

deep rich soils will not bear hoeing for the next crop. The hoeings only increase the force for rust, by greatly increasing the amount of sap, and the consequent increase of sap, or vegetable juices in the sap vessels of the plants. In the northern portion of the Township, the soil is very deep and rich in vegetable mould, and the whole may be considered in point of fertility equal to any on this continent. There, a different system of farm management should prevail. On most farms the vegetable mould is deep, that by manuring the summer fallow with barn-yard manure and shallow ploughing, would only tend to promote a great growth of weeds, and also increase the probability of rust, and premature decay of the crop. There the old system of making fallows may be practiced with great success. Peas, barley, and Indian corn, may be grown for this purpose, and by ploughing and proper management, much more crops of wheat can be grown by sowing after a well cultivated bastard fallow, than after the naked summer fallow. In substantiating this opinion, the speaker adduced a number of practical proofs which appeared very satisfactory to the whole of the gentlemen present. It would require a much longer report than we have space for at this time, to even advert to the numerous practical examples that were submitted for the consideration of the members of this Society, in relation to the propriety of adopting both of these systems of cultivation, where the soils were of the character pointed out, and we are therefore content with the necessity of hastening to the consideration of the speeches delivered by the other members of the society that addressed the chair.

Neale, Esq., made a most practical and interesting speech on the properties and advantages of plaster to the clover, and other broad-leaved plants. He also explained the different experiments that had been published by scientific men in relation to the operation of this powerful manure. From the experience and observation he had had in the use of plaster, he was disposed to give his opinion that Dr. Johnston's theory was the correct one; viz.: that it was a powerful absorber of nitrogen from the atmosphere, and that it acted as a manure must be viewed in this light, rather than as a direct food to the plant.

As plausible as appeared the theory of bastard fallows, still he apprehended that by a few years of practice, the soil would become foul and

full of dangerous weeds, and the old system would be required to restore the soil to its former state of cleanliness and productiveness.

John Watson said, that he had not made a naked summer fallow for some years, and he found that he could get more wheat from his land after pease, barley, or clover, than he could formerly get after a naked summer fallow. He valued the products that he harvested from his land, that he puts in annually as a preparative crop for wheat, at a higher price than what the rent of the land and the costs of the two crops amount, thus saving the entire wheat crop as a profit. He never expected to make another summer fallow, unless it was to clean a half cleared or stumpy field. The system he now practices, he feels confident is the best adapted to his farm, and as farmers generally cultivate their lands with a view of getting large profits, he is disposed to practice the one which will give that result.

Mr. William James, District Councillor, was highly delighted with the evening's proceedings. Although he was bred a farmer, and had followed it for many years as a source of living, still he found that he had much to learn. He felt bold to state, that he had received a greater return in profits from the two last years crops, than from the previous ten. His soil is of a very deep vegetable mould, and with the system of farming that he used to practice nearly the only return he could get was straw. He was now fully convinced that naked fallows were not required, on soils such as he cultivated. Pease and barley, now take the place of fallows, and he gets as good crops of wheat after barley, as after pease stubble. He manures the land he intends for pease and barley in the autumn and ploughs it early, so that the vegetable matter in the soil becomes thoroughly decomposed in the autumn. The following spring he again ploughs and harrows the land until he makes it perfectly clean, and then sows his peas or barley so thick; that it smothers every other description of vegetation.— He then sows the wheat upon one furrow, after the pea and barley crop are removed. The profits from these crops more than pay the entire costs of growing both the spring and fall crop, and his yield of wheat is fully twice as great as it used to be when he summer fallowed, and manured his land with barn yard manure for his wheat crop.

The same subject will be again discussed at the place where the last meeting was held, on the evening of the 26th of March, at which meeting we are informed that a number of gentlemen will be prepared to give their views and experience on the important subject under consideration.