is entirely out of reach at the depth of nine inches, or still deeper as some have said. I consider four or five inches deep enough—turn over your enriched sod—plant once and then sow with English grain the second year, and seed immediately, for by ploughing again you destroy the richness of the soil, so that your grass seed will seldom catch. But by sowing the second year after ploughing, the seed will catch, and your land not worn out with ploughing and left rich with two good crops—the more you plough grass lands the more you weaken them. I would say that this is my opinion and experience for twelve or thirteen years. If these suggestions will be of any benefit to the public, you are at liberty to publish them.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Western, Oneida County, July 20, 1842.

[The practice of applying manure as top dressing to your grass land as soon as the hay is taken off has succeeded very well here—it may be continued till the middle of September. After that time it is better to reserve the manure to be spread on the land in the spring, as soon as a slight green colour is to be seen in the fields. It is a fact that loamy land which produced good crops of grass when new, often fails when ploughed. This is caused principally by the neglect of draining, the decaying roots of the trees which were removed having in some measure served for drains; but there is another cause of the failure of the grass; it is injured by the frost. The surface of new land is always covered with decayed vegetable matter. As this does not conduct heat so readily as any kind of earth, it prevents the ground from frequently freezing and thawing in changeable weather in winter; it does not freeze till the frost is severe under this cover, and when once frozen it rarely thaws till spring. But the naked ground freezes with a slight frost, and is thawed two or three inches deep by a rain which has no effect on the turfy ground, throwing out the roots of part of the grass and injuring all. This injury is prevented by top dressing with manure mixed with swamp soil or decayed leaves. Where seaweeds are used for top dressing they should be applied only in the spring.—ED. COL. FARMER.]

"BLOOD OF A BLACK CAT."

To the Editors of the C. N. Y. Farmer.

I noticed in the July number of the Cultivator an extract of a letter from Eli Westfall, Dutchess Co., giving an account of the cure of *the shingles*, a painful eruption of the body, by the application of the blood of a *Black Cat*. Without giving any opinions as to whether this is among the "superstitions" which have come down to us from olden time, I would state a matter of fact which came under my own observation many years since. An individual was very badly affected with this complaint,—it spread very much, and had nearly surrounded his body. The remedies applied by the physician had failed, and he was advised to procure the blood of a black cat and apply it. This was done, and he was soon entirely relieved from a troublesome and painful complaint. Whether the blood of any other colored cat might not have answered, I cannot say, but in this case the blood of the black cat did the thing required, and the credit belongs to pussy's blood. Many cures of diseases, I have no doubt, are affected by the application of the warm blood and skins of animals. Yours, A FARMER.

[This remedy would probably succeed in many cases, but the blood of any other animal would do as well as that of a cat. Slight Erysipelas differs little from a scald, and we see it is checked by touching it slightly with nitrate of silver, which forms a crust on the skin, or by applying carded cotton, which confines the heat Blood will also, if frequently applied, and allowed to dry undisturbed, cure w ts, but in this last case it probably has the effect of suffocating t e insects who inhabit the wart; they are not visible to the naked eye in the common wart, but may be seen in the large warts upon the soles of the feet of the West India blacks, particularly when they are cutting a path like moles in the scarf skin from a large wart to the place where they deposit their eggs, which occasion the growth of another.]

GRASS SEED ON GREEN SWARD.

In a former number we have reminded our readers of the advantages of seeding on a green sward furrow; we shall now state the mode of ploughing and of seeding which we have found the most safe and profitable.

We turn the furrow over as flat as we can—if there are many rocks or stumps in the way it will be well to have one hand with a hoe to lay flat those sods that the plough did not turn well. After the ploughing is finished a good roller should be used to fit the sods more close and to prevent their being torn up by the harrow. The next step is to haul on the manure. This of course will be from the compost heap that has been well mixed and rendered fine; the cow-yard, the hog-pen, the sink drain, will each contribute a share; and the horse stable manure that has been mixed with soil or with peat long enough to become fine will be found to be as good as any.

We are often asked how much manure should be put on an acre? One cord of stable manure mixed with three of soil or muck will make a tolerable dressing so as to give the grass a start and to prevent winter killing. But many use two or three times as much as this, and those who can spare twice as much as the smallest quantity named will not be likely to regret any waste of manure.

Every one will see that much depends on the quality or richness of the manure and on the condition the land is in when turned. But we think it not advisable to put on less than four cords of compost; that is, about sixteen common ox cart loads to the acre. For if the quantity is less than this the young grass is too liable to be winter killed, and the swath will not be so large at the first cutting as we ought to require.

As soon as the manure is spread the harrow should follow to mix it thoroughly with the mould of the furrow The harrow should at first be drawn lengthwise of the furrow to avoid tearing it up; it may then be drawn in a diagonal direction, varying, however, but little from the range of the furrow, and it is not advisable to draw it directly across in any case.

After the ground has been well harrowed the seed may be sown. We find one peck of good herdsgrass and three or four pecks of red-top sufficient for an acre; and we prefer to cover the seed by dragging a bush harrow over it. The roller may follow if you choose; and if any loose sods remain on the surface they may be raked into the dead furrows or other low places in the field.

We prefer to sow before the first day of September when it is possible, though we have had good grass from later sowing. When the field is quite rich there will be but little danger from winter frosts, though the seed be sown any time in September. We do not venture to sow clover as late as August. It may live over winter but there is not an even chance for it. We sow on clover seed early in the spring and let the spring rains bury it; when light snows fall in March or in the fore part of April, we have a fine opportunity to mark our tracks and throw on the seed. The clover will not be expected to rise high enough for the scythe the first season unless the land is quite rich, but it will give good fall feed and it will keep out weeds till the other grass roots have time to spread.

A fresh furrow will be more moist than one that has been turned several days and seed will vegetate sooner on it. When the season happens to be dry therefore it is well to plough but one acre at a time and then throw on the seed.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

From the Massachusetts Ploughman.

MEDITERRANEAN WHEAT.

We have received the following from the Hon. H. L Ellsworth, Commissioner of Patents at Washington. It may be interesting to many of our readers.

Patent Office, July 20, 1842.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit a parcel of Mediterranean Wheat, respecting which much has lately been published, and the peculiar qualities of which are described in the accompanying letters from Dr. Smith of Philadelphia, and Mr. Powell, seedsman, in the same city. I am most respectfully yours,

H. L. ELLSWORTH.

Philadelphia, July 14th, 1842.

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 6th inst. came duly to hand, and I should have answered [illegible]ier, had business and other circumstances permitted.

That variety of the [illegible]ranean Wheat which I have sown for