



MASSACHUSETTS' BARN.

GROUND PLAN AND FULL DESCRIPTION WILL BE GIVEN IN NEXT NUMBER.

GATES.—Every gate should be kept in good, self-shutting, self-latching order. A hole should be bored in the post of every gate, and filled with grease, for readily applying to the latch or hinge, when the one does not play freely, or the other creaks.

DRAINING LAND.—Many persons mistakenly suppose that it is not necessary to drain land in a dry climate. A want of draining is often the reason that land suffers from drought. When water-soaked early in the spring, it cannot be well plowed; or if plowed, it is worked into mud and bakes hard. But if well drained, it may be plowed early and deeply; and being thus made deep and mellow, it retains moisture through the summer.

A crop of oats or barley is some times one-half larger merely in consequence of being put in a fortnight earlier on well drained land, than can be worked at all times. Trying to farm well without draining, is like beating up stream against the wind—every thing tends to baffle the husbandman.

DRAINING IN WESTERN NEW-YORK.—A field of several acres in Cayuga county, was so wet that it scarcely produced eight bushels of wheat per year. It nevertheless contained a very fertile soil, but its fertility was locked up and rendered useless by being submerged in cold water during an important part of the year. The owner ran underdrains through every part, and the first crop of wheat after the operation, was *forty* bushels per acre.

A NOVEL METHOD OF PRESERVING FLOWERS IN BLOOM.—It is well known that a primary object of the existence of a plant is the proper *maturation* of its seed. This cannot be expected, as a general rule, unless the farina be applied to the stigma of the flower. It has, however, been discovered, that if this impregnation be prevented, the flower will retain its beauty for many days longer than would have been the case had impregnation been effected. To realize the advantage above stated, artificial means must be employed. This is readily accomplished by the removal of the stigma from the flower, as soon as the blossom opens. Even should farina be scattered upon the remaining style, no impregnation would be effected thereby. Such a simple process is very valuable, when it is desirable to prolong the beauty of particular flowers. The flower of pelargoniums being so treated, preserve all their freshness and beauty for at least ten days longer than if not done. This fact is not new, but it is not so generally known as it ought to be.—H. STILWELL, in *Flor. Cab.*

ROOT CROPS AND WEEDS.—Many farmers are deterred from raising ruta bagas, carrots, field beets, &c., by the labor and expense of hoeing and destroying weeds, although these crops often yield from 500 to 800 bushels to the acre. To avoid all this trouble, begin early in the spring, if for ruta bagas; and the year before, if for carrots or beets, and by repeated plowing and harrowing, clear the ground effectually of weeds.