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## Agriculture, &c.

### TRIAL OF MOWING MACHINES.

As many of the Mowing and Reaping machines mentioned below have been or may soon be introduced into Canada we copy the following account of a trial of their qualities from the Rochester *Rural New Yorker*. We have this year tried Manny's Machine, which took the second prize, and also the Forbush machine. Both did excellent work, but we give the preference on account of its *adjustible* arrangement to Manny's. The one used by us was made in Canada by Messrs Massey & Co., Newcastle:

In accordance with previous announcement, a trial of Mowing machines was had, June 27th, on the farm of Judge Buel, near this city, under the direction of the Monroe C. Ag Society. The weather was favorable and there was a very large attendance of farmers and others—almost every county in Western New York being represented. We also noted several farmers from Oswego, Jefferson and other distant sections of the State. Eight machines of six different patents, were entered in the following order:

- 1 Burrall's combined Mower and Reaper, by O. A. Swan, of Geneva.
- 2 Ketchum's Mower, by J. P. Ross, Ogden.
- 3 Manny's combined Mower and Reaper, with Wood's improvement, by J. C. Cooper, Adams, Jefferson Co.
- 4 Manny's Mower, with Wood's improvement, by Mr Blackmer, Wheatland.
- 5 Wheeler's combined Mower and Reaper, by Shouls & Mosher, Polar Kidge, New York.
- 6 Ketchum's combined Mower and Reaper, by J. Rapalje & Co, Rochester.
- 7 Forbush's combined Reaper and Mower, by E. D. Hallock, Rochester.
- 8 Russell's Mower, by R. H. Pease, Albany.

Though the ground was uneven, and grass light, several of the machines did good work. Ketchum's, and Manny's with Wood's improvement, probably at-

tracted the most attention and commendation from spectators, though Forbush's, Burrall's and Wheeler's machine cut well and had many admirers. The contest excited great interest from the large concourse present and it was evident that the "committee of the whole," were divided in opinion as to the merits of the respective machines. Each of the five machines above named, in particular, had its admirers among the practical men on the ground—and every man could give a reason for his preference. Russell's machine was not, apparently, in proper order to work on rough, uneven ground. A large number of machines, of different patents, were ordered during and at the close of the trial, and before the decision of the Committee was announced. Indeed, we have little doubt that, under favorable auspices with smooth ground and good grass—nearly, if not all, the machines exhibited would do fair work.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The trial of Mowing Machines, under the direction of the Monroe County Agricultural Society, took place on the farm of Judge Buel near this city, on the 27th inst. The occasion called out a very large collection of farmers, manufacturers, and others who were curious to witness the scene of strife between the various parties from different parts of the State, who appeared on the ground to test the merits of their several machines. The Committee appointed to judge of the merits of the work done, found it very difficult to arrive at just conclusions as to the work performed, and the merit due to the different machines on trial, each probably possessing some advantages peculiar to itself, and whatever decision the Committee have arrived at, the great and important question is decided by the intelligent farmers who witnessed the contest.

There were eight machines entered for competition. The field was bad for working them, the surface very uneven and stony, and the grass thin and light. The work performed was not a fair test of the value of mowing machines, yet, with some exceptions, the work was satisfactory, and proved the great value of this immense labor saving invention.

The Committee were united in the opinion that the Ketchum machine, and the Manny with Wood's improvement, were the best on the ground; but were divided in opinion as to which of these two was the