

marl was found to contain about 80 per cent. of carbonate of lime, a purer, and more extensive bed is seldom found in any country. If the farmer in the surrounding neighbourhood could be influenced to use it, as a dressing upon their land, at the rate of about 80 bushels per acre, it would increase, especially their wheat, grass, and pea crops, to an extent equal to 100 per cent; and, in fact would prove an invaluable dressing upon the land for any description of crops. This substance, unlike manure, only requires to be added to the soil once in ten or twelve years. It is a sure preventative of rust, inasmuch as the lime it contains acts upon the silica in the soil, and dissolves it into small particles, so that the sap-vessels of the plant can convey it to the stalk, thereby forming a hard outer surface, which prevents the vessels from bursting. It also acts mechanically upon the soil, correcting any acidity it may contain, and changing the stiffest clays into comparatively light loams.

In the South-Eastern States, where this substance has been lately brought into extensive use, the farmers in that quarter set so high a value upon marls, that they pay from 30 to 40 cents per load, and draw it a distance of six or eight miles, and spread it upon their land at the rate of 100 bushels per acre—notwithstanding the high price which it costs them, and the expense which they are subject to in many instances, in drawing it so great a distance; still, through its use alone, has the land in the whole country been doubled in value within the past four years: and those who were anxious to dispose of their lands only a few years since, upon any terms, to emigrate to the Far-West, have become quite satisfied with their situation; and as a means of improving their circumstances, have resolved upon improving their lands through the liberal use of calcareous manures.

In the belief that similar efforts will produce similar effects here, we now, with much confidence, recommend the Canadian farmers to make an experiment with Marl.

For the Cultivator.

FOURTH RIDING OF YORK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Whitchurch, June, 1844.

The Fourth Riding of York, Agricultural Society, held their Annual Ploughing Match on Saturday, the 15th inst., in a field of Mr. Garden Birnie's, near Newmarket. The weather was very pleasant, the attendance good, and the pro-

ceedings throughout of a nature calculated to have a favourable impression on the minds of those in attendance.

The Ploughmen were divided into three Classes. The First Class open to all; the Second Class open to all under twenty-one years of age; and the Third Class open to all persons under seventeen years of age. There were six Ploughmen in the First Class, four in the Second Class, and five in the Third Class,—in all, fifteen.

About sixty patches were allotted to each Ploughman, which was required to be completed in three hours. The size of the furrow slice was nine inches wide, by four inches deep. After the ploughing was completed, the Judges Messrs. George Playter, David Jackson, and James Galloway, proceeded to examine the work, and awarded the prizes as follows, viz:—

FIRST CLASS:

1st Prize, £2 0 0 Francis Hood, King.
2nd Prize, 1 5 0 G. Pearson, Whitchurch
3rd Prize, 0 15 0 G. Davis, Whitchurch.

SECOND CLASS.

1st Prize, £2 0 0 J. Breckon, Gwillb'y E.
2nd Prize, 1 5 0 Clinger Willson, do.
3rd Prize, 0 15 0 P. Degear, Whitchurch,

THIRD CLASS.

1st Prize, £2 0 0 J. Hacking, Jr. White'h.
2nd Prize, 1 5 0 M. Cuny, Jr. Gwillb'y E.
3rd Prize, 0 15 0 W. Willson, Whitchurch.

Mr. John B. Lundy, of the Second Class, would probably have received the second prize for his Class, but, unfortunately, he was taken ill when he had nearly finished his lot, and was obliged to leave the field: his work, as far as it was done, was second in the Class, and well merited a prize; but the regulations required the work to be completed, therefore the committee thought it would be establishing a dangerous precedent to award Mr. Lundy a prize, notwithstanding his illness.

When the Judges had finished their examination, the Ploughmen a number of the members of the Society, and several other gentlemen present repaired to Mr. Hewett's Hotel, Newmarket, and partook of a good and substantial dinner, such as farmers are partial to, and one that did much credit to our hosts.

After despatching dinner, in about as good a style as the ploughmen executed their work, each took up the line of march for home, apparently highly gratified with the whole proceedings of the day; and I trust, fully resolved to make still further progress in this most ancient, most useful, and most healthy employment—an employment which conduces more than any other, to the welfare of our country. I would just state, that the Ploughing was, all of it, well executed; and was in the opinion of the Judges, seldom equalled, in the accuracy with which the furrow slice was proportioned.

The lads of the Third Class deserve especial notice, and great credit for the skill they evinced in their work; some of

them nearly equaling those in the older classes.

Yours respectfully,
JOSEPH HARTMAN,
Secretary.

From the Southern Planter,

BRILLIANT WHITEWASH.

Many have heard of the brilliant stucco whitewash on the east of the President's house at Washington. The following is the recipe for making it, with some additional improvements:—

“Take half a bushel of fine unslacked lime, slack it with boiling water, covering it during the process to keep in the steam. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve or strainer, and add to it a peck of clean salt, previously well dissolved in warm water; three pounds of ground rice, boiled to a thin paste, and stirred in boiling hot; half a pound of powdered Spanish whiting, and a pound of clean glue, which has been previously dissolved by first soaking it well, and then hanging it over a slow fire, in a small kettle, within a large one filled with water. Add five gallons of hot water to the whole mixture; stir it well, and let it stand a few days covered from the dirt. It should be put on quite hot! for this purpose it can be kept in a kettle on a portable furnace. It is said that one pint of this mixture will cover a square yard upon the outside of a house if properly applied. Brushes more or less small may be used, according to the neatness of the job required. It answers as well as oil paint for wood, brick, or stone, and is cheaper. It retains its brilliancy for many years.

“There is nothing of the kind that will compare with it, either for inside or outside walls. Coloring matter may be put in, and made of any shade you like. Spanish brown stirred in will make red or pink more or less deep, according to the quality. A delicate tinge of this is very pretty for inside walls. Fine pulverized common clay, well mixed with this Spanish brown before it is stirred into the mixture, makes a lilac color. Lampblack in moderate quantities makes a slate color, very suitable for the outside of buildings. Lampblack and Spanish brown mixed together produce a reddish stone color. Yellow ochre stirred in makes a yellow wash; but chrome goes further, and makes a color generally esteemed prettier. In all these cases, the darkness of the shade will of course be determined by the quantity of coloring matter used. It is difficult to make a rule, because tastes are very different; it would be best to try experiments on a shingle, and let it dry. I have been told that green must not be mixed with lime. The lime destroys the color, and the color has an effect on the whitewash, which makes it crack and peel.

“When walls have been badly smoked, and you wish to have them a clean white, it is well to squeeze indigo plentifully through a bag into the water you use, before it is stirred in the whole mixture.

“If a larger quantity than five gallons is wanted the same proportions should be observed.”

This is the third or fourth time that, by particular request, we have published the above recipe, which we have no doubt is an excellent one. But after all, we believe that white lead, especially at the low price at which it can be purchased at present, is the best and most economical pigment that can be used. At any rate, this is the experience of our Northern friends, who are proverbial for their economy and management. They paint every thing, except the ladies' cheeks, and that nature does for them in a manner to surpass even the purity of their beautiful cottages.

We intend to furnish directions for the mixing and laying on of white paint, so that every farmer may become his own painter. It is an operation much more simple than is generally imagined.