

throughout this section may be regarded both as a cause and a result of the continuous improvement of live stock. Every farm appears to have more or less of turnips, mangels, carrots, &c. We observed whole fields, from five to a dozen acres, with a smooth, level surface, and without a stump some with turnips in as good a style of workmanship as can anywhere be met with in the old country. The usual practice seems to be to make drills with the plough, cover the manure, principally farm yard dung, superphosphate, or ground bones, by the same implement, and drill on the ridge, after the manner of the Northumberland system, so prevalent in most parts of England and Scotland. It was truly pleasing to observe wherever we went the original farm buildings, often constructed of logs, giving way to more extensive and durable structures, thereby clearly indicating a state of social progress and prosperity. This being a limestone district most of the new houses are built of stone, which is also the case with many of the barns and other farm buildings. We must not omit to notice that in calling on Mr. Parsons we had an opportunity of observing the dairy operations by which Mrs. Parsons manufactures the Stilton cheese, which has now for a number of years been so deservedly esteemed for its superior quality. This business requires the exercise of skill and judgment, and involves no small amount of care and trouble, which few, perhaps, would be willing to undergo. Mr. Parsons' cows are mostly grades, well adapted for his purpose, several of them being two-thirds Durham. It is an important fact to bear in mind that wherever a number, however small, of pure bred cattle find a local habitation, the general character of the stock of the district gradually improves, yielding in a few years grades of superior quality, whether for the dairy or the shambles.

Wherever we went the country presented a beautiful appearance, and the crops universally promising, which it is pleasing to be assured is generally the case throughout the Province. The late rains have been of incalculable benefit, and as yet few, if any, symptoms of disease, (except here and there complaints of the grub or cutworm,) among the cereals. With settled weather and an increased temperature, of which there are now signs (June 25th), there is good reason to anticipate a more bountiful harvest than has fallen to our lot for many years.

We would suggest to our readers the importance of not delaying the commencement of mowing and harvest operations; an error commonly committed. Grass of all kinds should be cut when in full flower, and grain as soon as it is fairly out of the milky state, and the straw has a yellowish hue. In that stage ripeness plants possess the largest amount of nutritious ingredients: but by allowing them to go beyond that point before being cut, or in other words, to become what is termed dead matter, a large amount of the starch and sugar which they contain is converted into woody fibre, an almost totally innutritious substance. Besides, a few days gained in the commencement

of haying or harvest in a forcing climate like ours, where the season is brief and work must be hurried, present practical advantages which every reflecting farmer will be able to understand.

THE GRUB.

EDITORS OF THE AGRICULTURIST.—GENTLEMEN: Could you or any of your enlightened readers, through your widely circulated journal, give a remedy, or advise a scheme, to obstruct the ravages of the grub on our white crops? It is much to be regretted some remedy is not put forth for the destruction of this annual pest of the farm, for every one that is at all acquainted with rural affairs will agree that there is not a more formidable enemy to the agriculturist. Last year it was very destructive in this neighbourhood, where fields of wheat and barley were hardly worth reaping. I see it has commenced its campaign this year again on the barley. In going into a field you see patches cropped off just as though it had been done by sheep. Now could there not be a remedy got in the shape of top dressing to annihilate or even palliate the ruinous evil?

What say you scientific men, initiated in chemistry, physiology and natural history?

Yours, &c.,

I. S. T.

Whitby, 10th June, 1863.

[Our correspondent does not state exactly what kind of grub he means. We presume it is what is commonly known as the Cut-worm, of which there are several varieties, all, however, resembling each other more or less in habits. We were not aware that any insect of this species was so destructive in the part of the country from which our correspondent writes. There has unfortunately been as yet no wholesale method discovered of getting rid of them. There is only one sure and reliable mode, namely, digging them out of their burrows, which may easily be detected in the morning by the freshly moved earth, and destroying them. But this plan, although it may be adopted successfully in a garden or small piece of corn, is hardly practicable in a large field. Some writers have suggested that they might be caught by puncturing the ground where they are committing depredations with holes with a sharp pointed stick. The grubs fall into the holes and cannot climb up the smooth sides, but lose their foothold and fall to the bottom, and may thus be captured and destroyed. It has also been suggested that as the cut-worms are great travellers, and ramble from field to field in the night, they might be kept out of ground where they have not al-