

The Bee.

VOL. 1.

ATWOOD, ONT., FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1890.

NO. 21.

The Wool Situation.

The McKinley Bill, which has passed Congress, but will be disputed in the Senate, imposes a duty of 12 cents per pound on imported wools. This old duty was 10 cents a pound. This prospective increase of duty of 2 cents a pound has for the time being depressed the market on this side, but in the long run if the duty is put on, the price of wool here will probably increase that much on the assumption that the consumer pays the increase. But further, the very class of wool which is in the greatest demand at present in the manufacturing world is what Ontario has made a specialty of, namely long lustre wool. There has been a gradual change in fashions with relation to wool fabrics, and the long wools are now in keen demand for alpaca and braids. Alpaca are now worn as dress materials, and when this style of goods is once introduced it will hold the market for a long time. The selection now is of fine Leicester wool, of a silky texture. This is the wool that takes the prevailing fancy. The manufacturers of the United States to a great extent will have to depend largely upon Canada for their supplies of this staple, as comparatively few long wools, or at least Leicesters, are raised in that country. Lustre wool can only be raised in a climate like Canada or other regions on the same isothermal lines. Long woolled sheep, even in the latitude of some of the New England and Middle States, rapidly deteriorate, and in two or three years of breeding the Leicester wool gets short and dull. This change in fashion and the keen demand for our choice long wools should stimulate farmers here to go more extensively into first class long wool breeds of sheep. Indeed, so far as the United States is concerned, and the manufacture of alpaca and braids, the tariff will have but little effect as these goods are mostly manufactured in England and Scotland, and these are naturally our markets. There is nothing in the short and medium wools for our farmers, as the change in fashions dictate the change in materials. We may expect consequently that there is rising tendency in the future for our staple lustre wool, and our farmers should adapt their breeding to suit this market.

The Value of Ensilage.

At the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, some very successful experiments have been made with the ensilage. The Minister of Agriculture, Hon. John Carling, has availed himself of the best talent in the country to further the interests of the farmers of this country. In a recent bulletin issued from the office of the Dairy Commissioner, Professor Jas. W. Robertson, we find some excellent advice on this question of ensilage or silage. It says:—The hay and straw crops have been factors so important for the economical wintering of cattle, that if they happened to be light and short, a scarcity of cheap feed has been experienced. A part of a corn crop may be planted so late that the farmer can accommodate the acreage to the prospects of a large or light hay crop, an estimate of which may be made with reasonable accuracy by the middle of June most years. Two alternatives present themselves to the farmer who depends entirely upon pasture for his cattle during the summer months. He must either stock his fields lighter than their capacity can well support during June and early July, or let the cattle suffer from insufficient herbage from which to bite during the hot and dry weather of mid-summer. The system of partial soiling enables the farmer to stock his pasture fields during June to the utmost limit of their supporting power. Green fodder may be grown to carry them over a period of scant feed from pasture fields. While rye, clover, peas and vetches, and peas and oats are admirably adapted for such uses, they give but a small yield per acre compared with what may be obtained from a corn crop. A cheap winter fodder for cattle is indispensable to the dairyman and cattle feeder who farms for profit in these times of comparatively low prices and keen competition. Cattle can be fed upon fodder corn from a silo at a cost at least one-half less per head per day than when hay is the main ration. That statement will apply to almost every part of the Dominion. In seasons which yield but a light hay or short straw crop, corn grows most luxuriantly. Hence, it has a special complimentary crop value where large numbers of cattle are to be fed during the winter and summer. From the large quantity that may be obtained from a small area of land, the corn crop will enable the small farmer to engage successfully in animal husbandry. On fifty acres of good arable land a farmer, by rotation of crops and the growth of heavier crops and larger areas of fodder corn. The summer cultivation of the soil during the growth of the crop has a very beneficial action upon its fertility. The long roots of the soil, and by their action and decay liberate some of the constituents required for the growth of the succeeding crops. They also provide for the freeing of the land from obnoxious weeds and the preventing of them from obtaining a new root-hold.

In filling a silo the following are necessary:—
1. The plants should be grown to a stage almost mature.
2. They should wilt in the sunlight until the water which they contain is less than 75 per cent. of the total weight.

3. The ensilage around the sides and in the corners of the silo should be tramped and packed thoroughly while it is being filled.

For the economical filling of a silo, the tools, implements and conveniences should, as far as possible, be adapted to the cheap and easy performance of the work. For the cutting of the corn I prefer and recommend a common corn knife or old-fashioned reaping sickle. A strong reaper may do the work by horse-power, but if the crop be heavy and the corn from 10 to 12 feet high, the rakes will not clean the table and stalks will be dragged behind.

A truck or wagon with low wheels and a large platform may be put upon the running gear of a common wagon by hanging the front of it to the under side of the back axle. A cheap and convenient platform for such work may be made by placing the ends of two poles 14 or 16 feet long on the front bolster of a common wagon and attaching the other ends of them to the under side of the hind axle by the use of a piece of stout rope. If boards be nailed across on these poles, between the front and hind wheels, the platform thus made may be easily loaded and can carry from one to two tons of stalks, if a stake be put in at each corner of it. After the corn is cut, it should be left to wilt for one or two days in small bunches on the ground. It may be filled into a silo without cutting; but more labor would be involved and the work of feeding would be rendered more difficult. Any strong corn or straw-cutter, with capacity for a large quantity per day, will serve the purpose. Carriers should be attached, unless the cutter stands on a level with the top of the silo which ordinarily is neither practicable nor desirable. Horse power or an engine may be used. From 6 inches to a foot of cut or uncut straw should be spread over the bottom of the silo before the filling is commenced. At the silo, the corn can be fed into the cutter directly from the wagon platform. The horses may meanwhile be changed from the loaded to an empty wagon. At the cutting box, two men will be required. A 2-inch cut is as good as a shorter one. During the filling, care should be taken to level the heavier parts of the stalks out against the sides of the silo occasionally. The filling may proceed every day, every second day, or every third day, as may be convenient. In any case the contents should be tramped around the sides and in the corners before the addition of a new layer. Though the corn stalks be wet from rain, they may be put into the silo without any damage from that cause.

The most suitable varieties for ensilage are Southern Sweet Giant Prolific, Sweet Ensilage, Red Cob, Ensilage, etc.

Perth County Notes.

The woolen mill at Millbank is proving a good advantage to the farmers in the vicinity.

The wet weather has done great harm to the crops in the district around Monkton.

The Omish church, at Poole, is nearing completion and occupies an imposing situation on the rise of a hill.

Wm. Allen, the colored minister who was a slave for 26 years in the Southern States, preached at Friends' church here on the 25th ult. and gave a lecture in Gowrie on his life as a slave on the Friday following.

The young man who had his ankle broken while working in the Maxwell works, St. Marys, some time ago, is recovering rapidly under the skillful treatment of Dr. Gunn. Richard Gray, timekeeper in the works, took up two subscriptions in his behalf which will help him through till he is able again to return to work.

The Massey Manufacturing Co. of Toronto despatched a special train of cars loaded with their machines, binders &c. for foreign parts, Chili, New Zealand, Australia, in Leigh Valley cars, said to be the best freight cars on American rail-roads, which train passed through Tavistock on Wednesday morning and was indeed a sight worth seeing.

Master Wm. Pimper, of Cassel, was unfortunate in getting his left hand into the hop cutting machine, at Kaufmann's factory, and had the thumb and first finger terribly mangled. He was brought to Dr. Neimer who successfully removed the finger and dressed the thumb. Pity for Willie, for he has although but a young lad, displayed great talent and skill on the violin.

Frank W. Armstrong, captain of the Salvation Army, was before the Cadi Monday, for assault and battery. He was fined \$1 and \$3.40 costs, which he refused to pay. Hence the Cadi suggested that he had better sojourn with Mr. Nichol for ten days. He rested in Castle Nichol for a few hours, when some one paid his fine.—Stratford Times.

The unfortunate Logan affair has demonstrated the need of a coroner at Mitchell, and if simple and solicited justice had been done to the town some would have been appointed last summer. But we are still without a coroner, and when an occasion arose requiring the services of one he had to be sent for to Stratford, where they have no less than three. To be sure, there is not much in the appointment to the appointee himself, but as a matter of public convenience we should have one here, and a satisfactory reason for our not having one will shortly be demanded.

Bornholm.

Richard Wilkinson is in Stratford attending Conference this week.

50c. secures THE BEE, the best local paper in North Perth, to the close of 1890. Send for sample copy.

Philip Osborn left on Wednesday last for a two week's visit at St. Pierre, Michigan. His daughters, May and Annie, accompanied him.

As Rev. Mr. Swann was absent at Conference Sunday last Rev. Mr. Kerr occupied the pulpit here. His subject was "Serving the Lord in little things." The rev. gentleman, by his eloquent discourse, held the attention of his hearers for over half an hour.

Anderson.

A garden party is announced to be held at Kirkton in the course of a few days.

Jas. Hight, 3rd line Blanchard, raised his barn last Saturday. It is 40x62 feet and will be one of the finest barns on the line when completed. James Struthers, of Atwood, has the contract.

A grand picnic under the auspices of the Methodist church Sunday school was held in Mr. Lane's grove, on the 2nd inst., and was a decided success. A base ball match was played in the afternoon between Kirkton and Anderson, resulting in favor of the former team. Later on in the afternoon a hotly contested match was played between the 4th line of Blanchard and Anderson teams. The 4th line boys "downed" them by 11 to 5.

Newry.

Miss Gilmer spent Sunday with Miss Nina Wynn.

Some of the farmers in the neighborhood had to plant their potatoes twice owing to the wet weather.

A second edition of Peck's Bad Boy was making himself conspicuous on Friday evening. He lacks the wit and humor of the former.

Out football enthusiasts are bestirring themselves and practice will soon be commenced if only a suitable place could be found in which to practice.

Our much esteemed citizen, T. Fullerton, has added to the appearance of his place by applying a coat of paint to his house. Another will soon follow.

Things have assumed their equilibrium again since election and all glides peacefully along. In fact the village has been characterized by the mildness which prevailed when the outside world was at fever heat.

Trowbridge.

Miss Morrow and Miss Bruce, of Listowel, spent Sunday in Trowbridge.

Miss Jennie Sutton has just returned from a visit to her brother in Lapeer, Michigan.

John Code lost a fine young mare last week. It was found dead with a stick run in its throat which had caused it to bleed to death.

Rev. Mr. Caswell, his wife and son are at Stratford attending Conference. Mr. Cosens, merchant, is also attending Conference this week.

Stephen Wilcott, who went away to Denver, Col., a short time ago has again returned home. Stephen must think there is no place like Trowbridge.

Will Caswell, son of Rev. James Caswell, occupied the pulpit in the Methodist church here Sabbath evening. There was a large congregation present and we would judge by the good attention given him all were interested in the sermon.

George Allan, a well known and highly respected citizen of this place, died Sunday morning after a few days illness. Mr. Allan was a strong, healthy man, and went out to his work Tuesday morning in his usual health, but soon became quite ill with inflammation of the bowels. He kept getting worse until death came and ceased his sufferings. His bereaved widow and friends have the sympathy of the entire community.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Many settlers are passing from Dakota into the Canadian west.

The miners of St. Etienne, France, have resolved upon a general strike.

An Englishman was shot dead at Genoa Tuesday by a sentry for not replying to a challenge.

Bears are working great havoc among sheep and calves in Houghton, county of Dorchester, Quebec.

George Washington Butterfield, an American, has sued the London Financial News for £100,000 damages for alleged libel.

The Equalization Committee of the Kent County Council has agreed to allow the township rating to remain as heretofore, but the assessment of the towns and villages will be readjusted. Blenheim will be raised about \$4,000; Dresden, \$16,000; Ridgeway, \$20,000; Thamesville, \$17,400; Wallaceburg, \$4,000; and Tilbury Centre, \$30,000. Both will be lowered about \$13,000.

The Blenheim News says:—"Squire John Cameron arrived home a few days ago after a trip to friends in Ohio and Indiana. In nine days he visited fifteen families of his relatives, most of whom he had never seen before. He found that over there farmers are worse off for cash than they are in Ontario, and for fertility their lands are not to be compared with those around Blenheim."

The Dominion Government has decided to advertise in leading English papers for tenders for a fast Atlantic steamship service.

The cotton schedule of the Tariff Bill has been finished by the Republican members of the finance committee. The changes are unimportant.

Dr. Moore, of Brockville, has been elected President of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons, and his friends are jubilant over the deserved honor.

The Russian government has ordered the immediate addition to its military establishment of a new corps of flying cavalry and a further augmentation of its field battery service.

The export trade of the Dominion for the month of April as shown by last week's Canada Gazette shows a total of \$3,748,921 against \$3,263,088 for the same month last year.

Thomas Elliott, a convict in Kingston penitentiary, while working at Portmouth Tuesday with others, made a dash for liberty, but was recaptured by a guard, who fired at him.

The synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church in New York adopted a resolution denouncing the Chinese restriction laws as unjust and contrary to the genius of American institutions. The area of Toronto is 14,998 acres, or 23 2-5 square miles, about the same as the area of the city of New York; with a population of 1,750,000, and larger than that of Chicago with a population approaching 1,000,000.

The thirty-third session of the Synod of the Diocese of Huron, is convened to meet in the Chapter House, London, on the 17th June. Messrs. T. D. Stanley and C. R. Sneath represent St. James' congregation, St. Marys. Messrs. G. W. Lawrence and Wm. Maynard, jr., represent St. James' church, Stratford, and Jacob Smerk the Home Memorial church, Stratford.

Expensive Crops Pay Best.

The natural and perhaps almost unavoidable tendency of farmers' methods during a season of depression in agriculture is to restrict expenses as much as possible, employ less labor, and put their land in crops most easily and cheaply grown. In Ontario, in England and other countries a great many farmers have done this. In this way the balance between production and consumption is restored, and after a year or two good prices again reward the labor of the husbandman. Unfortunately, however, when the era of higher prices comes, and indeed because of that fact, farmers have less to sell than usual. It would obviously be better if farmers were not to deviate at all from a steady and uniform course of cropping; to make their greatest efforts in the time of greatest discouragement. Then they would have a large instead of a small amount of produce to sell when grain and other farm products bore the highest price. Then it is the lack of available capital that most seriously handicaps a majority of farmers. It is this which intensifies the competition in crops grown with the least labor and expense. Few farmers have money enough left after purchasing land to pay for working it in the most profitable manner. This may be seen plainly right in this district. Often they can only stock it with inferior, because cheaper, animals, and these do not pay a profit. There is equal difference in the kind of crops grown. Some are expensive, requiring an outlay fully as great as the original cost of even high-priced land. But where the farmer follows these expensive crops judiciously and skilfully, working himself as well as superintending the labor of others, it is always found that these costly crops are more profitable than those more cheaply grown. If there is a failure, it is from attempting, without experience, to grow crops that the farmer knows nothing about. Many farmers in a fit of enthusiasm, have started market gardening, small fruit growing and raising fancy poultry without a previous experience in any one of them or under circumstances where no one having experience would attempt such a line of work. But if failure attends such injudicious efforts it is no argument against market gardening, fruit growing or poultry raising if begun under proper conditions. Lack of knowledge and skill is consequently often a cause of failure on the farm as well as the lack of capital. It takes a plethoric purse often refilled, to conduct fancy experiment in farming; yet these experiments, tried under proper conditions, guided by skill and intelligence, are often profitable. Skill, intelligence and willingness to work are, in farming more than any other business, substitutes for capital. Land in this country is much more easily procured than the ability to manage and cultivate properly.

The more the farmer knows about his business, the more successful he may be if he has a will to work. There are crops which sometimes in a single year pay the farmer handsomely. For instance, in potatoes, onions and for instance garden and field crops last year in this market, the growth of one acre at current prices would exceed the price of the land. The man who understands these, and is able to do a large share of the labor himself, cannot fail to make them profitable. But if he gives the care of such crops altogether to hired help and knows little about the business he can hardly find any method of spending money more rapidly or with less satisfactory results to himself than this kind of farming.—Free Press.

Huron County Notes.

E. Swarts, Holmesville, lost a valuable horse on Tuesday night last. The horse was found dead in the field on Wednesday morning. It is supposed to have been killed by lightning.

The other night, while bathing down at the railroad bridge, a student of the Collegiate Institute, Clinton, was rescued from a watery grave by his companions, after he had sank a couple of times.

T. Berry, the well-known horse buyer of Hensall, recently purchased from Mr. McMillan, of Bruceville, a fine four-year-old gelding, sired by "Puzzler," weighing 1,500 pounds, for which he paid the round sum of \$200.

ALL WEALTHY.—The editor of the Brussels Post advertises money to loan. Yes, editors generally have money to lend, for we have quite a lot of it, though it is not bearing interest. But we are afraid that we shall never get some of ours unless we sue for it.—New Era.

AN OLD CHURN.—A farmer on the 2nd concession of Hullett has an oak churn which he got made in Harperhay and which he carried home on his back, a distance of six miles, 34 years ago last Monday. This churn has been in use ever since, and is likely to last many years yet.

Geo. Brownett, one of the pioneer settlers of Stanley township, died somewhat unexpectedly at his residence, Bayfield Road, last Saturday. His death was caused by inflammation of the lungs. He had lived in the county for about 40 years. In religion he leaned toward the Presbyterian church, was highly respected and leaves a wife and family. He lost two sons by sudden death some time ago.

Wm. Armstrong, a young and enterprising farmer of Hullett township, who resides on the boundary between Hullett and McKillop, has been awarded a bronze medal for one of the best farms in the district of three counties. This farm is referred to by the Commission as beautifully situated with well located and convenient buildings. There is also a number of maple and evergreen trees for shade and ornament. The place is also well stocked with horses, sheep and well fenced.

Wingham District.—First draft of stations—Wingham, John Scott, M. A. Teeswater, W. W. Sparling; Wroxeter, James A. McLachlan, M. A.; Brussels, Samuel Seelery, B. D.; John L. Kerr, R. Paul, Matthew Swain (Glencoe, superannuated); Walton, J. W. Churchill; London, James Ferguson; Blyth, Wesley F. Campbell; Wm. Mills (West Toronto Junction, superannuated); Auburn, John D. Isaac; Belgrave, Robert Godfrey; Bluevale, Isaac B. Wallin; Archibald McKibbin recommended to college.

THE INSPECTORSHIP.—A couple of new candidates for the school inspectorship have cropped up, one of these being Mr. Wilson, B. A., of Stratford Collegiate Institute. As the county council has adjourned until the 17th, no appointment can be made till that time. In the meantime, Mr. Turnbull is attending to the late inspector's correspondence, etc., and dealing with any returns that require immediate attention. As Mr. Malloch was unable to make any inspection this year it is important that his work be kept close in hand, so that his successor will not have much to catch up with.

A MEAN JOKE.—A certain young man of the Bayfield line, familiarly known as Tom, who generally drives a horse and cart, drove to a meeting at a certain school house not a hundred miles from town where his heart was moved to compassion at seeing two young ladies who had walked there, he determined they should not walk home again, so he exchanged his cart for a buggy. When the meeting was over and the young man went to get his buggy he found to his great sorrow that one of his wheels was missing. Result, the young man went behind the school and kicked himself till he cried. He says the whole thing was a mean trick.

Some weeks ago Rev. G. B. Howie, L. A., of Brussels, announced to his session and congregation that though he is deeply attached to and interested in them he must needs hand in his resignation on the second Tuesday in July. The probabilities are that Mr. Howie is to return to Jerusalem to work among Jews or Mohammedans there, and in view of the fact that he is a minister in good standing in the Presbyterian church, the step, if taken, must be pronounced desirable. Meanwhile Knox church, Brussels, offers a field for some unemployed preacher and no doubt many will look after it at once. The congregation is small but is a most desirable one.

The reputation for Huron county as a stock producing locality is yearly becoming better, and now ranges among the best on the continent. On Monday of last week Messrs. Sparling & Robinson of St. Marys, shipped from Exeter station eleven car loads of export cattle for the English markets direct. T. Coates, of Osborne, alone delivered nineteen head, for which he received \$1,500. The majority of them he had only fed since March. On the whole the shipment comprised the finest lot of cattle that have left Exeter station for some time and the major number of them were purchased by James Oke. No less a sum than \$15,000 was paid to farmers of the surrounding townships for cattle on Monday.