

sowing the seed is about the first of May, or as soon thereafter as the season will admit. It has been recommended by some writers, to sow a small quantity of rye, from one fourth to one half bushel per acre. I have succeeded without any admixture of seeds of any kind. I once sowed half an acre in August, and succeeded in getting a good stand; in that case, I have no doubt the rye would have been a good protection, through the winter. I again repeat the declaration, that, I prefer lucerne to any other grass for feeding in a green state, or, as it is generally termed, soiling. It is not suited for grazing—and never having tested its qualities for making hay on a large scale, I cannot speak from my own observations; all that is necessary, is to keep stock of all kinds off of it, both winter and summer, and occasionally if it should require it, give it a dressing of fine rotten manure in the fall or winter—the manure made into compost through the summer and fall. Using the precaution to destroy all weeds and grass before going to seed will prevent the lucerne from being overrun with weeds. It is recommended by some writers to harrow lucerne in the spring; but if all stock is kept off, the ground is not liable to become packed, as the frosts of winter will lighten the soil, and the constant shade from the rapid growth of the lucerne will keep the ground shaded; consequently it is not liable to become close and hard, as when exposed to the sun and wind. The harrow can be used if the ground becomes packed and the field foul with grass or weeds.

THE CLERGY AND AGRICULTURE.

[There is much in the following article, copied from the *Homestead*, an excellent Connecticut paper, that is applicable to this Province, and that corroborates the observations of our correspondent "Clericus" in a previous number of this journal. In the British Islands the Clergy have been distinguished for their exertions in promoting the extension and improvement of agriculture and horticulture, as well as education, savings' banks, friendly societies, &c. The late Rev. Mr. Berry, in Leicestershire, was not only one of the most distinguished improvers of Shorthorn cattle, but a faithful and exemplary parish

minister; and who has not heard of the celebrated Martin Doyle, in Ireland, a fictitious name for a good and zealous clergyman, whose numerous writings on rural and domestic subjects have proved a blessing to that country? The Scotch Clergy are well known for their enlightened zeal in forwarding these interests; the first reaping machine was invented by a minister of the Kirk, the Rev. Patrick Bell, and put into operation before it was thought of on this continent. The Monks of the middle ages were the great improvers of agriculture, as they were the conservators of learning. It would be a happy thing for Canada if every settled minister in the country was provided with a comfortable home and glebe, which would materially aid him in supporting his family, and afford him an opportunity of testing new varieties of plants for the farm or the garden, and of illustrating the principles and application of science generally in reference to rural pursuits. In this important work all denominations could readily co-operate.—
—ED.]—

Every good cause looks very naturally to the clergy for sympathy, and for its most efficient helpers. In this Commonwealth they have a well-established reputation for hearty labors in the promotion of all the temporal, as well as the spiritual interests of men. From the first settlement of the country, until the last generation, they were identified with the agricultural interests of the parishes in which they were settled. It was customary in the settlement of a minister, to put him not simply upon a salary, but upon a solid piece of territory, a sort of index on the part of the people of the solid character of the pastoral relation. They welcomed him to a parsonage and glebe, and expected him to identify himself with all the temporal interests of the parish, to cultivate the soil, and to get his bread in part by that primitive method, the sweat of his face.

Nothing is more common, in the settlement of our townships, than these grants of land, either directly to a minister, in his own right, or to the parish for his own use. This course was indicated probably by the necessities of a new country, where land was cheap and money dear, but it was as wise as it was necessary.