

teeth would drop off. By raising it and fastening it up by the two set bars or keys, (which is quicker done than I can write it) and placing two short boards on the cultivator four or five bags of seeds can be carried on it with the convenience of a cart or wagon. Yours, &c.,

Gananoque, April 1861. HENRY COLLARD.

[The above information would be more complete if our correspondent had given the price of the implement.—Ed.]

### Best Fertilizers for Indian Corn.

The first thing necessary to secure a good corn crop, is to select suitable lands for planting. Corn requires a rich, warm and well drained soil—such as the alluvial or river flats; next to these are the sandy or gravelly loam, or when the season is favorable, a tenacious loam, muck or clay soil, will, if properly managed, produce fine crops.

My experience is, that extra culture nowhere pays better than in the corn crop; and from a series of experiments I am led to the conclusion that, on a loam or clay soil, there is no better fertilizer within the reach of farmers, generally, than long, unfermented barn yard manure.

From long experience I would recommend the following as the most likely means of securing a good crop:

1st. Select lands naturally or artificially well drained; if a sod, break it up as soon after harvest as circumstances will permit, and as deep as your team are able. Then let it lie, until near the season of planting; harrow thoroughly, and commence drawing the long, unfermented manure from the barn yard; covering one land first—putting on as much as can be turned under by a careful plowman. Then set a team to plowing—mixing the mellow soil and manure well together. If you have, or can conveniently hire them, set teams enough to drawing manure to keep one plowing; thus covering and mixing it with the soil, before much of its fertilizing properties escape and go into the atmosphere by evaporation. Thus most of the gases which escape, when manure is exposed to the heat of the sun, will be mixed with the soil, which will also be warmed by the fermentation of the manure while decomposing—all of which will aid in starting the young corn plant.

After the ground is plowed, then drag it thoroughly, and mark it in rows, north and south, three feet apart, for our northern varieties of corn, as nearly straight, or in line, as possible, and it will be ready for planting. Be careful in selecting good seed, which may be soaked twelve hours, in a solution of saltpetre, by dissolving one pound for each acre, adding warm water enough to cover the seed. My custom has been to soak only as much over night as would be planted the next day. This

I have found to be the cheapest and best article I have tried for starting corn.

We are now prepared for planting, which should be done by careful men, and not by boys; the rows being but three feet distant, and calculated to be worked but one way, the corn should be dropped in hills as near eighteen inches apart as practicable, without the trouble of marking; drop not less than three nor more than four grains in a hill; cover one inch deep, with loose earth.

As soon as the corn is up, put about a large spoonful of plaster, upon each hill, and soon as the rows can be followed, go through it with a cultivator, or horse hoe—mellowing the earth as near the hill as practicable, leaving the surface level; let hands follow with the hoe, and stir the earth about the hill; as soon as thus hoed, plaster again as before directed; and as soon as the grass or weeds start go through again with the horse hoe—throwing the earth up to the hills, and set hands to straighten up the corn, and the labor is completed, until the corn is glazed, when it should be cut up, setting from sixteen to twenty hills together, and binding firmly at the top. When thus tilled, if the season is favorable, the husking will show that you will have about 200 bushels ears of corn, per acre. I have raised on an acre, by this culture, 227 bushels of ears. The land and corn measured by competent and disinterested persons. The land upon which this crop was raised was a loam and had never been manured, until the season this crop was raised.

My practice now is, to use all of the barn yard manure, each spring, upon corn; then follow with oats, barley or spring wheat, and with one plowing; sow early in September, with Mediterranean wheat, and apply five bushels of plaster per acre, as a top dressing before the wheat is up. A field of ten acres, thus farmed, yielded a large crop of corn, which was injured by frost, and not measured. The oat crop averaged over forty bushels per acre; the wheat over twenty one per acre; and last haying, we cut over two tons of hay to the acre, without any other seedling than from the manure, and without any other manure than for the corn crop, and plaster for the wheat. A. J. W.—*Journal N. Y. State Ag., Society.*

CHEMUNG, February 1861.

### Imports and Exports of Agricultural Products.

EDITOR OF THE AGRICULTURIST.—Permit me to call your attention to the Trade and Navigation Returns for 1860, published in the *Leader* of the 11th inst.

These Returns contain information most valuable to our farmers, and which, by a slight rearrangement of the tables, might be laid before them in a manner to strike the most careful