

On the Wing.

(Continued from Page 28.)

STUMP MACHINE.

On Mr. Graham's farm the pine and hemlock stumps are so thick that the land can hardly be cultivated. Mr. Graham has set to work stumping the land in good earnest. He procured a stump extractor from the States, with which he can pull any stump easier and quicker than by any machine made in Canada. It is a lever power, worked by blocks and pulleys. It is drawn from stump to stump by the oxen. As soon as the stump is up, the men take all the earth off it with iron spids, the earth dropping into the hole from which the stump has been pulled, thus leaving the ground level and ready for the plough; the stump is then lowered and the machine moved to the next stump. One man then chops off the rough roots, so that oxen can draw the stump more easily and be better piled in the heap. Mr. Graham works with a gang of five hands and two yoke of oxen; he hires the men for the summer

Spring Rye.

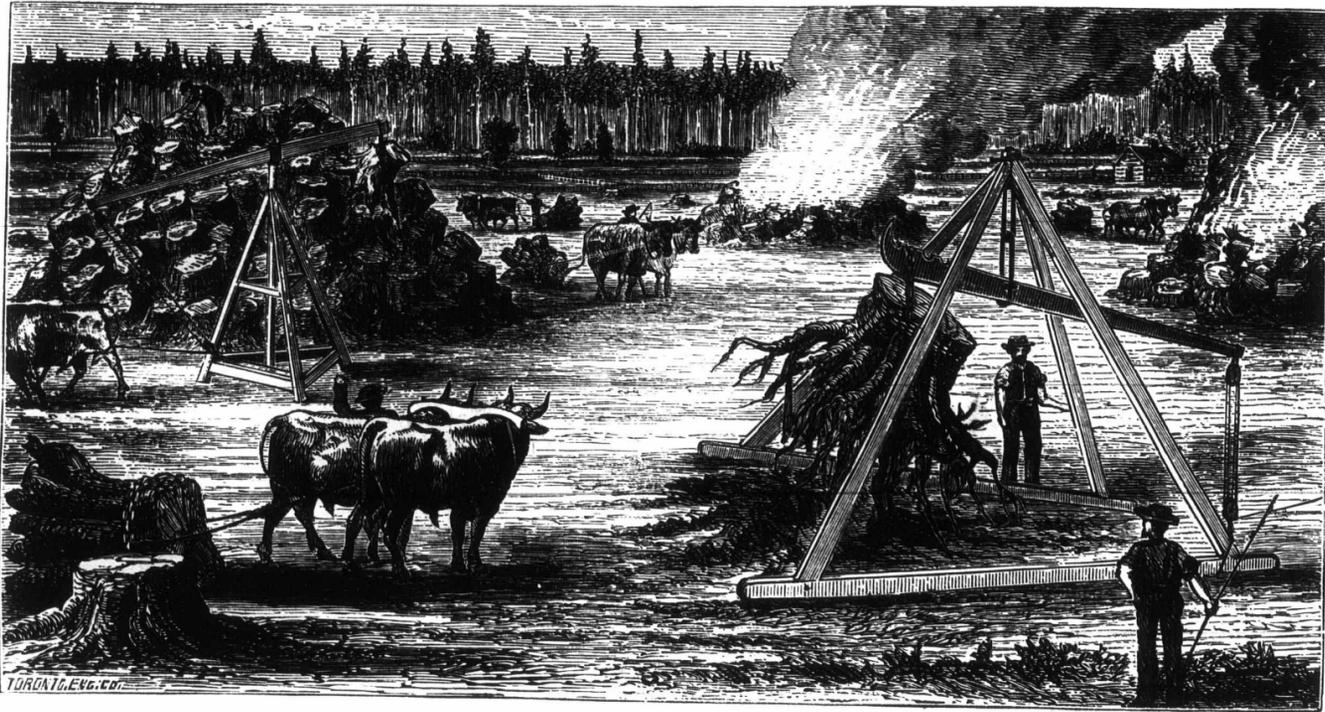
In reply to "Young Farmer," who asks for some information concerning spring rye, we give the following extract from the American Cultivator:—

"Spring rye can be sown as early in the spring as the frost will permit—the earlier the better, since it is a grain which matures rapidly. Spring rye will not yield so large a crop, neither for grain nor for soiling purposes, as may be secured from winter rye, though for soiling the former may be grown and cut before any other spring crop. We have known of farmers sowing winter rye in the spring, or so late in the fall as not to germinate until spring, but we recollect no instance where so good a crop was secured as when the grain made a good start in the fall. Spring rye cannot be obtained so early in the spring as winter rye, though the former will be ready to feed as soon as the latter is fed out or becomes too mature for profitable feeding. For plowing under, spring rye is as good as winter rye, though of course it can only be done later in the season than would be the case if the winter rye were used. Spring rye comes into bloom about the first of June. For early soiling winter rye comes first, next spring rye and then

Tarring Fence Posts.

A correspondent of the Country Gentleman writes as follows:—"I have tried tarring fence posts, and seen it tried by others a great many times, and my experience is that near the surface of the ground (the difficult place to keep sound) the preservative effects of the tar are completely neutralized in from one to two years by the action of the soil—wet and dry. I saw some oak posts treated with a covering of hot coal tar, set in July, 1869, which completely rotted off, and the fence had to be rebuilt in 1877. The location of this fence, however, was such that it was subject to frequent changes of wet and dry.

"It occurred to me, some years ago, that after applying coal tar it would be a good plan to burn it off, thus producing a charred surface, which will resist decay under all circumstances. I set some white cedar posts in this manner in 1875, and they are as sound to-day near the surface of the ground as when set, and since then I have followed the practice up quite generally. I cover the posts thoroughly with hot tar, being careful to cover to some inches above the surface of the ground, then pile up the tarred ends together, six or eight in a pile, and set fire to them, turning them over, if necessary, while burning, until the entire tarred



STUMPING LAND ON THE FARM OF JAMES GRAHAM, ESQ. SUGOG ISLAND, NEAR PORT PERRY, ONT.

months, and has cleared fifty acres each year for the past four years. He says by this means he makes fifty acres of land a-year, as one acre stumped is worth two acres with the stumps on it, and will sell for double the money. Mr. G. has invented a stump-piler, which works like a charm. He took the plan from the old Dutch pump; in place of the crotch he put a solid iron band; on the lever he put a solid iron pivot, so that the stumps are raised up and then swung around on the pile. All the work is done by the oxen, except hitching and unhitching the chain. The accompanying illustration shows both the extractor and piler—of course, our artist had to put the men and oxen there, as it was only during the past month that we saw these implements. We never saw so much land stumped in so short a space of time. There is no patent on the piler, so that any person can make one who has much of this kind of work to do.

Good profits and sure sales are always to be had on good stock put in good condition. Inferior stock, if it finds buyers at all, finds them at low figures. Farmers should recollect this, and buy only the best

barley. Spring rye matures very fast, and very hot weather injures its value for soiling. Last spring, on account of the hot, dry weather in May, we almost lost our spring rye, as it became so hard before blossoming that the cows did not like it. The spring was late, and it was after the middle of April before we sowed it. We have now a piece of ground plowed and manured, ready for spring rye, intending to sow the latter as early next season as possible.

Farmers' Reading.

The Husbandman, Utica, N. Y., writes:—"I visited Orange County not long ago, with my son. We called upon an old acquaintance—a fore-handed farmer. There were seven sons in that family and no paper. The sons leave such a home when they are old enough to get away. There is nothing to interest them there—no instruction—so they go out into the world to seek the knowledge denied them at home. Yet even in Orange County a "fore-handed farmer" is found who has not ventured one dollar a year for the means of intelligent improvement for himself and his family. It is really surprising that any man with a soul above his barn-yard can deliberately deprive himself of the aid an agricultural journal would give in his business, leaving out of view the pleasures and profit it would afford his family.

surface is thoroughly charred. It is better to apply the tar hot, as it enters all the cracks and checks and also the pores of the wood, and some of it remains there under the charred surface.

"It will not do to treat green posts in this manner, as the confined moisture soon rots the posts from the inside, but I can see no reason why a dry post so treated will not last for a great many years."

In the experiments which have been made with coal tar applied to woodwork exposed to earth and moisture, it has been found important to heat both wood and tar to cause it to enter the pores, and this is doubtless effected very efficiently by the charring described in the preceding report of experiments. Simply applied to the surface of wood exposed above ground, coal tar has been found to do more harm than good. Where we have used it for wood at the surface of the ground, properly driven into the pores, it has made it last in some instances twenty years, when without this protection it would not survive five years.

It seems sometimes as if improved or high cultivation of plants produces, along with increased production, diseases from which that plant was never known to suffer during the old system of culture.—Farm Journal (Eng.)