

winter furrow is of all things most essential as a first step in the process.

We consider Fall ploughing can only be injurious, when a considerable declivity obtains, or where from its situation there is a superabundance of moisture, and where the soil partakes of a peaty or porous substrata; in the one case, a large proportion of the most valuable properties of the soil, is liable to be carried away by the hasty spring thaws, and the more organic substance remains in preponderance, divested of nearly all its fertile particles, while on the low moist soils alluded to, by loosening the upper surface too much the subsoil receives and sponge-like, retains such an accession of surplus moisture, which, if it is not removed by thorough draining, can only by slow percolation or evaporation be rendered sufficiently dry to work, and consequently, cannot be got ready sufficiently early in the spring to receive its intended crop, and as a consequence aquatic weeds and grasses usurp the place of more valuable productions; on such land we would prefer merely opening sufficient drain furrows to carry off from the frozen, unbroken surface, the accumulated moisture of a winter's snow.

We should be most happy to gather the opinions of our readers on the subject of the Winter killing of wheat, and the most likely method to be adopted for its prevention, and whether any mode could be suggested for the amelioration of the evil.

We are gratified by the reception of the communication of our correspondent, (A Canadian Farmer,) and with him, we do most sincerely hope, that the attention of the Agricultural Societies will be turned to the importation of some of those valuable adjuncts to the agriculturist, which our English brother farmers possess. We hope to hear from a Canadian Farmer frequently.

To the Editor of the Newcastle Farmer.

SIR,—I should like to hear, through the medium of your valuable paper, any opinions on the best time of sowing plaster, and any experiments that may have been tried. I am of opinion that the crop receives more benefit from the plaster being sown on the land in the autumn.—To substantiate this, I will mention two experiments that I have made. In September 1839 I sowed a field of 7 acres to wheat, early in the spring following I sowed one land through the middle of the field with plaster, and I could not perceive it was of the slightest benefit to the crop; in the spring of '41 I sowed the field with

oats, and when the crop was near ripening, the oats on the land that was sown with plaster the year previous was several inches taller than the rest, several days earlier, and a much better crop; and I am sure if the whole field had been treated in the same manner it would have yielded fifty bushels more than it did.

In 1845 I sowed the same field, with the exception of one land, with plaster, (it then being in clover.) It being a very dry summer that land literally yielded nothing, and on the remainder there was a good crop. You will say, perhaps, that plaster sown in the spring, in this instance, produced a good effect, and so it did. But, in the spring of 1846 I again sowed plaster on the same field, and on the land that was neglected the year before I put a double portion, which scarcely showed itself even in the colour of the clover, while the remainder of the field produced a heavy crop; In consequence as I believe, of the plaster that was sown the year before.

I have sown plaster with fall wheat, and harrowed it in with the wheat, with very good effect. Yours &c.

CHAS. H. VERNON.

Haldimand, Jan. 25th, 1847.

To the Editor of the Newcastle Farmer.

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to express my thanks to you for the exertions you are putting forth, in laying before your brother Farmers, from time to time, in the Newcastle Farmer, information both entertaining and instructive. You are endeavouring (no very easy task,) to rouse us up from the lethargy in which too many of us are prone to indulge. The grasshopper appears to be a burthen to us, (by the bye, a pretty heavy load in July and August!) and most of us are content to leave things as they are, smoking our pipes, and whittling our sticks by the fire side, with the perfect assurance that inasmuch as Potatoes grew with luxuriance in the days of Sir Walter Raleigh, so they ought to grow now. In other words, like the Monkeys in a cage at the show, we require "stirring up."

In the Newcastle Farmer of the present month, which is replete with useful information, you express a regret that you had so few communications from your brother Farmers, and that you hoped in future to hear from them; and although you suggest one particular subject for discussion, (fall ploughing,) I conclude that any ideas upon farming, which may occur to your readers, will be acceptable. Now in your last number, there are three or four most important statements which I think deserve experimenting upon.

1st, The use of Salt as a top dressing for wheat.

2nd, Ditto as a manure for potatoes.

3rd, The use of Charcoal as a corrective to the potato rot.

4th, The use of compressed glass milk pans.

By the statements alluded to, it would appear that so satisfied are the parties who have used salt as a manure, that they

intend applying it more largely than ever, and that with regard to charcoal as a manure for Potatoes, the use of it has the high sanction of Liebig, who is reported to have expressed the opinion that carbon is the only antidote to the disease.

As respects the use of glass milk pans, if it is true that 30 per cent more of cream is obtained, what an important consideration is this? Why it would eventually enable Canada to be an exporting country for butter; and I cannot help thinking that it is an object well worthy of the attention of the various Agricultural Societies of Canada, who ought, at once to send to England for some, in order to experiment upon them.

Not to make my letter too long, will any of my brother farmers consent with me next spring to be "stirred up" to make these experiments; and I request, Mr. Editor, that you will use all your influence with the highly respectable and intelligent President of our Agricultural Society, and "stir him up" for the glass milk pans.

I am, dear Sir,

truly yours,

A CANADIAN FARMER.

Haldimand, January 8, 1847.

For the Newcastle Farmer.

Haldimand, Jan. 25, 1847.

MR. EDITOR,—Have the goodness to enquire through the medium of the Newcastle Farmer, the opinion of Farmers in general respecting the present state of Fall Wheat, and the effect likely to be produced upon this most important branch of agriculture, by this unusually wet season.

In this section, the great quantity of rain that fell lately had the effect of dissolving the snow, and forming a coat of ice upon the surface of the ground in contact with the plant,—thereby, in my opinion, placing it in a most perilous situation. Yours truly,

CHAS. VERNON.

TO PURIFY BAD WATER.—Five drops of sulphuric acid, or twenty drops of diluted vitriolic acid, put into a quart of bad water, will cause the noxious particles to fall to the bottom. The water should stand for two hours, and then pour off three parts for use.

CURE FOR TOOTH-ACHE.—Take 60 drops of creosote, 60 drops of laudanum, and 120 of sweet spirits of nitre; a piece of lint dropped in this mixture, and applied to the tooth, will seldom fail to effect a cure.

MOULDY CASKS.—Concentrated sulphuric acid is recommended for purifying casks from mould, and mouldy smell.—So much is poured into the vessel as shall (on rolling the cask,) be sufficient to moisten every part; after a quarter of an hour, wash the vessel out with water.