

impressed particularly with the importance of sowing early, and early varieties of seed, as a means of escaping the depredations of the insect. Had they been, we are of opinion that they would not have been compelled to abandon fall wheat culture so entirely as they did. In fact, the idea of sowing very early ripening varieties, and the mode of obtaining them, viz.: by bringing seed from the South, is comparatively recent. In New York State, in Genesee valley, and other wheat growing districts, though aware of the advantages of sowing early as a means of avoiding the midge, they were afraid of sowing too early, for fear of the autumn operations of the Hessian Fly. They were thus between two enemies, and the Genesee valley, so long famous for the excellence of its crops of wheat, was on the point of abandoning the culture of that grain. And here is another reason why we think that the comparatively better system of cultivation pursued by our farmers, as compared with that in some parts of the adjoining States and in Lower Canada, where these two insects have been so destructive, or some favorable peculiarity of our climate, may have something to do with the different results here. For although the Hessian Fly had been the means of almost entirely preventing the growth of wheat in some other places where it had appeared, we did not find that it committed very serious damages here, and after the first year or two the alarm in reference to it quite subsided. Be this as it may, however, since they have hit upon the expedient of getting early ripening varieties from the south, the farmers of Genesee valley have found, at least the experience of the past year or two goes to show, that they can sow late enough in the fall to escape much damage from the Hessian Fly, and yet have the grain come into bloom sufficiently early in spring to avoid also the other enemy.

There is still some difference of opinion upon the question as to whether wheat to ripen early should be brought from the North or the South, and many persons are quite surprised on hearing it said that it should be obtained from the latter direction. This is a very important point and should be established satisfactorily. Numerous facts support the opinion in favor of the South. Samples of the same variety brought from the South have ripened a week or ten days earlier, the first year, and brought from the North

have ripened as much later than the crops grown from the native seed. The reason is, that the plant in the South acquires a habit of coming early to maturity, and this constitutional tendency adheres to it, for some time, notwithstanding the change of location, but gradually loses force, and after a few years the variety becomes naturalized, and ripens at the same time as the other native varieties.

The proper preparation of the land previous to sowing, will consist in keeping down weeds and stirring the soil, by the use of the plough, cultivator, or harrow, drawing out the manure &c. The amount of cultivation to be given, and whether it should be deep or shallow, will depend very much upon the nature of the soil, and the cultivation it has already received during the season. On strong loamy clays, or stiff clays there is no preparation for wheat so much to be depended upon as the thorough summer fallow. Such land should receive at least one, if not two pretty deep ploughings during the season, so as to bring up the subsoil, and expose it to the fertilizing influences of the atmosphere, and thus give the plant plenty of depth for the roots, as to facilitate drainage. After two such ploughings the remainder of the cultivation may consist in stirring the surface with a light plough, gang of ploughs or cultivator, and working in the manure, if any is applied, till the time for sowing the seed arrives. Such soils may also produce a fair crop of wheat, if ploughed up the second the previous autumn or spring, and sown thickly with peas for an intervening crop; the peas can be got off about the 1st of August there would be an advantage in ploughing the land as soon as possible afterwards, to prevent the danger of baking in case of very dry weather, and it would then keep in good condition during the winter at seed time. In case of sowing wheat after peas, a light manuring will be more necessary than after the thorough fallow, though in either case this will depend upon the condition of the land as to fertility, and the previous course of cropping. The manure should be previously decomposed by turning into heaps, or by composting, in order to ensure the destruction of weed seeds, and covered in with a light soil, or ploughing previous to drilling or ploughing the seed.

In soils of a lighter character than those described, that is of a more loamy or porous