

buy? I think if a page of your journal was set apart to delineate and describe good and really useful implements adapted to the use of the miller it would be a boon. I find nothing more difficult to obtain than information where such things are to be had.

Would it be inconsistent with your arrangements to give your readers a more detailed account of Dr. Voelcker's investigations into the preparation, management, and application of manures, a brief notice of which you took in one of your late numbers. It would appear from what you stated then that a great misapprehension exists among those who are considered good practical farmers as to the mode of applying manure. If Dr. Voelcker has found the true law it cannot be too generally promulgated, and let us be done with empiricism as soon as possible; surely the trite observation that the agricultural mind moves very slowly seems to find corroboration, if it be the case, notwithstanding that the art of culture has been practiced since the days when Adam delved till the present time, we are not yet acquainted with the proper method of putting on the muck. I am, &c.,

CALEDON.

#### REMARKS.

The great benefits of salt to agriculture anticipated several years ago in England, by the sanguine imagination of Mr. Parkes, the author of "The Chemical Catechism," subsequent experience has not confirmed. The action of salt as applied to cultivated crops is very variable, and by no means to be depended on, except in particular seasons, soils, &c. It is found generally, particularly when applied with lime, to brighten and stiffen the straw, cause the ear to fill with clean, plump grain, and to expedite the progress of the crop towards maturity. Whether the whole of the increase of the wheat to which our correspondent alludes, is to be attributed to the salt applied, may fairly admit of a question. It may, however, in some degree, fix ammonia and arrest the progress of mildew and rust. Salt may be used advantageously in this country in composts and farm yard manure. We are not aware whether our farmers use it as a top-dressing for wheat; if so, some, perhaps, will have the goodness to inform us of the results.

The reason our correspondent did not succeed with the buckwheat appears simply to have been that he allowed it to get too great a growth before ploughing it under. Buckwheat answers well for this purpose, especially on light lands; other plants may be used, such as oats,

millet, Indian corn, &c. There is no crop answers better to plough under for improving land than clover, although of course it can be employed with the same readiness as a summer crop.

As to mixture of grass seeds, there is so ploughed in this country besides timothy and clover that we have scarcely any results to report. We think our correspondent might try orchard grass along with timothy and clover and a few white and alcyon clover. A notice of "Orchard or Rough Cock's foot grass will be found in the *Agriculturist* of 1860, page 250. It is of rapid growth, and produces a great deal of pasture and also of fog or aftermath. It requires to be cropped down pretty close, or it becomes coarse and rank in growth.

Of two-horse cultivators, there were two exhibitors at the last Provincial Exhibition. Those who took prizes were Messrs. S. E. Markham; George Robinson, Markham; J. McLaren, Lowville. The other manufacturers reside in nearly every quarter of the Province. We do not doubt that our correspondent will procure such an implement as he requires for some of them, at a reasonable price, say \$120. We shall be happy to insert notices of descriptions of useful implements if the manufacturers will send them to us.

We shall endeavour to comply with our respondent's wishes in regard to Dr. Voelcker's investigations into the principles of manuring, in a future number.

[The above letter and remarks were accidentally omitted from our last number.]

#### Characteristics of "Fife" Spring Wheat.

##### *From the Country Gentleman and Cultivator.*

This variety of wheat has been grown extensively the last three seasons in the west northwest, and proves to be so valuable, that every wheat cultivator in the United States, or may be, interested in knowing something more about its habits and qualities, than yet come under the public notice; at least as far as I am aware, from considerable agricultural reading. Though to some, its name may imply, this wheat is not of Scotch origin, it does not get its name from the county of Fife, from the name of its originator, Mr. David Otonabee, C. W., who saved a few roots