaching Members of the Board. We quite agree with Mr. Brown that the circulation of twelve or fourteen hundred copies of the *Canada Farmer* throughout the Province would be productive of much benefit, and we have been constantly urging upon the Members of our Societies the propriety of subscribing not only for the *Canada Farmer*, but also for the *American Agriculturist*, *Stock Journal*, *Gardener's Monthly* and other standard publications. The reply frequently is, that the societies are in debt, have difficulty in paying for the keeping of their thorough-bred animals, &c. Whether the reasons assigned be good or bad, we know that if the Board of Agriculture were to bargain for *Canada Farmers* for the societies, and deduct \$12 a year, or 12 cents a year from each Agricultural society, the societies would