

to discharge the water freely, but in long levels or nearly so, the water is chiefly taken off by absorbing drains similar to that adopted by Mr. Elkington some years ago, for the introduction of which, it will be recollected the British Parliament voted him one thousand guineas.

If the worn out plank is not much decayed, the construction of the road drain may be expedited by cutting up the old plank for this purpose, it will last many years and prove its utility, this would be best effected by a circular saw of two horse power. The expense of constructing this kind of drain with new materials has been estimated at about £80 per mile.—H. M.

[As our correspondent has recently returned from a visit to England, where he formerly had a long and extensive experience as a practical agriculturist, we should feel obliged if he would favor us with his impressions as to the improvements made in farming in the old country since he left; embracing modes of cropping and culture, manures, implements, &c., with the actual state and prospects of the British farmer, compared with those of the Canadian Farmer.—Ed.]

#### CLOVER SEED.

*To the Editors of the Agriculturist.*

GENTLEMEN:

I believe the quantity of clover seed sown in Upper Canada is yearly increasing, and that it is very desirable that information should be more generally possessed as to the kinds best suited for this climate. English seed cannot always be had; in that case, what kinds rank next?

Some attempts have been made in this neighborhood this season to raise seed; but not having access to machinery it could not be properly cleaned. Can you or any of your correspondents give any information on the subject? Is a first or second crop best? how should it be managed? And is it possible to clean the seed without machinery? and by what means?

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,  
AN ENQUIRER.

[Our correspondent's enquiries relate to subjects of increasing interest in this country, and we hope some of our readers that have had experience in the matter will communicate the desired information.—Ed.]

#### AGRICULTURAL SHOW OF THE COUNTY OF YORK.

The Fall Exhibition of this Society was held in Toronto, on October 9. The show of horses was scanty, as is usual at this season of the year; but of cattle, sheep, and pigs, the number was considerable, and the quality good. We noticed several agricultural implements of excellent workmanship, with a few that were imported from England, among them, Croskill's celebrated Clod-crusher the first we have seen on this side the Atlantic; it is a very powerful and useful machine, but too expensive for general use in this country. The show of butter and cheese was very good, and the grain and roots far exceeded our expectations. They were so crowded together in a small room in the Court House, as to appear under every disadvantage. We trust the Society will procure against another exhibition more suitable accommodations. In the evening a considerable number of the members sat down to dinner at Elgie's Hotel, and a very agreeable evening was spent, under the efficient superintendence of Edward W. Thompson Esq., the President of the Society.

#### HARVESTING AND STORING ROOT CROPS.

Carrots, sugar beets, and mangel wurtzel should be well secured before the occurrence of heavy frosts. They should be perfectly matured, before they are pulled, which may be known by the yellowish color of some of their leaves. If allowed to remain unharvested beyond that time, a new elaboration of juices takes place, and much of the saccharine principle, which is the fattening one, is destroyed.

Turnips and parsnips may be left in the ground until there is danger of freezing, and the latter, if not wanted for winter use, are all the better for remaining unpulled until spring. In this case, all the water must be carefully led away from the beds, otherwise they might rot.

Potatoes, for winter keeping, should never be dug before they are ripe, which may generally be known by the decaying of the vines.

All kinds of culinary roots, after digging, should be protected from the sun, by throwing over them some leaves or straw, and as soon as the dirt attached to them becomes dry, let them be carried, at once, to the cellar or pit where they are to be stored. They should be kept