

## INQUIRER.

"Morton's Cyclopedia of Agriculture," is the best work of its kind in the English language. It embraces all the details of agriculture, practical and scientific, written by the most eminent farmers and scientific men of the day. It is an original work, and not as many such productions are, in great measure, a compilation. It can be procured in monthly parts of Mr. Maclear, bookseller, of this City, or of any of his travelling agents in the country.

## EXHAUSTING EFFECTS OF PLASTER.

H. A.—Your case is a very common one. No manure containing only one or two ingredients can invariably meet all the wants of vegetation. Your soil was evidently deficient in sulphuric acid and lime—the constituents of Plaster—that is, *sulphate of lime*, which enters largely into the composition of clover, and such like plants. Hence your extraordinary but short lived success with such crops.—But you have been removing from the soil in wheat, rye, barley, oats, &c., some half dozen important substances and have returned in the Plaster only two, and those not of the first moment to grain crops. No wonder then that the soil is exhausted, and that Plaster does no good. A fertile soil must contain a sufficient amount of eight or ten different substances, each of which is more or less carried off in every crop, the absolute amount of which in itself, of course, exhaustion of the land. For grain crops your soil require *phosphates*; for roots, *alkalies*.—Good farmyard dung is unquestionably the best fertiliser for general purposes, as it contains, more or less, all the constituents of plants. But as its supply is too commonly insufficient, recourse must be had, to bones, guano, wood ashes, saw, &c., when practicable, we advise the ploughing in of clover or buckwheat, with as liberal, previous dressing of such kinds of manure as can be obtained as possible, seed down with a grass crop, and pasture for a few years. The land will then be again "in heart," and may be kept so by judicious cropping and manuring.

## THE GOOSEBERRY.

G. F.—The nurserymen about Toronto and elsewhere, can no doubt supply most, if not all the sorts you require. The gooseberry is not naturally well adapted to this climate, our summers being too hot and dry. Plant in a cool and moist situation, protected as much as possible from the rays of the midday sun, in a *stiff* soil. Cut away the wood freely, mulching with hay and saltpetre, or common salt, will prove advantageous. Even in the moist climate of Lancashire, where the largest gooseberries in England are raised; particular attention is paid to the thinning out of the shoots and keeping the ground moist and shaded, with moss, &c. Our correspondent will find more information in our volume for 1849, page 102, by a Canadian gardener.

## STEPHEN'S FARMER'S GUIDE.

The 14th number of this cheap and excellent publication contains a steel engraving of a Short Horn Ox, and much useful information on the management live stock; modes of sowing seeds, and the laws of vegetation, illustrated by numerous cuts.—Toronto: H. Rowse.

## GREAT SALE OF SUPERIOR THOROUGH BRED SHORT HORN CATTLE.

The subscriber having more stock, than he can well sustain on his farm, will offer at public Auction about 30 head of his improved short horn cattle, consisting of Bulls, Cows, Heifers and Heifer and Bull Calves, on the 26th day of June next, at his farm 2½ miles from the City of Troy.

It is known to breeders of improved Stock, in this country, and in Canada, that the proprietor of this herd, during the past 12 years, has through the medium of importations, from England, and selections from the best herds in this country, spared no expense to rear a herd of Cattle from which superior animals could be safely drawn, for improvement and crosses upon other herds. His importations have been derived from that eminent breeder, the late Thomas Bates, Esq. of Kirkcarrington Yorkshire, England, which herd it is well known has recently been disposed of at public sale by his administrators, and dispersed in many hands, and can no longer be resorted to as a whole for improvement. The announcement of that sale created great interest, and all short horn breeders in England seemed emulous to secure one or more of these animals, to mingle with the blood of their own herds, and at the day of sale, there was found assembled the largest audience ever before witnessed upon a similar occasion, numbering as was said from 4000 to 5000 persons, and among them the best breeders in England, and several from other countries, some of the animals bringing prices that seemed incredible to many.

In the herd now offered for sale will be included, the Imported Bull Duke of Wellington, and the premium Bull Meteor, these are Bates's Bulls, and their reputation as stock getters are two well known, to need any comment. I am however authorized by Lewis F. Allen of Black Rock, one of the most prominent breeders in this country, and who has had ample means of forming a judgment, that in no instance to his knowledge had these two Bulls been bred to short horn Cows of other herds, previously imported into the United States but what the produce were superior in general qualities to such herds.

The most of the stock which is now offered for sale, has been bred from these two Bulls and the proprietor, having a young Bull more remotely connected with that portion of the herd, he retains (being about 14 in number) can spare these two valuable Bulls. There will be in the stock offered for sale, 6 young Bulls from 8 months to about 2 years old, in addition to the two named above, and the remainder of the stock will be composed of Cows, (most of them possessed of extraordinary milking qualities) Heifer and Heifer Calves. It is believed that no herd of short horns has ever been offered for sale in this country, exhibiting more of the valuable combinations of qualities which contribute to make up perfect animals. A catalogue containing the pedigrees of these animals, will be ready for delivery at an early period in which the terms of the sale will be particularly stated. A credit will be given from 6 to 8 months. Gentlemen are invited to examine the herd at their convenience.

GEORGE VAIL.

Troy, near Albany, N. Y.

## NOTICE.

Parties requiring either a FARM MANAGER OR GARDENER, or one to act in both capacities, may hear of a respectable and well qualified person, by applying (if by letter, *post-paid*) to our office. We also know a young man recently from Scotland, possessing most satisfactory testimonials, that would be happy to engage with any respectable party, requiring a person of industrious habits and agricultural skill.