the grain for the deposition of the egg has passed; and in the latter case, the period of the insect has usually passed before the grain comes to the stage in which it suffers most from the fly. Last Spring I sowed about five acres of Black Sea wheat in a field of about 12 acres, low alluvial land, and which was ploughed the Fall previous; on the west side of the field I sowed about four acres of Siberian wheat, and on the east two bushels of tea wheat, with a strip of pease to keep the latter separate, and pure from the Black Sea wheat. The field was altogether sown about the tenth of May, and now the result: The Siberian was considerably rusted, and not more than half a crop; the Black Sea, for which the highest premium was awarded, yielded about thirty bushels to the acre, and which was neither rusted nor yet attacked with the grain-worm; and the tea wheat proved to be an excellent crop—straw bright, yield twenty-five bushels to the acre. I should have observed that the Siberian was also considerably injured from the effects of the worm. Few crops are benefited more by change or choice of seed than this; but whatever may be the kind of seed, it should never be sown without a thorough preparation; soaking in brine, carefully skimming it during the process, and then drying it in caustic or new slaked lime, has, with me, proved the best treatment.

These salts not only contribute to giving the plants a vigorous and healthy start, but tend to keep it free from smut, —a disease to which this grain is liable.

With reference to the excellent communication of "An Ex-Farmer," in the last *Newcastle Farmer*,—he observes that "Abstruse theories and chemical analyses are so far from benefiting the Agricultural population of this Province as at present constituted, [how constituted!] that they frequently excite in the unscientific reader repugnance and distaste,"—and adds that many of his neighbours could not understand the communications recently published in the *Newcastle Farmer*. Without intending, by any means, to hurt the feelings of such a class of farmers, "unless they are as *thin-skinned* as a *genuwyne* Yankee," I shall respectfully beg to make the following remarks:—My motto is to "improve the mind and the soil," and in order to do so we must study our profession; for we have many judiciously conducted periodicals and many scientific works, and no man who has a proper pride in his profession, but reads some agricultural paper with all the zest that ever a politician devoured a partizan journal. These productions from practical farmers amuse, interest, and instruct. They excite us to increased exertion,—inspire us with confidence in our undertakings, which otherwise would be abandoned upon the first failure. They give us plans, the most approved, for all our farm buildings, make suggestions which are often of the greatest importance,—indeed they act as a "friend in need," as a wise counsellor, a judicious, experienced adviser. In fact, these papers are of as much importance and as necessary to the planter in the successful prosecution of farming, as the political newspaper is to the statesman, or the "reports of cases" to the Lawyer.

For my part, I profess to belong to the humble class of Farmers. I read with delight and profit the *Newcastle Farmer*, and the Agricultural Communications which occasionally appear in the *Cobourg Star*. Having extended this communication to the limits of my sheet, I shall, in my next, advert to the remarks of "An Ex-Farmer," and your preparation for Fall Wheat. In the mean time, I say to the Hamilton Farmers, if you don't take the *Newcastle Farmer*, you make a *bad calculation*.

Respectfully yours,
A CAVAN FARMER.

To the Editor of the Newcastle Farmer.

Haldimand, April 20, 1847.

SIR,—I wish to make known to my brother farmers, through your columns, my manner of growing Indian Corn. I last year took a piece of new meadow land, (broke up the Fall preceding, and manured at the rate of 50 loads per acre,) harrowed and cross-ploughed it, and then ridged it, (always necessary, in my opinion,) and planted Ives corn, together with some white and yellow, across the ridges, leaving room to plough between the hills. I gave it a light brush with the hoe when it was about ancle high, and put a spoonful of plaster on each hill;* it took about 50 pounds of plaster to the acre. In about three weeks time, when the corn was about knee high, I went through it with the plough and hoe again. About the 1st of September the ear was sound, and of course quite uninjured by the frost. It was harvested about the middle of September, but should have been done earlier, when I found full 45 bushels to the acre. Each bushel by measure averaged 60 lbs. by weight.

Yours very truly,
WILLIAM NOBLE.

N. B.—I consider corn fodder superior to any other coarse food; indeed, if cut before the frost strikes it, it is equal to hay.

I am trying the same experiment this year on the same piece of land; if it turns out well, I will let you know all about it in September next.

The net profit of last year's crop is estimated by me at 15 dollars.

* My opinion is that if the plaster be sown before the corn be up, it will be more effective.

WHITE BELGIAN CARROTS.

My neighbour, Mr. Heale, the nurseryman, Calne, has just fatted 41 pigs on Belgian Carrots, mixed with Bean and Pea meal, the latter only in small proportions. I never saw pigs fat quicker, or make better meat, and he considers Carrots quite equal to the Potato in fattening qualities. I should consider the White Belgian Carrot would be one of the most profitable roots the Irish could grow, as their soil would produce enormous crops. I have myself grown after the rate of 30 tons per acre on certainly one of the poorest soils in Wiltshire. As it is impossible that many Potatoes can or will be planted in Ireland this year, landowners should turn their immediate attention to this hardy and easily cultivated root affording them alike wherewith to fat their pigs, an important item in Irish economy, and a vegetable that may be made useful in a variety of ways.—*John Spencer, Bowood Park.*

THE POTATO DISEASE.

Presuming the Potatoes to be intended for planting dry, place them thinly in a shed, and water them well with a rose waterpot, let them lie for 24 hours, then remove them to a dry floor, powder them over with sulphur vivum, turn them and repeat it. Have your trenches ready the first week in March, place your Potatoes or sets in your usual way, without any manure; level the soil, then sprinkle over the surface with as much common salt as will resemble a slight sprinkling of snow, and I doubt not you will next autumn report progress.—*Robert Arnott, Cambrian Nursery, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Feb.* 15.

MODE OF USING FLAXSEED FOR FEEDING CATTLE.—The seed given by itself, is too strong and oily to be very wholesome food; and, besides this, the mucilaginous matter prevents the seed being bruised by the animal's teeth, or dissolved by the gastric juice. It is much better to take the bolls to a mill, where there are edge stones, without thrashing out the seed, and to have them ground under the stones, set very close, or have the seed cracked in an oat bruiser; or the small farmer, when no other means are within his reach, may use a metal pot, bedded in clay, and pound the bolls in it, with a hard wood pestle, made to fit the bottom of the pot. About a dozen of strokes are sufficient to make the bolls into a fine meal. The chaff and seed, mixed together, afford most excellent nourishing food. It may be given steamed or boiled; but it is best to steep the mixture from 12 to 24 hours in cold water, and then mix it up with lukewarm water, to the consistence of a gruel. It will have formed a rich, finely dissolved jelly, easily digested, and of the most wholesome and nutritive quality, excellent to be given to cows, and producing plenty of milk and butter; for horses, for young cattle, or for pigs. A pint of linseed, and half a bushel of the chaff, may be given at a feed.* A farmer who has experienced the advantages of saving the seed bolls of his flax crop, will never neglect it again, as they can be turned to much advantage in one way or other.—*Fifth Report, Flax Society.*

* Four quarts of unbruised bolls contain, on an average, a pint of pure seed.

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