

the actual temperature of the top, bottom, center or sides of the case may be registered.

When the bug has been separated that does the business most satisfactorily to consumers of the weed ; when he has been bred until a "thorough bred" and developed in sufficient quantity to supply the demands of a world's commercial trade ; when the best temperature for sweating tobacco by the aid of this particular "best bug" has been ascertained, then the art of tobacco growing, curing and fermenting or sweating will indeed have reached a high art and from the business of tobacco growing no ordinary farmer can expect an easy living. The world do move, and the development of the sciences as related to agriculture is fully and squarely in the front rank of the procession.—*New Eng. Homestead.*

*Bees.*—Our old friend and correspondent, M. Pélouquin, of St. Hyacinthe, has harvested, from 72 hives, 8,000 lbs. of extracted honey, besides adding 20 colonies to his stock ; and all this in one year. His opinion is that nothing pays better than a well managed apiary, and he hopes that, thanks to the daily gratuitous lessons in apiculture that he is giving to the neighbours, that art will make rapid progress in the district. M. Pélouquin has almost made up his mind to give up farming and restrict himself to the special management of his apiary. We saw M. Pélouquin's establishment some dozen years ago ; it then consisted of 122 hives, and was evidently under the hands of a practical bee-master. We had a strong reason to remember our visit, for a bee stung us on the under lip ; the only time we were ever stung by a bee during the forty years we have been in Canada.

*Yield of cream in butter.*—The butter-yield of cows varies greatly, as everybody knows ; but I do not think the following from the *Farmer's Gazette* proves much.

One hundred pounds of cream from Jersey cows' milk gave 52 lbs. of butter ; the same quantity of cream from Shorthorns, gave only 47 lbs. ; from Ayrshires, only 43 lbs., and from Dutch cows, called, erroneously, in the States, Holsteins, a little over 30 lbs.

We only speak of what we know : we have seen plenty of Dairy Shorthorns giving 25 quarts (62½ lbs.) of milk a day, out of which 2½ lbs. of butter were made ; and we knew an Ayrshire cow, belonging to Mr. James Drummond, that made 18

lbs. of butter a week ; and that is of much greater importance than the special richness of any particular sample of cream.

For the *manuring of grass*, whether pasture or meadow, if any ditch-scrappings, or pond-emptyings are handy, mix them up with a lot of lime, and when the lime is in a thoroughly mild state, turn up a few loads of dung with the earth, etc. ; in a fortnight, or so, spread this mixture over the grass. The quantity of lime may be calculated at the rate of, say, ten bushels to the acre. This dressing will promote the growth of both the grasses and the clovers or other leguminous plants.

*Flax.*—A newly established manufactory, entitled.

THE DOMINION OIL-CLOTH Co.,

promises to buy 1,000,000 bushels of linseed a year from our farmers, if the price asked is suited to its objects. Flax for textiles, as we stated in this periodical some 18 years ago, requires to be sown thick ; for seed, thin. The fine laces of Valenciennes, Malines (or Mechlin), Brussels, etc., is made from flax sown at the rate of 3 bushels to the imperial acre. For seed alone, half a bushel to the arpent is plenty. The land should be heavily rolled after sowing, and the seed be deposited at an equal depth.

A full account of the cultivation of flax, as practised in England by the Editor of the *JOURNAL*, will be found at page 89, vol. for 1895. One thing must not be forgotten : the sale of the seed off the land, on farms where the milk goes to the cheese-factory, renders the purchase of manure absolutely necessary, otherwise the soil will, sooner or later, be improverished.

*M. Barthe*, in the French edition of the *JOURNAL*, states that the Judges of the Agricultural Merit Competition show the following rates of improvement in the various departments of farm-work for the year :

Accounts, 16% ; drainage, 8% ; green-manure crops, 37% ; artificial manures, 63% ; yield of wheat, 14% ; grass-seeds, 38% ; flax, 17% ; green-fodder crops, 20% ; orchards, 52%.

But the report is not all so bright ; siloes have diminished in number by 16% in the region under inspection, while in the Townships, and in the S. E. part of the province, they are on the increase.