

corn on the part worked last was soon noticed not to be doing so well as that on the other part, and when it was gathered, the difference, to a row, was so marked and striking as to attract the attention of the harvesters the moment they passed from one portion to the other. There certainly was not *half* the corn per acre on the part that was worked over last that there was on the other part. It is right to say that pretty dry weather followed the last working, and the operation produced the effect on the corn which in some sections is called *fired*. I wish to state another objection to the use of the common plough among corn on dry land; it exposes the land to drought. It is impossible to use this implement without browing the ground more or less into ridges and hollows, thereby exposing more surface to the sun and air, and making more channels for the rain water to escape.

Remarks on the foregoing.—Methods of cultivating corn should be varied according to the character of the soil. Loose, open soils can be readily worked with the common cultivator. Even those with cast-iron teeth or feet will answer on this kind of land. But on soils which tend to become too solid, this implement will not produce the requisite friability. Something must be used frequently almost from the time the corn is put in the ground, that will keep the soil tolerably open to the depth it was ploughed for the crop. The common horse plough is not adapted to this purpose, because it has not much pulverizing effect, and in passing through the soil actually compresses that at the bottom of the furrow. Neither is this a good implement for cultivating corn on light soils, for the reasons mentioned in the above colloquy. A cultivator or horse hoe can be made which will do this work in a proper manner; but steel must be used instead of cast-iron. If the teeth or feet are of the right shape, they will penetrate even tenacious soils sufficiently, and at the same time destroy the weeds.

In sections where the greatest success is attained in the cultivation of corn on soils which are liable to become too compact, it is considered highly important to keep the soil from baking or packing early in the season. Implements are therefore run close to the corn in its early stage, before the roots have spread much, and the space between the rows is kept mellow by cultivation till the corn attains such height that it chiefly shades the ground, which it usually does about the time the tassels appear. After this the soil is less likely to become baked or hardened; the corn roots quickly extend themselves through the soil, and they are left to draw from it all the support it is capable of giving.

The way to Cock Barley.

If barley be properly cocked, it will stand a very hard rain, without being wet but very little; whereas, if it be thrown together in a haphazard manner, almost every straw will wet through the entire cock during an ordinary shower. If the cocks are to be covered with hay caps during a shower, it matters little how the bunches of barley are placed. But in case barley must remain in the cock during a

storm, unprotected by caps, it should be so cocked that it will shed rain. If the straw is long, the cocks should be about one-third larger in diameter than the length of the straw. Then we should always endeavour to keep the middle the highest, by placing the heads near the middle of the cock, with the straw slanting in a direction to carry the rain from the middle. Let the cocks be trimmed up, by raking them off smooth, and forming a very conical top. Now take a gavel of short barley and spread it over the top of a cock, by walking entirely round it, placing the straws in such a position that they will conduct the rain away from the middle of the cock. The rain will be conducted along the straws, if they do not lie entirely level; and if the straws have a little inclination, the greater portion of the water that falls—unless it should rain very hard—will all be conducted off, and the barley will be wet but little. But when a good portion of the straw slants inwards towards the middle of the cock, the water will be conducted inwards, and the cocks will be well saturated with water.

Farmers should show their awkward boys and unskilful men how to handle the gavels or bundles of barley with skill, when they are cocking it, in order to have the bunches, when they are placed in the cock, lie in such a position that they will not conduct the rain towards the middle of the cock.

The same principle holds equally good and important in cocking hay. A skilful labourer will put up cocks of barley or hay so that they will turn a good shower of rain, while another man who pays little or no attention to the principle alluded to here, will put it in cocks which will not turn the rain at all.

Apiary in August.

In this month the bees usually obtain their best stores. If the colony is strong, their combs are soon filled to overflowing. A large portion at this time should contain brood, but when honey is abundant, and store room limited, the comb which may contain brood, is apt to be much reduced, so much so, that in some instances when cold weather comes on, the colony is quite too small. The Italians, particularly, are apt to fill up with honey instead of brood; but as they are longer-lived than the black bees, the effect is not so disastrous. A hive stored to its utmost capacity is not in as good condition for Winter as one that has a portion of its cells empty. The use of surplus boxes, then, is not only an advantage in securing honey, but a benefit to the bees. During the yield of honey, the "all boxes should be changed for empty ones as fast as filled. In getting the bees from the boxes much honey is often lost by the ordinary methods recommended. As long as flowers yield honey plentifully, it will do to set the full boxes down by the hive, in the shade of some tree or out-building, or in a darkened room with a small crevice to let out the bees. But as soon as it is scarce, the boxes so left are sure to be robbed.—One man put nearly his whole crop in the barn, shut the doors and went off to his work. On his return at noon he found his boxes empty. The utmost care and some skill