

dropping about five grains into the hole, and covering it up again, with the soil taken out, (the holes three or four feet apart as the logs will permit,) when nothing more is necessary but to gather it in harvest : half of the remaining ten acres, for it will be remembered there were thirty in all, I cleared for oats and spring wheat, the latter of which was sown before planting the Indian corn, and the other half I left to be cleared for fall wheat.

Other crops upon the old cleared land, though of little consequence compared with those on the new, were all well got in, and while they were growing I commenced clearing up the five acres for wheat, in which work I spent the remains of my last L.50, depending upon the sale of my produce, together with some potash I had made, and intended to make, to meet my next instalment, which would become due in the following spring ; and in order to subject myself to as little risk as possible, and my mind to the less anxiety, I turned my oxen into good feed, (after my wheat was sown in the beginning of September,) to fatten them for the Montreal market, by the latter end of winter ; but my crops were good, my potash brought a good price ; in short, I succeeded so well in every thing, that I was able to purchase another yoke of oxen, in time to get out my firewood, and fencing timber, before the expiration of the winter.

In the midst of all my difficulties and distresses, I received the following letter from my brother, which tended, as may well be supposed, not a little to increase them :—

CARLISLE, ILLINOIS, *Feb. 10, 1820.*

My dear Brother,—Your letter of last March only reached me about three months ago. I am extremely sorry to learn from it that you have purchased a farm ; but sell it again immediately at almost any sacrifice, and come here, where you can get as much land as you like, and of the very best quality, for a mere nothing ;