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The Agriculturist

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NO. 7.

Agriculture.

For the "Agriculturist."
GROWING ALFALFA.

Mr. Editor.—In perusing the
AGRICULTURIST the other day, I hit on
a question that I was much interested
in, it was "can Alfalfa be raised in this
country," to which I earnestly say it
can without the least doubt.
In reading the Sacramento Yearly
Record a few years ago, I saw Alfalfa
mentioned as a great grass for swamp
lands, so last year I sent to a certain
firm in Sacramento for 2 lbs. of the
seed, and it came late in June. I
sowed one half of it, leaving the other
half to try on different land should the
first fail, but it did not fail. It stands
the frost better than any of our native
grass or clover; it will ripen here and
come to perfection. 2 1/2 tons to the acre
I think, would be about the common
yield in this country. My Alfalfa is
now about 16 inches high; the roots
is 1/2 of an inch in diameter; it is a
man's work to pull one of them up;
the larger roots are now about 20
inches long. The seed grows on the
stock different from our clover, with a
blue blossom. If required I can tell
you more about it another time.

Yours, respectfully,
BENJ. STEWART.
Nashua, May 16th, 1878.

For the "Agriculturist."
LETTER FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

CROP PROSPECTS IN THE ANNAPOLIS
VALLEY, CENTRAL NOVA SCOTIA—
DOMINION POLITICS IN
SAME SECTION.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist:

Sir,—Farm work is not more advanced
in the Annapolis Valley and about
Truro than on P. E. Island, but the
grass and trees are more forward.
Measuring my rye on the 13th inst.,
the grass was found to be over
twelve inches high. Driving across
the country from Kentville to Canning
and noticing the splendid appearance
of the grass, one could well imagine
the great gratification of the owners
of the land. "It never looked so well
before at this time of year" was the
remark of several. The weather so
far has been everything that could be
desired—the past few days a little on
the cold side. All kinds of fruit trees
are looking well, and prospects bright
at present.

During the past three years, a great
deal of rye has been sown on the
sandy plains in Annapolis county, and
the crops have proved to be profitable;
(wonder if it becomes old rye, there's
a point for the inside editor.) Last
year a general renewal of wheat sowing
took place in Central Nova Scotia,
and the result was so favorable that
this spring a very much larger acreage
is devoted to it, and the farmers ex-
press the hope of being able to raise
their own breadstuffs again, which
for a time, was suspended by the
scourge of the weevil. Hay, oats,
potatoes and fruit will continue to be
the mainstay of the interior "blue
nose," and if he were but wise enough
to turn the first three and his turnips
into beef, mutton, pork and horseflesh,
all fitted for exportation, great would
be his gain.

It is impossible to move about now
without talking politics. In King's
county both parties are sanguine of
success with chances seemingly in
favor of the present representative
who is a Government supporter, but
he appointed a postmaster and collector
during this term, and that is
against him.

In Annapolis county it is generally
conceded that the Opposition will gain
a member, and Sir John A. will be
happy. In Hants, the present mem-
ber, a supporter of Mr. Mackenzie, is
about as unpopular a politician as one
could find; one of his many sins was
influencing the appointment of the
present sheriff, a man who up to the
time of his nomination was a pedlar
of cucumber pumps, a small edition of
See See Jones, but happily with more
character if less brilliant as a finan-
cier. The name—Curry—did it, but
Mr. George cannot carry favor enough
with the electors to be again returned
for Ottawa. Mr. Thomas Smith, of
the Local House, now or formerly, is
canvassing for a nomination, but even
if he gets it, his chances of election
are small, and Sir John A. will likely
count one more, in the new member
for Hants.

In Halifax the Hon Mr.
Jones is pretty sure of an increased
majority. In Colchester, the Conserva-
tives tried hard to get Governor
Archibald to run, but not succeeding
placed the present member Mr. McKay
in the field, who, having a clever and
very energetic opponent in Dr. Page,
stands a very good chance of suffering
defeat, and Mr. Mackenzie may offset

Hants by Colchester. In Pictou county
the Hon. James McDonald will in all
probability be returned, and go up to
join forces again with Governor Tilley
and Dr. Tupper. What fun it is to
hear the village bar-room politicians
talk over the merits and demerits of
the men who "wield the destinies of
this great country," hear them criticise
the speech of Mr. Colby or talk
"reciprocal free trade;" the debating
club composed of colored people never
were more interesting even when they
tried to decide the knotty problem of
"which is de mitest, de pen or de
sword."

General business is dull and will be
probably until after the elections.
JOHN STROVE.
Nova Scotia, May 16th, 1878.

KING'S COUNTY FARMERS'
LEAGUE.

We have been looking over the
report of the meeting of this august
body held on the 9th April last, and
have been very much amused by the
self importance of some of those gen-
tlemen who constitute themselves
the censors of the Province; why the
celebrated Tooley street tailors were
nothing to those gentlemen, if they
are to be taken at their own value.
The Secretary for Agriculture and
his Report furnished fuel to keep their
wrath warm for a while, and we were
beginning to think he must be a very
bad fellow, and his Report something
terrible. We were not sure but that it
might be necessary to pass a code of
laws against the press that printed
such a document; but we read on a
little further and came to the follow-
ing: "The next motion made brought
out the fact that O. R. Arnold, Esq.,
would be a candidate for the Legisla-
ture;" this revealed the whole object
of the attack on the Secretary and his
Report. Some of those gentlemen at-
tend every meeting held in King's
County, no matter what the object of
the gathering may be, they are sure
to be on hand, with the same stock
of grievances and the same object in
view. They want to get into power
or position of some kind, and nothing
will be right until they do, like
Micawber they have been waiting for
something to turn up, and their hand
(and their tongue) is against any and
every one whom they imagine to be
in their way.

It has been a favorite subject with
some of them to bewail the change in
the agricultural affairs of the Province,
but it would require some better proof
than we have had to satisfy us that
they care anything about the agricul-
tural affairs of the Province, beyond
their own interests or their desire to
obtain position. Some of those gen-
tlemen were members of the late
Board; what good did they ever do?
can they point to one measure passed
by them that was worthy of commenda-
tion. On the contrary they are as
responsible for the conduct that just-
ified the abolition of the Board as any
others, and in fact it was owing to
them and others introducing their
political schemes into the Board in-
stead of attending to the work for
which it was created, that rendered
the change necessary; and the very
regulations they now complain of
were contained in the Law, at the re-
quest of the Board, of which they were
members. The chairman seems to
think because Mr. Tilley and other
prominent legislators were in the
House at the time the Act was passed
creating the Board, that it must be
perfect and should be continued. The
Law was well enough and worked
well, so long as it was not abused;
and it was only when it ceased to be
of value that it was changed, and the
approval of it to this day. We have
not space to go further into this part
of the subject at present, but will be
prepared to return to it, should cir-
cumstances render it necessary, but
there are two or three points that we
wish to notice just now, to show the real
object of the speakers, and the want
of consistency on their part.

Mr. Keator endeavored to be very
eloquent in condemning everything
the Secretary says in the Report; it
is all wrong according to Mr. Keator—
the Secretary cannot make a recom-
mendation, or tell what has been
done, or what has not been done, but
Mr. Keator finds fault with him. No
matter whether the Secretary has
done anything or omitted to do any-
thing, Mr. Keator equally condemns
him. He even finds fault with the
mention of one of the Provinces offer-
ing a bonus for beet sugar, and thinks
the Secretary should have provided
money for the same purpose here, no
matter where it came from, it should
be forthcoming, or else hold his peace,
don't tell us anything unless you give
us the money at the same time; this
is what Mr. Keator says.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

DELIVERED BEFORE THE GREAT VILLAGE
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The following address delivered before
one of the Nova Scotia Societies,
which we copy from the Colchester
Sun is as applicable to this Province
as it is to Nova Scotia, and we must
rely upon our neighbors for such in-
formation so long as our own people
do not furnish us with such articles.
We trust the day is not far distant
when we will be able to reciprocate.
Mr. President and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to be brought face to
face with the Yeomanry of London-
derry in the capacity: a member of an
Agricultural Society. This sight I
have long looked and striven for, and
I am pleased to see my fond expecta-
tions realized in this meeting, which
contains the energy, health and wealth
of this Township.

We have, after all, made a good resolu-
tion, let us see to it that we, from
this time forward endeavour to im-
prove our living by tending better to
that which to us is our subsistence, so
that year after year, we will be able
to enjoy all the comforts of those who
have well drained and highly wrought
acres.

Mr. President, it is to you we must
look for encouragement; to you, in a
large measure, depends the success
of this Society. If it is your desire
to see the work of your hands prosper
in this Society, as I am pleased to say
you have in the tilling of your acres,
you must give to this Society over
which you preside (as you have over
your acres) some thought, so that
you will be better able to guide the
future prosperity of your fellow culti-
vators to grander successes.

why the Secretary is to be blamed.
He does not make them: he has
nothing to do with them, and Mr.
Keator knows this very well; then
why should he be called to account
for them. Mr. Keator knows and also
the Chairman, who has to make the re-
turns for one Society, that these returns
are made by the officers of the Soci-
ties, who are elected by the members
of the Society and are generally re-
spectable, conscientious men, and when
Mr. Keator charges those men with
making false returns, he should be
prepared to prove the truth of his as-
sertion, for it is a serious charge
against an honorable class of men,
to own knowledge quite the equal
of Mr. Keator; and Mr. Keator cannot
plead ignorance in this matter as he
is well aware of the true position of
matters.

We believe those schedules are
generally pretty correct for the dis-
tricts included in the return, but
sometimes there may be a misunder-
standing, or a want of clearness in the
heading—from this it would appear
that the return was for a parish or in
some case two or three parishes—
while in reality it was for only one
portion of a parish or parishes covered
by the Society. The Secretary has
done all in his power to remedy these
defects and in most cases he thinks
with success, certainly errors are not
so numerous as formerly. The Secretary
is condemned for calling for these
returns. Does not Mr. Keator and
the other gentlemen know that these
returns were ordered by law—then
how can the Secretary dispense with
them, he has no power either to
order or discontinue them, why blame
him then, he does all he can to do
more.

We admire the resolution passed re-
commending that the Report be
recalled. It is certainly very clever,
and no doubt those who passed it
thought they were very smart, some-
body must be hurt by this. We
wonder if they sent a copy of the
resolution engrossed on parchment to
the Government. For their comfort
we can tell them that the two last
Reports from the Department are the
only ones for many years, that could
be given away, and the supply of
these two was far short of the demand;
double the number was required, and
some societies, as well as individuals,
wished to purchase a larger number
than was allotted to them. We think
it would have been rather a difficult
matter for either the Government or
the King's County League to have
recalled them.

We have said more on this subject
than we intended, and trust we will
not have to return to it, and in con-
clusion we would recommend would-
be-politicians not to mix their politics
with agriculture, and both will get
along better.

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future prosperity of your fellow culti-
vators to grander successes.

say they will at all times have the
sympathy and encouragement of
those who have placed them in such
honorable positions as guides to the
encouragement of greater zeal in pro-
secuting agricultural pursuits. We
must not be in too great a hurry to
be able to enjoy all the comforts and
luxuries of the English farmer, for
we must remember that we cannot follow
in their path, for we have not the
same market, nor the same advantage
of obtaining fertilizers, as they have,
nor are our farmers men who have
such large fortunes, as many of the
English farmers have to expend in
farm engineering, such as the sinking
of deep drains and irrigation, which
are the grand bases of success.

But I would say for your encourage-
ment that we are no, after all, so far
behind the English farmer. They
have been tilling the same ground for
the last thousand years, whereas, we
have only been cultivating our acres
a single decade, or a century at most.
I have no hesitation in thinking and
saying if we keep on improving, that
in another century we will be abreast
if not ahead of those of whom so much
is said, and who are held up to us as
patrons worthy of our example. We
are all cognizant of the fact that they
have need of reform, and that it is
well for us to have before us, those
who have excelled as cultivators of
the soil—therefore, we should become
acquainted with their manner of farm-
management of those who are our
competitors. This naturally leads me
to take as my subject—"The Farmer's
calling, and how he is to be fitted so as
to perform his duty."

There is a desire in the heart of
every man to become rich—to obtain
wealth the easiest and quickest, is the
study of nearly all; we select our
road to wealth and pursue our various
branches of business, having that as
the grand end in view.
Farmers, as other men, have the same
desire to get rich, to be the owners
of "broad acres" and large herds,
to have fine horses, and to live in fine
houses. This is all right, and every
honest son of toil should be encouraged
in pursuing the object of his hearts
desire.

I am pleased to say, Mr. President,
that the farmers represented in this
Society are prosperous, and many of
them are comparatively wealthy—but
I am sorry to say that they are not al-
ways contented; the grand successer
of our ship-builders and merchants
have often been the means of the dis-
posing of their acres and the embark-
ing in other pursuits which have been
the means of awakening them from
the fanciful dreams only to find them-
selves involved in the Insolvency
Court.

We are enamoured by the show
and success of the merchant; at times
it looks grand in our eyes, but we
must remember that often the mer-
chant's successor is reduced to poverty
and can only pay twenty cents on the
dollar. Again the men of the profes-
sions are supposed by the farmer to be
living easy, but he forgets that those
men are the drugged servants of soci-
ety, dependent upon disease, dis-
agreement, and sin for their daily bread.
He sees other men of the various
branches of industry and will by
times regret that cultivation of the
soil is his calling. Those visions of
wealth, show, ease, and comfort occa-
sionally dance before some farmer's
eyes, and those who yield, to pursue
in other walks, the majority are ruin-
ed. The business of farming should
not be the stepping stone to any other;
farmers should strive to be better
farmers, for there is no other business
open to greater improvements. All
that is requested is intelligence, in-
dustry and a fair soil; with these,
there is no surer, happier, or more con-
tented mode of gaining a comfortable
and independent existence. There is
a custom prevalent in our country,
one to which Colonel Blair alluded at
the meeting of the formation of this
Society, to which I think proper
again to refer, I mean the custom of
farmers educating their sons, who are
to follow some of the professions, and
neglecting those who are to be the
grand promoters of civilized society,
the cultivators of the soil. I conclude
that this is only to be mentioned to
be condemned by you as an unworthy
example to be followed.

The business of farming requires
an extensive knowledge, so that it
may be carried on with success. Let
the boy who is the tiller of his own
acres, be thoroughly educated, let
him study those branches which will
fit him for his business, so that when
he becomes a farmer he will be en-
abled to bring his knowledge of Geo-
logy, Botany and Chemistry to prac-
tical use, and not as they are now,
crammed with one to five books of
Euclid, and Algebra to Quadratic
Equations, which course of study will
never be of practical use to one in five
hundred; whereas, the natural sciences

are almost, if not altogether excluded
from our schools. There is great
need of reform in this particular in
our school system. Let those
branches be taught in our schools
that will bring the greatest benefit to
the greatest number, than we will
have Botany, Geology and Agricul-
tural Chemistry taking the place of
the branches now taught, thereby
fitting our young men to become
better cultivators of the soil, bringing
wealth and opulence to our country.
Let our lads, or those who are to be-
come farmers, know the soil, so that
they will bring the same skill and
learning to bear in farming as are
brought to bear in the professions
and other branches of industry, and
then those hills and valleys will pro-
vide an abundance, and our markets
will be filled with what our population
requires without sending our capital
to the Upper Provinces or to the
United States for the staff of life.

Perhaps it is unnecessary to say
that sciences are not all learned at the
school or college, they are only offer-
ed as means for expanding the mind
so as to be able to come to sound con-
clusions. To a large extent the
science necessary to the farmer can be
mastered by his own fire-side, with
the aid of good and proper books and
an indomitable will. The farmer will
be the gainer from the careful study
of his fields, which study will prove
to him most profitable. The skilful
and scientific farmer will study and
understand his farm, so as to be able
to know the want of his pasture and
illage land, to know when to plough,
what to plant, what to sow, what
fertilizer to use, to put ashes, manure
there, and lime and bone dust to be
scattered just where they are needed.
It is my desire to urge upon you
the necessity of giving your sons a
practical education, to those who are
designed for farmers, for the farmers
do not hold that position in the political
and literary world they deserve.
They do not hold the position that
their useful and honourable employ-
ment fairly and justly entitles them
to, for in reality they are the "Lords
of the land."

neither go beyond our means, nor too
quickly adopt every new contrivance
simply because it is new. But on the
other hand, let us studiously avoid
that spirit of distrust which looks
with suspicion upon every departure
from old usages. Let us, with eyes
wide open to see, and minds open to
conviction, carefully observe and nar-
rowly watch, and then adopt what-
ever full experiment by individuals
or associations has proved to be al-
t advantageous and profitable.

The next thing that should interest
every intelligent farmer is his out-
buildings, no husbandry can be suc-
cessfully carried on in this climate
without giving due attention to the
proper caring in the housing of his
stock. Barns with a half inch to one
inch openings between every seven or
nine inches space over its entire sur-
face, is not the best kind of a stable
for the protection of his stock during
the extreme cold of our winter. Warm
comfortable barns properly ventilated
is a great saving to the fodder and one
of the first means to be adopted to the
keeping of our stock in a healthy con-
dition during our winter months. Let
the farmer so plan and arrange his
outbuildings so that they will in
reality be a protection to his stock,
and also so that he can save all his
excrement, by this means he will have
a larger supply of one thing needful,
manure, for the enrichment of his
fields, and so produce larger crops
from the stock kept. There is large
room for improvement in this respect
and the sooner we adopt means to
this end the more prosperous we will
be as farmers.

I will now allude to another great
evil prevalent among our farmers, the
want or dearth of books and papers on
Agriculture. The farmers as well as
other business men want to be con-
tinually posting themselves in their
business, there is no better way than
to take one or more farm periodicals
of standard integrity. I hope that
the members of this Society will as
soon as practicable become subscribers
to a good farm journal. I will not
attempt to name any single one of
them are numerous, but I would say,
take one of which the contributors
are farmer and that in our northern
latitudes. Every farmer should be
the owner of some scientific work on
the farm, for instance, Johnston's Ag-
ricultural Chemistry, or The Farm by
Dr. Nichol, of Boston, who is a
thorough farmer. I would be pleased
to see our yeomanry furnish them-
selves with more books of that kind,
and not be the possessors of so many
books, which are utterly useless only
for the profit they may bring to the
publisher.

Gentlemen there is a prejudice
among most farmers, against scientific
farming the reason for this, is, that
they often mistake fancy for a sci-
entific farming.
I will sketch two pictures from ac-
tual observation which will illustrate
what I mean. There is a wide differ-
ence between fancy and scientific
farming. A person may come from
the School or College to the country
and procure a farm to his taste and
set out as a model farmer. He com-
mences by pulling down the old build-
ings, and erects a palace. He greets
a hennery, a pigery and barns for his
cattle and fancy stables for his
horses which surpass in their appoint-
ment, the home of his neighbors. He
imports at long prices fancy stock,
which he knows not how to use or
raise. He buys whatever he may
hear of that is new in way of imple-
ments or tools. Now he gets his books
and with no past experience, spurning
any advice of older cultivators of his
neighborhood, he sets up for a gentle
man farmer.

For a year or two he runs smoothly
and all the farmers of the community
consider him a scientific farmer, for
he makes a great show which puts all
the neighborhood in the shade.
It is not long before his debts accumu-
late and he has not the wherewithal
to meet his bills, and the sheriff is
called to close the scene. Now the
whole neighborhood sets up a hue and
cry which goes over the land "So
much for scientific farming. It is no
such thing. It is fancy farming."

Let us look at the other picture. A
person of taste and industry with a
determined will to gratify long cher-
ished wishes devotes his attention to
agriculture. He has taste and makes
his buildings plain, attractive and
neat, adapted for what they were in-
tended. His fences are handsome and
durable, his fields clean, beside fruit-
ful. If he has a swamp which is an
slightly he sets to work and reclaim-
it, and makes it fertile. If he has
fields requiring improvement he
studies, finds out, and applies the
necessary fertilizers. If his land will
not produce crops consecutively, he
will rotate, and find those crops that
will be remunerative to him. His

tools and implements are the best, and
therefore the most economical.
If his stock is poor, he will learn by
inquiry and research what breeds are
most prolific and hardy, best fitted for
labor and for market. He will eagerly
avail himself of the experience of
those around him, but at the same
time he studies books and seeks aid
from science.
From Geology he learns the origin
and nature of his soil, from Chemistry
to analyze so as to apply the fertilizers
that will produce what is wanted,
from Botany, the structure and habits
of plants, and what soils and mode of
treatment they demand, from Zoology
of animals are regulated. From all
these, he gathers knowledge and ap-
plies it to his daily tasks till complete
success crowns his efforts, till the for-
mer waste becomes a garden, till what
was once a wilderness is made "to
bud and blossom as the rose"—This
gentleman is the Scientific farmer.

Mr. President:—It was not my in-
tention to when requested to have
made my remarks so lengthy, but be-
fore I can consider that I have con-
cluded and come to my closing sen-
tence, I would feel that I have not
none duty to my subject, without
noticing one more topic. I do not
know what phrase or name to give it
or what you gentleman may be pleased
to call it, poetry, sentiment or fancy.
You may call it by what name you
will, yet it as a subject which has a
great deal to do with the happiness
of the farmer and one which in the urgent
effort to procure a livelihood or the
gain of wealth, is too often forgotten
and left for the bye and bye. We
may grow rich, may add barn to barn
and acre to acre, but if we neglect to
wreath the brow and soften the hands
of toil with refinement and grace, our
whole life will be a failure and our ex-
ample a wrong. Is not our farm-life
too rugged and harsh? Has it not
been deemed exclusive devotion to
labor as indispensable to success,
taught to frown upon whatever in-
truded upon unremitting toil, and to
grudge the mite expended which
would add to the appearance and taste
of our homes. Has it not been con-
sidered a waste of time and labour to
exercise taste for the gratification of
the eye, the love of ornament and
beauty as that which is foreign and
not in place, and to recognise nothing
as desirable or useful that would not
pay in dollars and cents.—This gen-
tleman has been the prevailing tendency
and it is the great secret of that aver-
sion and distaste in our young to farm
life "which has taken directly from
our farming population its noblest and
most ambitious nature, its quickest
intelligence, and its most stirring en-
terprise. Let the farmer feel that his
farm has higher uses for him than
those of filling his person or purse."
As he looks upon his green intervals
and waving fields—as he plants the
seed and houses the golden harvest,
as he lists to the song of birds, the
lowing of herds, the harmonious hum
of animated nature, as he sees the sun
of the morning rising to gild and
gladden the earth, and the evening-
shadows falling longer from the hills

"And the moon like a silver bow
New-bent in heaven."
And the "Earth's twinkling stars that make
Dark heaven light."
Come out to rule and glorify the night."

As in the spring time he watches the
ever recurring but ever great mystery
of nature, and when the winds of Au-
tumn wail in mournful cadence, muse
upon the decay of nature, less mysteri-
ous but more solemn than its bursting
life, let him remember that he is one
with an earthly mission, but required
hereafter to render an account of his
stewardship.

TO CURE THE MOSS GROWTH
ON FRUIT TREES.

The tendency to produce moss
growth on the stems and branches of
apple and other hardy fruit trees is
much greater in some parts of the
country than others, and it is also ob-
servable that in some gardens and
orchards in the same district there is
an excessive growth of this evil as
compared with others. Generally
speaking, vigorous healthy trees do
not produce moss on their stems and
branches, hence, as a rule, young trees
with much vigour of growth are
usually exempt from the evil in any
part of the country. The chief cause
of the growth of moss on the bark of
hardy fruit trees is a superabundance
of moisture in the atmosphere, or in
the soil, or in both. Trees which are
continually influenced by great atmos-
pheric humidity are rarely free from
mossy branches and stems after they
attain a certain age. Nothing that
may be applied will effectually and
for ever clear them of no-mossiness, ex-
cept the humid conditions under
which they exist are altered or re-
versed; but there are several ways by
which it may be kept entirely under.
One of the oldest, but a rather trouble-
some and laborious method, is to
scrape the bark with an old blunt
knife or an instrument made on pur-
pose for the larger branches and
stems; but the knife is always best

for the smaller branches, because
lighter and more adaptable to the
smaller surface operated upon. But
this method is liable to the objection,
that it can only be practised by the
most careful workmen, since the least
carelessness or unskilful handling of
the tool, may injure the bark and
buds. It is also open to the further
objection of being only partial even as
a temporary or annual cure of the
evil; for even left it be done in the
most careful manner, it can never be
thorough, because there are always
inequalities in the bark and about the
junctions of the branches which can-
not be penetrated by any ordinary
instrument without a great deal of
time being expended on the operation.
The best, the most thorough, and least
expensive cure is a fresh slacked lime
of the most caustic quality that can be
obtained. This should be used as soon
as it is slacked, dashing it into every
crevice or inequality in the bark, and
throwing it abundantly all over every
tree, so that all sides of the branches
above and below may be freely coated
with the dust. A man will find a
great many trees in this way in the
time he would require to clean one
tree in the way of scraping. The lime
is also more effectual, as it burns out
every particle of the moss, so that for
one season at least there is nothing
unsightly or injurious produced. As
unsightly or injurious as the moss ap-
plied to gooseberry and currant
trees, it is advantageous in warding
off the attacks of small birds on their
buds. The more effectually to attain
this object, it is an improvement to
mix the caustic lime with soot as
fresh as it can be obtained, and in the
proportion of half and half. The only
objection to this method is that it
is a serious evil, is, that for a consider-
able time after the lime is applied the
trees have the appearance of having
been whitewashed. This may be
obviated by mixing the lime with
soot; but we should prefer using the
lime alone, as this objection can be
overruled, because a more concen-
trated condition it is the most effica-
cious in destroying the moss.

RESTORING RUN OUT LAND.

A correspondent of the Green Moun-
tain Freeman contributes an account
of how a Vermont farm has been
brought up to a high state of fertility
by the use of chemical fertilizers, in
connection with the stable manure
made from the crops grown on the
farm. Such an experiment would
seem to answer some of the recent
questions of our readers as to the best
method of improving worn out land.—
The farm under review consisted of
some hundred acres, twenty-five acres
of which were devoted to tillage.
This land has been worn and much
neglected. Its best fields had not been
turned over by the plough, or cheered
by a dressing, for many years. Nearly
one-half of these tillable fields was a
low, boggy meadow, upon which the water
of a wet season was allowed to rest
until it evaporated. The remaining
acres consisted of a series of elevations,
dry upon the top but full of springs
at the base. The soil was of a light
character and composition as our New
England farms usually do. Some
portions were loose and dry; others
were composed of moist, dark mould,
with a clayey subsoil; and still others
contained a well-formed, wet peat bog.
As it was before the experiment, this
farm produced only some ten tons of
independent upland hay per year, but
no corn or other grain had grown
upon it for ten years. Almost no stock
had been kept upon the premises, and
hence the chief reliance for restoring
the farm to a good condition, was by
the use of special fertilizers. Five
years from the time the experiment
had been so far successful that
eighteen cows, five horses, a yoke of
oxen and three hogs were fed from its
productions. And these animals,
after this, supplied all the manure
needed.

The whole amount of fertilizers used
were fifteen tons of bone, one hundred
bushels of uric acid ashes, four tons
of fish pomace, two tons of Peruvian
guano, five hundred pounds of crude
potash, one ton of the oil of vitriol,
ten casks of lime, and several hundred
pounds of sulphate of magnesia, ni-
trates of soda and potassa, chloride of
sodium, oxide manganese, sulphate of
iron and sulphate of ammonia. Of
course, the animal manure produced
upon the farm during these years was
applied to the soil to aid in producing
these results. The whole sum spent
for special fertilizers during seven
years was eight hundred dollars.
During the same year stable manure
sold for six dollars per cord. Had
this kind of fertilizer been used enti-
rely, it would have given only about
three cords to each of the twenty-five
acres, during the whole time. This
experiment brings into comparison
special manures and special fertilizers,
and can any doubt which are the most
profitable? To have raised this farm
to its present high state of cultivation
by purchased manures, would have
cost double the sum expended.

One measured acre ploughed in the
autumn, and dressed in the spring
with five hundred pounds of pure, fine
bone, sowed broadcast, was planted
with corn. A handful of superphos-
phate was placed in each row. From
this acre one hundred and fifty-seven
bushels of corn, in the ear, were
gathered. The following year eight
hundred pounds of mixture of ashes,
bone dust and saltpetre were applied
to the same acre, and thirty-one
bushels of winter rye were raised. A
few years since the hay crop was cut
from this same acre, (after a top-dress-
ing of five hundred pounds of compost,)
two and a half tons. During the entire
five years, this acre yielded ten tons
of corn crop was especially abundant,
never falling short of seventy bushels
of shelled corn, and once reaching one
hundred and six bushels per acre.