



Fig. 2.—A paddock of oats beside an unstumped area. In the background may be seen the heavily-bushed hills.

planted is usually potatoes. This district is favoured by northern potato-growers because of the comparatively virus-free seed produced. Potatoes grow

well about Tuatapere and afford a good means of cleaning a paddock.

Following this the area is sown with a cereal—usually oats—and it is then finally

sown with a good mixture of certified rye-grass, &c.

To bring his land to this stage the farmer has been put to a fairly large expense, and he should therefore consider the most profitable means of returning his outlay. By sowing an inferior type of pasture he will be subject to another early expense in that he will have to put the plough into the area within a year or so. If he sows a pasture of certified seed he is not only increasing his carrying-capacity but is saving expense by sowing a pasture that will be of a really permanent nature and will not need the plough for a number of years.

One farmer at least in the Grey Valley is now thoroughly convinced of the necessity for good consolidation of the seed-bed when sowing down grass. He noticed on the wheel-marks of the drill throughout the field that the strike of grass was very much better and the growth more advanced than elsewhere. He is now a confirmed roller.

HAYMAKING...

② needs speed

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