

When not disturbed by cultivation, the buds in the joints of the roots usually remain in a state of sleep or latent, but if the root is broken, they become active and send up fresh plants at every joint. Thus it will be seen that certain modes of cultivation only serve to increase the number of thistle plants in a field.

In destroying the thistle the aim should be to cut off the upright stocks only and as frequently as possible without disturbing the side or latent roots; *shallow* plowing should therefore be practised, unless the nature of the crop calls for deep plowing. (1)

#### REMEDIES

##### 1. Summer following:

Plow in fall and cultivate thoroughly the next season. This, if persevered in, so as to prevent the thistles coming to the top to breathe and storing up food in their roots, will be successful, but is a rather expensive method as a whole season's growth of a crop is lost.

2. Plow carefully after harvest not deeper than four inches; cultivate thoroughly plow again a little deeper (for the sake of the crop to follow) the last thing in fall; in spring cultivate thoroughly, plant corn in due course, take proper care of it, and the thistles will be defeated.

3. Plow the same as before; sow winter rye, cut the rye for hay or silage; plow and cultivate thoroughly; then sow rape in drills about July 1st.

Land well cultivated until about the end of June then seeded to buckwheat and plowed under at the time of flowering, will if well cultivated afterwards seldom give any trouble for thistles.

Lastly use the sword untiringly, in the orchard, the pastures, the fence-corners, yards and round stone piles. Do not allow a single thistle to go to seed, and you will soon be rid of the pests of the Canadian farmer.

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Thornbury.

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### WOMAN'S INFLUENCE ON THE FARM.

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MR. EDITOR,

I am a farmer's daughter, and as it is the fashion now for women to come to the front, I want, with your permission, to have my say. A good many people are of the opinion that we of the gentler sex should mind our own business; by which I suppose they mean exclusively, the care of the household; and perhaps the wife of a merchant or tradesman will do well to adopt this rule; for she is not supposed to be conversant with the "tricks of trade"; but with a farmer's family the case, it appears to me, is different. The occupation is a domestic one, and the family are members of the joint stock company, which runs the farm now, without sacrificing any part of their feminine prerogatives. The women can make themselves useful in a great many ways; only let a woman take an interest and she can lighten the burden of her husband's or her father's cares and responsibilities. Alas! there are men who are good workers, but poor schemers; would make better private soldiers than generals. My father, although a good man in a very other respect, lacked this quality of generalship, and my mother was so much engrossed with the cares of a numerous family that she had little time to think of anything else; so, when I grew old enough to observe, I found that our affairs were not in so prosperous a condition as they might be, and, without appearing to be meddling, I determined to try to effect a change. With this end in view I kept a diary, in which I recorded the operations and events of each day. I also kept, as well as I could, a rough account of income and expenditure, as near as I could estimate or ascertain them.

Our next neighbour was a good farmer. I used to get some lessons from his son and

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(1) In S. E. England, deep ploughing with the turn-wrest plough is the great remedy. ED.