



Management of Grass Land.

The improvement of grass land, has not generally received that attention in this country, which the importance of this department of husbandry seems to demand. Throughout the northern states, the grass crop, in hay and pasture, is of greater value than any other. With the exception of swing grass constitutes the principle food of our domestic stock. It chiefly feeds our laboring animals, and is the "raw material" from which is produced most of our beef, mutton, butter, cheese and wool; and by thus supporting the live stock of our farms, furnishes an essential degree, the elements for the production of our bread-stuffs, fruits and vegetables.

In those parts of our country where dairying and stock raising constitute the leading branches of farming, it is important to continue the production of grass on the same land as long as good crops can be obtained. In many situations, the product may be kept up for many years, with no diminution without breaking the soil with the plow. Such is, particularly the case with lands which are annually flooded, and it is so to a greater or less extent, with all rich, moist lands. The first requisite is, that the ground be properly prepared and well seeded. If intended for mowing, the surface should be made smooth. Well plowed, and those who the grass would be likely to "winter kill," should be underdrained. For permanent meadows, it is not advisable to sow much red clover; it dies out and leaves vacancies in the sward, which afford beds for the growth of weeds. The best grasses for the purpose under consideration, are timothy, hard-grass of New England, and red top, with a little white clover—unless there is plenty of the latter in the soil. The quantity of seed to the acre, if the land is bushy, must be ten quarts timothy, one bushel red-top, and two quarts of white clover. The different seed may be mixed and sown together, slightly bruising or harrowing them in.

The time of seeding may be varied, according to circumstances. If the ground is in good order, the grass may be sown in the spring with some kind of grain; if it is in a rough state, the seeding may be postponed till August or September, which will give the best of the season to work it and bring it into suitable condition. When the ground has become well swarded, the great object will be to keep it so. Attention should be given that it does not become so closely bound as to choke the growth of the grasses; and if spots die out, from any cause, they should be immediately re-seeded. A light sharp harrow, drawn over the field in spring, after the ground has settled, will prevent binding. If the grasses seem to be generally on the decline, it will be best to give the award a thorough harrowing, immediately after mowing, and sow seed, more or less, according to the condition of the old grass, applying at the same time, raking and sowing. Brush in the seed and mix it with the manure with a sharp harrow, and pass a roller over it. Top-dressings of this kind will be useful, and should be applied whenever the crop begins to depreciate.

Another mode of renewing meadows has been considerably practiced in Massachusetts and other New England states, for the last twenty years, and is much approved where it is wished to keep the land constantly in grass, with no other crop intervening. The land is plowed soon after the hay is taken off, and immediately re-seeded. The furrows are turned *flat*, in order to keep the surface as level and smooth as possible. The furrows are first rolled, and then harrowed with a very light harrow, so as not to disturb the inverted grass—the roller and harrow being passed lengthwise of the furrows, on the manure, in such quantities as the farm an spare, is spread on the ground at the rate of sowing the seed. It is not done, rod expedient to plow very deep, for the purpose, the new grass forms a good award sooner, where the furrow is not more than five or six inches, than where it is of a greater depth. No grain is sown with the grass seed. If the autumn is moist, the young grass will, and will give a good crop the next season, though it will be later than ordinary grass.

Many farmers who have had experience in sowing grass seed at various seasons of the year, prefer the latter part of summer or the autumn. Grass sown in spring, with grain, is often overpowered and kept feeble. It is choked and deprived of moisture by the stronger growth of the grain; and if the weather is dry and hot at the time the grain is harvested, a large portion of the grass is sure to be killed, which leaves the ground to be occupied by the weeds. On the other hand, late-sown grass escapes the drought of the first season, and by having the benefit of the autumnal rains, becomes well set before winter starts up the ground.

The time of sowing has much to do with the vigor of the award and the amount of the crop. If the grass is sown to run and set, it exhausts the energy and life of the roots, much more than if it was sown at an earlier stage. The deterioration of the soil is also greater in all cases where plants are allowed to form seed. The question has been much discussed, whether mowing grasses should be grazed by any kind of stock. That writer's observation leads to the belief that this depends much on the condition of the land and the kind of animals placed on it. Cattle, however, may do great injury to grass land, when it is wet or so soft that the award is broken and the soil pressed by the hoofs. Sheep are less liable to do damage in this way; though they as well as other stock, may be kept so close that they will graze the grass to the roots, rendering it liable to be killed by frost or fire. Much of the land is only moderately fed, while it is dry and comparatively safe, we do not think the crops of undulating, young and flooded in consequence.

But it is argued that the aftermath should be left on the ground as a shelter. The question is, *whether*, whether this grass is worth more for the purpose of fattening animals, or making butter and cheese, etc.,

than it is for measure in its crude state; or whether it may not be better economy to use the grass for these purposes, and turn the land in some other way. The course of the farmer must be determined by the particular circumstances in which he is placed; such as the comparative value of the products named, and the facilities he has for managing his land. An experiment, however, will convince him that a dressing of manure, though it be only slight, will produce striking effects compared with the decay of any common crop of aftermath.

PASTURES.—In most sections, it is common for land to remain for many years in pasture. In hilly and mountainous districts particularly, there are lands that have been thus in grass ever since they were first cleared from the forest—a period extending in some instances in this country, to two hundred years, and in Europe, some lands have been in this situation from time immemorial. Under proper management, the herbage does not deteriorate either in quantity or quality. In this respect, grass seems to form an exception to most crops, which require to be managed on the principle of rotation.

In many situations, little or no attention is paid to the improvement of pastures; a fact which may well excite surprise when we consider the important relation they sustain in the general economy of the farm. We know of no reason why a judicious expenditure of money on this part of the farm, may not yield as profitable returns, as the same amount laid out on any other portion. The chief improvements required on pastures are, draining, the eradication of bushes and useless plants, and bringing the land into proper grasses. Draining is, perhaps, generally most necessary. The watery and sour nature of herbage consequent on too much wetness of the soil, is not only unpalatable and un nutritive, but absolutely unwholesome, tending to produce diseases of the liver both in cattle and sheep.

Grass may be made at any season of the year, (except when the ground is frozen), at best suited the convenience of the farmer. Bushes can be destroyed most easily towards the latter part of summer. The "old of the moon in August," has long been considered the best season for performing this business. Without admitting any special lunar influence in the case, we believe experience has established the fact that bushes are more effectually killed when cut at this period, than at any other. Alders and other shrubs that grow on stumps or hillocks, raised above the general surface, may be torn out by the roots and effectually exterminated. Two men, and two four strong oxen, with a root-puller, (such as we have several times described in our columns,) will clear them out rapidly. Bushes and small shrubs should be cut close to the ground, and if they sprout, the operation should be repeated the next season, which, if the work is well done, will probably be sure to destroy them. Sheep and cattle will kill many of the young sprouts by cropping them. The bushes should be burned, if thick on the ground, the ground well harrowed, and grass seed sown.

If ground is intended for permanent pasture, we think it is not necessary, or advisable, to plow it. The condition of the soil when the forest is first cleared off, is favorable to the growth of grass. The vegetation on the surface can be sufficiently mixed with the soil with the harrow and the grass seed sown readily and are less liable to die out, than if the soil was reversed by the plow. [Remainder next week.]

This Harvest.—The farmers of this county are now fairly at work at the wheat harvest. We hear but one voice, and that is, the crop is abundant. Probably there has not been for years so fine a crop of wheat in the valley of the Susquehanna, as at this time. In fact the remark may not be confined alone to wheat, rye, oats, corn, potatoes are alike flourishing and promise abundance. It is cause for congratulation and joy. In the prosperity of the husbandman in the prosperity of the whole country. The furrows are turned *flat*, in order to keep the surface as level and smooth as possible. The furrows are first rolled, and then harrowed with a very light harrow, so as not to disturb the inverted grass—the roller and harrow being passed lengthwise of the furrows, on the manure, in such quantities as the farm an spares, is spread on the ground at the rate of sowing the seed. It is not done, rod expedient to plow very deep, for the purpose, the new grass forms a good award sooner, where the furrow is not more than five or six inches, than where it is of a greater depth. No grain is sown with the grass seed. If the autumn is moist, the young grass will, and will give a good crop the next season, though it will be later than ordinary grass.

The **Bulls.**—The New Haven Courier relates the following interesting incident, which occurred a few years ago in one of the villages of Connecticut:—

A young lady confined to the house by protracted indisposition, was in the habit of feeding a sparrow, which had a nest on a tree near the door, with crumbs of bread. The little creature had a warm heart under her homely dress, and soon learned to love her patron, became exceedingly tame, and would hop about the table while the family were at meals. This was repeated when ever the door was opened, till at last her mate was induced to accompany her, and both would pick up scraps which their fair entourage, as she lay upon the sofa, scattered near her on the carpet. In the fall, one of them flew against the window and tried to get in, but the lady was too feeble to expose herself to the air, and so could not admit her little visitor to a fireless interview. Next spring they both came again as dole as ever. In the course of a few weeks, as the lady lay upon the sofa, upon a sponge mattress, trying to prevail to give up, the birds began perfectly still, but the dear spin, she heard a great rustling and chirping on the sponge. Looking about for the cause, she espied her tame sparrow entering the apartment, followed by several of her progeny, and the portion of her body belonging to the rear. They all remained with her half an hour, perfectly satisfied and at home till having satisfied their appetites with the insects which were strewn about the sponge, and expressed their obligations with sweet chirruping reply, referred to the shrubbery.

Pray on you, Mrs.—Those, though with a slight infestation, can make him, and they will soon take themselves away. The question is, *whether*, whether this grass is worth more for the purpose of fattening animals, or making butter and cheese, etc.,

NEW ARRANGEMENT.

HAVING purchased the interest of F. B. Chandler in the business lately carried on by F. & C. Thompson & Co., we invite the attention of purchasers to their stores, Timewares, Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Books AND SHOES for sale.

They will sell any part of their stock at least as low as goods of similar quality can be bought west of New York City, and send us before payment what you want to pay money.

S. W. LEWIS,
ROBY. G. SIMPSON.

VEGAR, good at only 60 per pound. Condensed 16 cents at the store of

J. LYONS.

SOAPS AND UPSET Lathers. Window Glass, Hats and Caps, News Paper, Looking Glasses and Plates, Patented Tin, Two Dozen, of every Description, Carpet Boxes, Household Linen, Furniture, Books, and Pictures, May 15, 1848.

E. BENTLEY & READ.

157, of Letters remaining in the Post Office at Montreal,

J. Adams June, 11, 1849:

Allen Henry, 11, 2
Allen Henry, Ann,

Bennet Celias, Blakelock Zebulon,

Balding J., Bipes James H.,

Burkitt Ann, Thomas,

Blakelock Orvemus S., Blodgett D.,

Brown B. P.,

Birkhead Sally, Brine W. W.,

Barker Mary Ann,

Clark Isaac F.,

Cheever Cyrus,

Chase Ezra,

Chase Lewis H. 2d,

Conradus Joseph,

Dickson David,

Fancher David B.,

Grove D. M.,

Grievor James H.,

Grove G. H.,

Hawkins R. W.,

Holly Kate,

Jackson Edwin,

Jones Catherine B.,

Lathrop Augustus,

Little J.,

Moorit Maria L.,

Morgan & Son,

Mills Mary,

Mik Is Mary A.,

H. J. WEBB, P. M.

Susquehanna County, Pa.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

TO THE Sheriff of said COUNTY.

1. I am the Sheriff of said County, and am directed to serve the following process on the following persons, to whom service can be made in the manner prescribed by law:

John B. Steward, Esq., of the County of

Montgomery, to whom service can be made in the manner prescribed by law:

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N. Y. & Erie Railroad

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FORWARDING LINE FROM GREAT BEND,

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