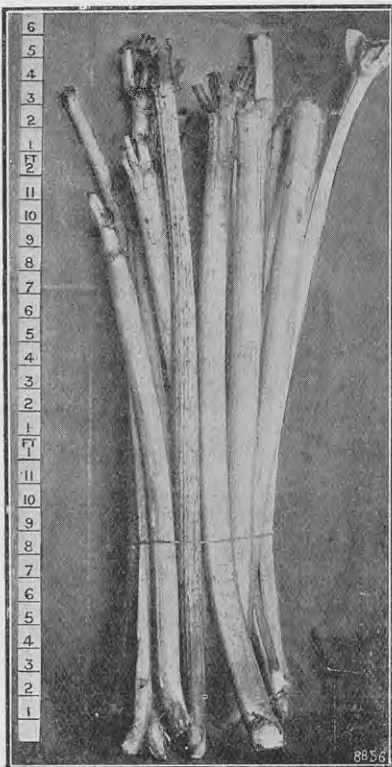


Failing a roller perhaps the next best thing, and also a most inexpensive article, is the rubbing or fining board. It resembles a sledge with close decking, but with the boards nailed slightly slantways instead of at right angles to the runners, and overlapping as in weatherboarding. This sledge-like implement is turned upside down, weighted with a bag of earth if necessary, and pulled by two horses. It will fine down a ploughed field upon which the harrows or disks have ceased to accomplish satisfactory work, and it also performs a considerable amount of levelling, while making a firm and compact seed-bed. It probably is better adapted for use upon clays and loams than upon very light loams or sand; but even on sands it may be made to perform fairly good work by placing most of the weight towards the centre or back rather than near the front.—*G. de S. Baylis, Fields Supervisor.*

WINTER RHUBARB.

THE rhubarb-stalks depicted in the photograph are fair samples of the produce of the bed at Arataki Horticultural Station, from which they were taken. The



roots have never been disturbed. Seed was sown in November, 1913, the seedlings thinned to about 2 ft. and left to grow. The plants have produced abundantly for two winters and two springs. They are never pulled bare, and are not pulled at all during the summer months. Manuring has been very light. The variety is Topp's Winter, from seed selected from the best plants grown previously with equal success by the same grower at the Weraroa Experimental Farm. As will be seen by the rule in the photo, the stalks shown are between 2 ft. and 2 ft. 6 in. in height.—*W. H. Taylor, Manager, Arataki Horticultural Station.*