advancement of our agricultural interests. All knowledge-dispensing institutions are a source of solid income to the country in which they flourish, and are the true basis of civilization and progress. An agricultural college would be no exception to the above, but, on the contrary, would undoubtedly outdo all other educational institutions in its intrinsic value to our country and in aiding the establishing of an agricultural millenium. A college for the purpose I have named would not only be a benefit to our younger agriculturists in enabling them to procure a scientific education of subjects relating to their calling, but it would also be an attraction for that very large class who would like to be farmers if they could only procure a correct knowledge of the different branches of agriculture by a collegiate course, in preference to becoming farmer's apprentices for a number of years, which would result in procuring only a very limited knowledge of its more beautiful and instructive principles. It would also be a two-fold advantage in the form of educating our farmers to a higher intellectual standard in all things connected with their pursuit, and by instilling into their minds new impulses to increased exertions in appropriating new inventions and discoveries that are peculiarly applicable to the advancement of their interests, and also as a fresh incentive to that much-needed push and enterprise, the lack of which, no matter how great the natural resources of a country may be, retard its material progress to an extent understood by but a small portion of our people.

Trusting that every one interested in the welfare of our country, and the farming population in particular, will lend a helping hand to a ready pen for the promotion of any schemes which may be hereafter concocted for the purpose of giving birth to an agricultural college for the benefit of the industrious tillers of good old Scotias soil, and that the ball once started, will gather at every revolution substantial aid for the triumphant culmination of any plan that may be adopted, whereby the actual demonstration of the establishing of the required institution may find its origin and a permanent home.

Believe me, Sir,
Yours very truly,

Halifax. CHAS. P. MCLENNAN.

IMPORTANT EXPERIMENT.

To the Editor of Annapolis Journal:

SIR,—I have been much interested in the experiment with Maize as a winter food for farm stock, which was conducted by Mr. F. C. Johnson, of Parrsboro, on his farm in Horton, Kings Co. The locality of this farm is in one of the finest sections of the Province. For fruit and the dairy it stands unrivalled.

Experiments in preparing and feeding fodder of various kinds have been in progress for some time in different parts of Europe. Mr. Auguste Goffart, of Burton, France, has the honor of originating and establishing a system by which Maize and other fodder crops are preserved fresh for feeding from the time they are cut in the green state, until the succeeding crop is ready for the knife. On Monday last I visited Mr. J.'s farm for the purpose of inspecting this new method of preserving fodder. To me it appears as a simple process, much after the manner that a Dutchman would prepare his winter's krout. In this case green corn was sliced up instead of cabbage. At present this farm is under the superintendence of Mr. Wm. Fitch, one of our prominent young men; courteous, obliging, and apparently well up in matters pertaining to the farm, especially the orchard. (To show a new departure in apple culture, I will mention here that the number of grafts of the Nonpareil russet variety of fruit, inserted by him last spring in different orchards, for the purpose of changing fall varieties into winter fruits, was over ten thousand.) As I have pronounced this method of preserving green fodder to be a simple process, you will, no doubt, expect me to show what constitutes the method.

This is the famous ensilage system, of which a good deal has been written and said in favor and disparagement. Mr. J. had proposed, or caused to be constructed last summer, a pit or silo, in connection with his barn, and housed it over. The dimensions of this silo are 30 feet in length, 15 feet deep and 12 feet wide. The sides and ends are built up of masonry; upright walls of brick are laid in cement, and impervious to air or water, its capacity two hundred tons. A moveable partition or division wall of planed scantling is erected for the purpose of regulating a section to the quantity of fodder to be stored. Three acres of fairly good soil produced between twenty-five and thirty tons of corn fodder. This quantity was considered much below the usual rate of production, owing to a failure of seed, which deferred the replanting for some weeks, in consequence of which the crop did not attain a full growth. Seventy-five tons of this was cut by a fodder-cutter driven by horse-power, cutting very rapidly. The cut fodder was stored in the section prepared for it, and trampled down hard, excluding as much air as possible. The surface was covered with plank and weighted with a pressure sufficient to reduce the mass to a capacity of two-thirds of a ton to the cubic yard. A cubic foot weighed 49 lbs., a bushel basket level full, without pressure, 65 lbs. with the basket. (I have been somewhat particular in these proportions, as I wished to know the weight required to reduce the mass to such density.) Twenty-four head of cattle, from yearlings to oxen, and a small flock of sheep, consumed daily between 700 and 800 lbs. of this fodder. A feed of hay was given the first thing in the morning to regulate the system. The cows and large cattle would eat from fifty to seventy pounds daily; they drank sparingly. The sheep were fed outside, the ensilage placed in troughs arranged by the side of the silo, which afforded great protection from cold winds. The fodder was eaten with great relish. It was cut fine in half inch sections; the color, olive green, with a pleasant, vinous odor—the whole preserved in perfect order.

Mr. Fitch remarked that the stock would not consume all the ensilage before it was time to send to pasture, and that up to the present time very little had been required.

THE APPEARANCE OF THE STOCK.

I was much surprised at their superior condition and healthy appearance, especially at this season of the year. It is very much a practice with some farmers to permit their stock to decline in condition when first put upon dry feed. They are said to lose their appetite, or as some have it, "off their feed." The usual remedy is to turn them out and permit them to roam the bare pastures all day to pick up an appetite. I attribute the superior condition of Mr. J.'s cattle in part to their comfortable quarters, with an abundance of food, his animals are, in the full meaning of the term, house-fed.

Those who practice soiling or house-feeding are cognisant of the fact that green corn does not contain sufficient nutriment to supply fully the requirements of the dairy, or fit animals for the shambles any more than good hay; both are required to be supplemented by some concentrated food. Farmers are frequently admonished by agricultural journalists to grow corn fodder as an addition to a dry pasture. It is a valuable fodder for autumn, it should be quite as much so in the winter when properly canned, for a silo is simply an expanded system of canning green fodder. The cost of ensilage throughout the process, including feeding, is at the rate of two dollars a ton. Two tons and three quarters of green corn fodder are equal in feeding value to one ton of medium quality hay, and much better than the fodder usually fed out to the young stock of the country.

Well prepared land should produce on an average, forty-five tons to the acre of corn fodder, equal in feeding value to the product of six acres of ordinary