

raked up and spread evenly over the tops of the stocks, to keep away the birds, which will otherwise infest it; and the heads tied round with a band of the same material, to keep the wind from disturbing it. The seeds are known to be sufficiently matured to thrash out by the crispness of the capsules, and the facility with which the seeds fall out. In thrashing, a cloth has to be procured, and spread in some convenient part of the field, and a bolster raised on the side of the cloth from the wind, to prevent soil from falling among the seed. The stooks must be drawn to the cloth by a rope passing round the stook under the heads, and over the drawer's shoulders: this requires a strong man. He must then place the head part carefully on the cloth. To prevent loss of seed, thrashing ought to be proceeded with as soon as ready. When thrashed, it may be watered, as previously directed, or made into a rick, and have a spring ret. If placed in a rick, care must be taken that it is properly thatched; for, if the least wet gets into the rick, it will destroy the fibre. Hemp can be dew-retted in the manner described in the account of flax.

Hemp being different from that of ordinary crops, and requiring very good land, with much labour and attention, its culture is not likely to be followed, especially at the average prices of late years, of which the following account may be received as a fair estimate:—

EXPENSES.

Rent and taxes per acre.....	£2 10 0
20 tons of manure	5 0 0
3 bushels of seed.....	0 15 0
Tillage.....	1 10 0
Pulling, steeping, &c,.....	1 10 0
Taking from steep, spreading, thrashing, &c.....	1 10 0
Scutching, 1s 6d per stone, for 60 stone.....	4 10 0
Cleaning seed, taking to market, &c.	0 7 6
Net profit.	1 2 0
	£18 15 0

PRODUCTS.

60 stones of Hemp, at 4s 9d.....	£13 10 0
20 bushels of seed, at 4s 6d.....	4 10 0
	18 0 0
Add 15s, value of dressing to grass-land.....	0 15 0
	£18 15 0

Note by the Editor.— We believe that in Canada it may not be essential that the seed should be sown previous to the 12th of May, when our vegetation is so much more rapid than in England. Perhaps any time in May would answer, but we cannot say so from

experience. The expenses of cultivation so far as regards the rent, would not be so great here, nor would the manure cost so much. There is very little doubt that hemp might be produced in Canada to great advantage. The plant would grow here on suitable and well cultivated soil to a great height, and would, we believe, yield a larger produce than in England. There is no difficulty in perceiving at once, the difference between the male and female plants. We may in a future number give illustrations of each. In ploughing land in the fall intended for hemp in Spring, the ridges should not be made so wide, as in England, and ought not to exceed from seven to nine feet in width so as to leave the land as dry as possible.

THE DESTRUCTION OF RATS.

“The following recipe for the destruction of rats has been communicated by Dr. Ure to the Council of the English Agricultural Society, and is highly recommended as the best known means of getting rid of these most obnoxious and destructive vermin. It has been tried by several intelligent persons, and found perfectly effectual. Melt hog's lard in a bottle plunged in water, heated to about 150 degrees of Fahrenheit; introduce into it half an ounce of phosphorous for every pound of lard; then add a pint of proof-spirit or whiskey; cork the bottle firmly after its contents have been heated to 150 degrees, taking it at the same time, out of the water and agitate smartly till the phosphorus becomes uniformly diffused forming a milky-looking liquid. This liquid, being cooled, will afford a white compound of phosphorus and lard, from which the spirit spontaneously separates, and may be poured off to be used again, for none of it enters into the combination, but it merely serves to comminute the phosphorus, and diffuse it in very fine particles through the lard. This compound, on being warmed very gently, may be poured out into a mixture of wheat flour and sugar, incorporated therewith, and then flavoured with oil of rhodium, or not, at pleasure. The flavour may be varied with oil of aniseed, &c. This dough, being made into pellets, is to be laid in rat-holes. By its luminousness in the dark, it attracts their notice, and being agreeable to their palates and noses, it is readily eaten, and proves certainly fatal. They soon are seen issuing from their lurking-places to seek for water to quench their burning thirst and bowels, and they commonly die near the water. They continue to eat it as long as it is offered to them, without being deterred by the fate of their fellows, as is known to be the case with ar-