

tor should for a moment neglect to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the subject. Every one acquainted with the science and practice of agriculture must have observed the importance of thoroughly disintegrating or pulverizing the soil, and who is there but must have observed the powerful influence that a single hoeing has upon the growth of a crop of garden or field vegetables? No one would think of obtaining a full average of corn without previously pulverizing the ground for the crop, and also, would frequently employ the hand or horse hoe in keeping the ground clean, for the purpose of loosening it, so that the lateral and fibrous roots of the plants might have a perfect freedom in searching for the requisite supply of food to bring them forward to a full and healthy state of maturity. An equal benefit will be found in hoeing field crops, which work cannot be done unless the seed be sown in regular row.

There are various methods of sowing grain in drills, and the variety of machines used for that purpose in Europe have become so numerous that a clear description of them would scarcely be found interesting to the American farmer. The ingenuity of our mechanics has within the few past years been happily turned to the investigation of this branch of agricultural mechanics, which has resulted in the production of machines for drilling grain that are in many very important particulars superior to the best in use in Europe. These machines are cheap and simple, and before we bring our series on "Drill Husbandry" to a close, shall be described, so that their particular methods may be understood and appreciated.

Although horse hoeing is not indispensable to drill husbandry, still, on the score of economy, it should rarely if ever be neglected, and hence in discussing the merits of the latter, we shall invariably press upon the attention of our readers the importance of the former.—[Genesee Farmer.

REVIEW OF THE JANUARY NO. OF THE FARMER.

The following remarks, by a correspondent to the Genesee Farmer, are so applicable to the circumstances of the "Farmer and Mechanic," that we cannot resist the temptation to insert them. We recommend them to the special notice of the farmers and mechanics of Canada:—

Mr. Moore:—I have been looking over your January number, and am much pleased with its appearance, both as to matter and manner. I am surprised that so few among your 20,000 subscribers become contributors to its pages. There is probably no one single individual among them but what knows some one fact that accident, experience or reason has taught him, that would be interesting and valuable to perhaps

nine-tenths of your readers. I can hardly conceive of a person who has the good taste to take and read your paper, but what has the ability to communicate his experience through its pages. In my voyage of life I have never yet found that sober person that I could not dig something out of worth knowing. All useful facts, communicated in howsoever homely style, with your correction of grammatical construction and orthography, are of paramount importance. I am convinced that it is impossible for an editor—a single mind, to be able to amuse and instruct his readers, for years and years together, unassisted; his pond of thought, ideas and facts, will eventually run out—to use a homely phrase, his barrel will run emptyings; therefore, those interested in multiplying facts, and sending forth the knowledge and experience of years, in the different operations and effects of the great science of agriculture, ought to lend a hand.

You, reader—yes, you—as Nathan said to David, "Thou art the man," who can thus render some important benefit to your fellow laborer in the great battle of life; which like the tears of the recording angel, may blot out some of your short comings, with the congratulation of saying, I have not lived in vain; a satisfaction that many, I fear in this breathing world, who have heaped up the acres and the paltry dollars, will not arrive at, and who will cease to be without being able to say, I have left one valuable fact or discovery for the benefit of mankind. Perhaps, Mr. Editor, I shall come broadly in that category; but if so, it shan't be for lack of good will.

There is a saying that doctors never take their own medicines, and that they try it on a dog first; but with your leave, I propose to take mine and to try it on you, by looking over your monthly numbers and telling you plainly what some folks think of your articles—mechanical execution, errors of the printer, &c., &c., a kind of fire-side review, with the notions and views of one of the million.

Horn-Ail in Cattle.

This is a disease rather prevalent in this part of the country, the actual seat and character of which, I think, is but little understood among our farmers. The horn is not, as is generally supposed, the original seat of the disease, it being merely a continuation of the frontal bones, the sinews of which extend to the very tip of the horn, and in which, with the surrounding membrane, the disease first commences, afterwards extending to the horn. At this time the farmer generally commences his treatment, notwithstanding the disease may have existed several weeks unobserved, the possibility of which I will endeavour to convince him, by relating some of the primary symptoms of this disease.