



THE GRAIN DRILL.

The Horse Drill has been much longer in use among good farmers than reaping and mowing machines, but it has not extended itself so rapidly as the latter. One reason for its slow progress in this country, is doubtless because it is not so pre-eminently a *labor saving* machine. The great object of the grain-grower in this country, is to save the trouble and expense of manual labor, and to expedite the several processes of cultivation, harvesting and preparing for market. The Drill is not remarkable as a *labor saving* implement. If we convert the horse-labor into its equivalent, and sow by hand, we shall probably find that little is saved either in time or expense. We must look elsewhere for the benefits of using the Drill. The evenness and regularity with which the seed can be sown; the uniformity of depth at which it is deposited, and the consequent greater immunity from the effects of frost in winter and spring, are some of the advantages of *drilling* grain. It is also alleged that

wheat grows better, and is less liable to rust in drill's, than when broadcast. Repeated experiments have proved the superiority of drill-sowing in the old country, and also if we can believe the accounts we have seen, in the United States. In the few instances that have come under our notice in this country, equally beneficial results have been realized. It does not require many figures to show that if the Drill will give two or even one bushel more to the acre, other things being equal, than the broadcast method, it would *pay* to use it. They are now made in a much simpler form than the English Drill, and at much less cost. We believe they are manufactured at Hamiton, St. Catharines, Newcastle, and also imported from the United States. A very good kind called "Seymour's patent," is sold by McIntosh & Watson of this City. The above cut represents one of Messrs. Rugges Nourse and Mason's Drills, of Boston U. S.

**A GOOD COMPOST FOR SANDY LAND.**—Take 10 loads of stable or barnyard manure, 5 loads of clay, 20 bushels of ashes, and twenty bushels of lime; mix the whole well together, and let it remain in pile a few weeks; then turn it over, and it will be fit to apply to the land.

The above will make a better dressing for an acre of land than twenty five loads of stable or barnyard manure alone, and will last longer.—*American Farmer.*

In all composts intended for light, sandy soils, clay is one of the most valuable ingredients that can possibly be used. One reason why sandy lands are so little capable of vegetable production, in their want of adhesiveness. It is almost impossible to consolidate them sufficiently to secure that degree of retention so essentially and indispensably necessary to the decomposition of those organic matters which are applied in the course of cultivation as manure.

The quantity of clay required to change the constitutional texture of such lands, is necessarily great; yet with copious applications of putrescent substances, and the regular and systematic manipulations of judicious husbandry, the task of supplying as much as may be necessary effectually to ameliorate and permanently to improve the texture and productive capacity is by no means tedious.

There are few farmers who could not devote three or four days in the year, with their teams, to carting on clay from the low grounds, or to accumulating it in their yards and bog-styes, to be then worked up and composted with the voidings of the animals and other materials capable of imparting fertility to their lands.

The more clay one can afford on such improvements, the better; for there is little danger, in any case of applying too much. Sand on clay lands, is equally beneficial, and perhaps, in most cases, even more so.