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The Field.

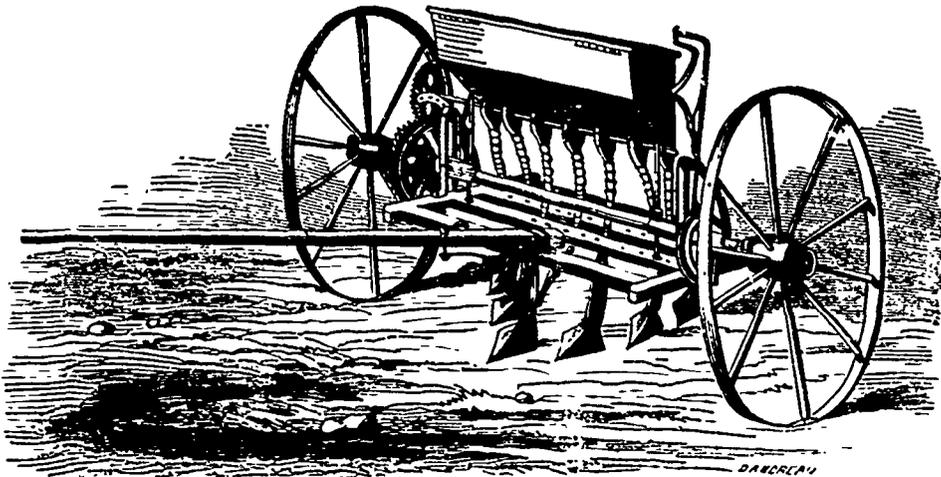
A Combined Drill and Cultivator.

We herewith present our readers with an illustration of a very useful implement, or rather two implements in one, invented and patented by Mr. B. W. WALTON of Kettleby. The Cultivator, as a separate Machine, has been in use for upwards of three years. It is therefore pretty well known, and, if desired, can still be obtained from the patentee without the sowing apparatus. The patent of "The Farmer's Friend," as the combined implement has been aptly designated, bears date, July 15th, 1865. A pretty numerous signed testimonial, which Mr. Walton has forwarded for our inspection, states that the implement works in a highly satisfactory manner; that it is of a comparatively light draught, and may be managed by one person; and that, bearing in mind, the two important operations it performs separately or together, its price is very moderate. The implement, we understand, will be exhibited at the coming Provincial Fair, and the price and any further particulars may be obtained of the patentee.

Drill and Broadcast Seeding

THE sowing of the seed is manifestly one of the most important operations of husbandry. Much of the previous labour of the farmer goes for nothing, if the seed be not properly sown at its appropriate time. It is true that even after he has done his best, and committed his seed to the soil in the most approved

Experience teaches that harrowing is only an imperfect method for effecting this object. The harrow buries some seeds too deeply, others not sufficiently deep, and a considerable proportion not at all. To ensure a full crop, therefore, the farmer is obliged to scatter an additional bushel or more per acre, than would be necessary, were a machine employed. It will be obvious, on a little reflection and calculation,



that the saving of grain alone, in the course of a few years, by the use of a drill, would warrant its adoption on every farm. Such machines not only deliver the required portion of seed with regularity, but deposit it at a proper depth beneath the surface. And as the plants appear in regular rows, weeds or thistles may be destroyed with facility, and the crop is thereby allowed to monopolize the entire nourishment of the soil. The air is allowed free circulation between the rows, and a stronger and healthier plant, and, consequently, a heavier crop is produced. Our illustrations very fairly represent

way, and under the most favorable conditions, many accidents and unforeseen circumstances may diminish the farmer's harvest returns. The weather and the seasons are altogether beyond his control; while the prevention of insect depredations is partially so.

Still, at the same time, it must not be forgotten that the measure of his success depends very much on his own persevering efforts, directed by judgment and skill. "If," says the author of the *Dictionary of the Farm*, "the farmer selects the best seeds, chooses the proper season for sowing them, and has them carefully distributed and properly covered with earth, as their nature requires for the most perfect germination, and thus also protects them from the voracity of birds or insects, he will have a much greater prospect of success, under all circumstances, than if he were careless or negligent." The most common mode of sowing in this country is by scattering the seed broadcast over the ploughed surface of the soil. By this process there is no certainty of the seed being uniformly covered.

the growth of drilled and broadcast wheat. The ears of the machine-sown grain, it will be remarked, are larger, and the plants more uniform in size and height than those sown by hand. The superior vigour and strength of that sown by the machine will be at once apparent to our readers, and its superiority is by no means exaggerated by the artist. The cost of a drill is, no doubt, pretty considerable. This circumstance will unquestionably prevent its rapid general adoption; but the advantages to be derived from the use of the implement, some of which we have briefly noticed in this article, would, in cases where the requisite amount could be prudently appropriated for the purpose, more than compensate for the investment.

