

the roots are removed from beneath. A good covering of straw should next be packed evenly over the whole. Use plenty of straw. Then cover all with a coat of soil well pressed and beaten down. A thorough ventilation should be secured by chimnies near each end and at regular distances between. These pipes can be conveniently made out of inch fence boards, six inches and four inches wide. Two opposite sides should be about six inches longer than the others, and over the longer a short board can be nailed. This will cover in the top and keep out rain and snow, while a sufficient opening will be left at the sides for ventilation. Sometimes it is desirable at first to leave the ends of the pits open for a time to keep down the temperature, and allow a readier escape of vapor. After a while more earth should be piled on, and before the winter fairly sets in a pretty thick coating of earth should be packed upon the straw. Some persons are afraid of covering too deeply for fear of keeping the turnips too warm, but there will be no fear of this if due attention is paid to the ventilation. Potatoes require a warmer covering and less ventilation than other roots, and should, if possible, be stored away dry. In very cold weather, all openings should be stopped up with straw, which may be removed again when the weather moderates.

TENANT HOUSES.

Tenant houses on the farm should be more common. Farm labourers, those we pick around or who come along looking for a job, and hired for a few months of the year, are very often of indifferent character. Married men, on the contrary, have responsibilities, hence are steadier. These latter are the ones to employ on long terms, and for such tenant houses are necessary. The mechanic, when his day's work is completed, goes to his own home, not that of his employer. The same we may say of other trades, all, except in cases of apprenticeship, leading a distinct and separate life. That charm of life, the privacy of the domestic circle, is not broken in upon, as it must unavoidably be where the help is under the same roof. Little family affairs, nothing in themselves, but annoying when made common, are thus left at home; and your man cannot hire out to your neighbour next year and complain of the poor living he had at farmer A's, for his living he makes to his taste.

One great end attained by the tenant system is the lightening of the cares of the housewife. When I call on my farmer friend and take the noon meal with him, while watching the troop of hungry helps stowing away great heaps of food, I glance at his overworked, delicate wife, and begin to calculate how many more seasons she will grace and

serve his home. I fear that the machinery of the farm is not properly adjusted. Most of the men married, he tells me, and to women of far stronger constitution than the one his wife is blessed with. Put these men in tenant houses, and let their wives cook and wash and mend for them.

By furnishing his help with houses, the farmer is also enabled to supply them with provision with profit to both. Our townsman, Mr. Geddes, widely known for his writings on agriculture, and a practical and successful farmer, provides houses for his laborers, and considers it the best economy.

While writing about hired men I will just tell a little story and then close. Two seasons ago there was a sort of agency in New York city for supplying farmers with men. It seemed a good thing, and some farmers about here made application to the agency. Well two men were sent to one farmer, and were put to work. A few weeks afterward I enquired of him how he liked his help. "Good for nothing, and worse than nothing" was the reply. "Being city men, you see they have city habits. As there is no saloon on the farm to spend the night hours in when the day's work is done, they start for the village tavern. Now, what are those men worth to me for work after a night's carousal? I must rid myself of them immediately." And they went.—*Car Germantown Telegraph.*

THE USES OF CLOVER.

It would be very difficult to over-estimate the importance of this crop to all farmers engaged in mixed husbandry. Its introduction in England produced an entire revolution in the Agriculture of that country. Clover laid the foundation of all those wise systems of rotation that have since made the Agriculture of England a model, and a marvel to the world. Nor is its importance much less in those sections of America where its values are appreciated and rightly applied.

Clover is valuable:

1. As a forage plant.
2. As a fertilizer.

As a forage crop, its special value is in the quantity and quality of the hay that it produces, and the rapidity with which it comes to maturity after being sown. Clover properly cured, is almost equal to good Timothy, for beef cattle, and much superior to all other hay, for milch stock. In pasture, the same relative values hold with the addition that, for hogs, clover is a grand specific, superior, perhaps, to all other grasses.

The specific value of Clover, however, lies in its wonderful powers as a fertilizer. In this respect it is unequalled to any crop grown on the farm. The different ways in which it adds to the fertility of land are chiefly:

1st. Shading the surface of the soil. Owing to its rapid and luxuriant growth it soon forms a close and heavy covering over the soil, that acts as a mulch in protecting it from the scorching rays of the summer sun. At the same time that the soil is protected the weeds are smothered out, and the land cleared up.

2nd. By aerifying and disintegrating the soil. Clover possesses peculiarly long and powerful tap-roots, that penetrate deep, loosening the soil and admitting the air. Thus rapidly changing the physical condition not only of the soil, but of the subsoil also.