

ling effort and care, at the season when the business of thrashing was prosecuted with vigour. A farmer should carefully save his straw, mow his fence corners, and economize winter food for his stock, and thus, whether the winter be mild or severe, he will be prepared for the worst.

AUTUMN PLOUGHING.—This is one of the most important operations on the farm, at this season of the year, and upon strong clay soils it becomes an almost indispensable feature in good and profitable husbandry. If the soil be foul, with couch and other wild grasses, probably the best course to pursue, to thoroughly clean it and make it fit for a crop the following summer, is to plough it about the 20th of September, as lightly as possible,—say a four by nine inch furrow,—and as soon as convenient, harrow it with light harrows, and by the early part of November the grasses and weeds will become considerably decomposed and nearly ready for exposure to the sun and frosts by a cross furrow. The best system of cross-ploughing under such circumstances, is to give the land a strong and deep *rafter furrowing*, which simply consists in ploughing a very deep cross furrow in the same manner that turnip drills are formed. If the stubble land be ploughed very early, the earlier in September the better. The principal excellence in the plan consists in the thorough and complete exposure that the root weeds and noxious grasses get to the winter frosts, and the superior tilth in which the soil is brought by the action of the frosts and air. The process is not an expensive one; and it is one that approaches as nearly to the most improved system of garden culture as may be, without adding much additional expense or trouble to the ordinary system of ploughing land in the autumn. Where the land is in a clean state of cultivation, the plan of ploughing with a rafter furrow, without a previous ploughing, may be practised with great success, but it should be done late in the season, and with a good deal of care and exactness. Both the plans suggested have been tested by the writer, on land in various

states of cultivation, alongside of thoroughly clean ploughing; and in the spring when the harrows were employed, previous to the spring ploughing, that which was rafter-furrowed or ribbed, was in a better condition, and produced much better crops than where the land was ploughed in the ordinary manner. A single experiment of this kind will satisfy the most sceptical of its utility and value, especially where it is made on those soils that are denominated strong clays.

DRAINAGE OF LANDS.—Probably there is no expenditure made upon land, in the shape of improvements, that pays such a large rate of interest as either open or under drainage. There are, however, some open porous lands, that do not require artificial drainage; but such soils are not very abundant. The drainage of land may be carried on to much greater advantage at this season of the year than any other, and all who have soils that would be improved by draining, would act wisely by prosecuting that department of improved husbandry with as much alacrity as possible. Draining with tyle is yet quite out of the question with the Canadian farmers, and cedar poles covered with slabs of the same wood, make a very excellent substitute. The drains should in all cases be at least *three* feet in depth, and when made by judicious hands, will pay the entire expense of making, with the first crop that is taken from the land. If borrowed capital be employed in draining land that requires that mode of treatment to improve it, in nine cases out of ten the increased production from the land would pay sufficient to give a return of 25 per cent on the capital invested in the improvement. Those who have means to drain their lands, would do well to do so, and at the same time ascertain the amount of benefit derived from the operation, and thus be better enabled to arrive at a correct data as to the profits that may be made to accrue from improvements effected in agriculture.

A Superb Mustard.—Take ground mustard 3 lbs.; common salt 1 lb.; mix with vinegar, grape-juice, or white wine.