

climate. Warm, moist ones require less than cold, whether dry or moist climates. In England, Mr. Rowlandson says, the generality of soil will require a dressing of ten tons of well rotted farm-yard dung per acre, ploughed and harrowed in early in April. The land should, of course, be in the first instance well ploughed and properly drained; also well harrowed and rolled, to get the top-soil into good tilth; and weeds, as horse-mint, or twitch, destroyed. The manure must be carefully and evenly spread, and the plough follow close to the spreader.

*Seed.*—Of seed, that from Holland is the most esteemed, ripens soon, yields abundant crops, and of a fine quality; but well-grown English seed is also of good quality. Indian seed, from external appearance, appears fine, but may not be so well suited in the first crop for fibre; but the Himalayan seed, both from its appearance and the nature of its produce, is probably inferior to none, and perhaps only requires interchanging. The seed should be of a bright grey color, and plump; and must not have undergone heating in any way, and therefore the taste, when bitten, should be sweet, and not bitter or acrid.

The quantity of seed may vary from two to two and a half, others say to three bushels an acre; the last if a fine fibre is required, for weaving into cloth. But the larger quantity cannot be sown on very rich soils. The thicker it is on suitable land, the finer it will grow. The fresh-ploughed land should be sown very evenly, care being taken to scare away birds. The best time for sowing, in England, is from the first to the 15th May, as frosts are apt to injure the young plants; but late-sown plants are apt to grow thin and weak.

*After-culture.*—Hemp seed is sown both broadcast and in drills. When grown on account chiefly of the seed, it is sown thin. Sinclair says, by sowing hemp in drills, a coarser and stronger bark or fibre, fit for cordage, will be produced, and a less quantity of seed is required than by sowing it broadcast. This latter mode is to be preferred, when hemp is wanted for textile purposes. The stems rise slender and fine, according to their proximity; but they require to be weeded. In general the hemp will itself smother all weeds, except in the spaces between drills. During its season of rapid growth, the plant necessarily requires moisture, and therefore, in some countries, irrigation is practised.

*Fulling.*—As already observed, hemp has usually two harvests; but when grown on account of the fibre only, it may be pulled when in flower, and no distinction made between the male and female plants. But as it is usually desirable to get both the seed and the fibre of both plants, the male plants, or white hemp, are pulled as soon as they have shed their pollen, usually about thirteen weeks after they have been sown. They may then be easily recognized by their leaves becoming yellow, and the stem of a whitish color, and the flowers faded. Each plant is pulled up singly by the root, care being taken not to break or cramp the stem in the hand. The ripeness of the female plant is known not only by many of the same signs as those of the male, but also by the seeds beginning to turn of a grey color, being firm inside, and some of the capsules to open. When the seed has become perfectly ripe, the bark is apt to become woody and coarse, and to separate with difficulty. But the seed which is required for sowing ought to be taken from plants allowed enough of room to spread, and then to fully ripen their seed.

*Drying.*—When the plants are pulled, it is recommended to hold the root-end uppermost, and with a wooden sword dress off the flowers and leaves, as