

Correspondence.

Cranberries.

SIR,—Please let me know in next ADVOCATE if a piece of low ground on the margin of a small stream would be suitable for cranberries; if so, where can I get them, and at what price?
The piece of land spoken of is flooded for about ten days every spring.
J. PARKINSON.
Teeswater, July 7th, 1875.

[The culture of cranberries is a branch of agriculture of which we have no personal experience, but from our reading on the subject, we would say that the piece of ground you describe would be very suitable for the purpose. Though the cultivation has been introduced into Canada, we cannot say if you can procure the plants here, but we would advise you to apply to A. M. Purdy, Rochester, who can supply you with them and give you any needful advice.—Ed.]

Lightning Rods, &c.

SIR,—Being engaged in farming in England until I came here, and understanding well the way of farming there, I have often wondered would this way or that answer in this country. As soon as your paper comes I generally find something to confirm my ideas.

When I was about to send you my subscription, I had the misfortune to get my barn and stables burnt by lightning. I was lightly insured in a farmer's mutual, but have not got it yet. There have been four large buildings burnt by lightning within a month. A very large building in Harrison, on Thursday, was struck and burnt; it was a shingle, heading and cheese factory. I would like you to give your opinion in your next paper on the use of lightning rods on a building, and if there are two kinds. I hear that one kind will attract the lightning, but will not conduct it. I have not much faith in them myself. My reason for asking is this: my nearest neighbor on the east side has just laid out \$42 upon his stone house alone; the one on the west is now building a very large frame barn with stone work underneath, and next summer I must build myself, if I live. I am going to take one of the plans laid down in your paper two months ago.

I see great complaints in your paper about bad crops in this part. I have never seen better prospects; I have much grain that will be lodged and can't help it; hay is heavy, and turnips and potatoes are going to be good; there is not one-third as many bugs on the potatoes this year as last. Please continue your paper, as I am very fond of it.
Yours truly,
ALEXANDER LACKING.

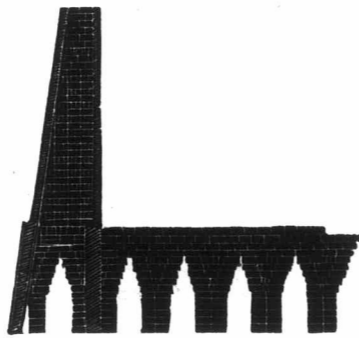
Howick, 17th July, 1875.

[Farmers are often talked into buying lightning rods from the peddlers, but regret it afterwards. Some of these peddlers have no conscience; they will put up lightning rods to come to \$100 and more when they get a chance, and if they get one up on a good farmer's house for nothing, it pays them, as they use his name as an advertisement for the sale of more in that neighborhood. We put lightning rods on our house, barn and sheds, but if they were not there we do not think we should erect them now. We put them up before we were connected with the press. Lightning rods, when properly put up, have in many cases been found beneficial, and in some instances, when allowed to be out of order and improperly erected, they have been the reverse. The largest agricultural insurance company we know of places but little value on them. If a farmer has underdrained all his land, and has no other improvement or ornament to make, he might spend money on lightning rods, but we do not look on them as of as much benefit as peddlers would make you believe. Many buildings have been struck and destroyed when lightning rods have been attached to them. When you go to large cities, if you examine the large buildings that are owned by those who read the most and study and compare results, you will find but few with lightning rods on them.—Ed.]

Kilns for Burning Drain Tiles.

SIR,—I submit the following plan as an answer to your correspondents who wished to inquire about kilns for burning drain tiles.

The plan consists of a number of parallel arches or benches of unburnt brick, set after the style of a brick kiln; the outside benches set to the full height desired for the kiln, and those between set three courses above the arch and forming the kiln floor.



The above cut represents a section of an outside bench and a number of the floor benches.

The order of the work is as follows:—Set a bench of bricks as you would for the outside bench of a brick kiln; *scove and plaster it all around.* Set a number of benches to the height of three bricks above the arches; they are to form the floor for the tiles. Build a scoving wall alongside of the bench last formed; set another bench of bricks to the same height as the first bench; *scove and plaster it all around.* You will then have the two side walls and the floor of a kiln. The scoving walls between the outside benches and the floor benches should be built to the height of the outside benches. If they were omitted, the heat would pass from the outside arches to the tiles, and it would be impossible to burn the bricks well.

Set your tiles *plum* on the floor benches, leaving a space of about three feet along the heads. *Batter* so that the scoving will have a slope of about one foot in five feet rise.

Scove up the heads, plaster, cover with two courses of flating, and burn. The fire will have to be maintained longer in the outside arches in order to burn the bricks well. After burning, let the tiles stand in the kiln until sold. Sell all bricks and tiles between the outside arches. Plaster up cracks in the scoving between the outside benches and the floor benches. Let the fire holes in the side benches remain closed. Replace the floor benches with unburnt bricks and proceed as before. One of the outside benches may be carried up *plum* on both sides, and form a side wall for another kiln.

It would take time and occupy considerable space to write all the advantages of this plan. The facts that there are from three to four thousand bricks in each one of the floor benches burned with scarcely any more fuel than would otherwise be required, that the labor and breakage of emptying a kiln are unnecessary, and that the tiles occupy less space in the kiln than anywhere else, ought to commend the plan to manufacturers. I feel confident that any one who fairly tries the plan will not again use a permanent kiln.
GEO. S. TIFFANY.

SIR,—Could you, or some of your numerous correspondents, give me a cure for cows that take swelling in one quarter of the udder. Nearly all our cows are troubled with it every summer; one quarter swells, gets quite hard, is difficult to milk; the milk being thick, and the udder also appears to be very tender, as the cows will hardly stand to get that teat milked. They will remain so for perhaps four or five milkings, then will be all right for some time. If there is any cure or preventative I would be glad to hear it.
Yours Truly,
JAMES HAMMOND.

Hammond, April 24, 1875

Mr. Hammond's letter was mislaid, or we would have replied earlier. The disease his cows are subject to, as described by him, is, we think, that commonly known as garget. There are different causes for it. When the cow is springing, just before the time of calving, many of the best milkers are subject to it. It is attended by inflammation,

caused by the flow of blood to the udder. In drying cows in the fall, they are subject to the same complaint, if due care be not taken.

Irregularity in milking, or worrying the cows with dogs, or boys may also cause it. From an article by Mr. Arnold a well known American writer on the subject, we extract the following:

In cases which are not very severe, washing the bag two or three times a day with water will be sufficient. Many recommend cold water, but warm is much better. Cold water will produce, by reaction, a rush of blood to the parts chilled, and counteract, in part its efficiency. Warm water will at any time reduce inflammation, by an external application, more rapidly than cold. If the bag is milked out clean, this treatment will generally be sufficient.

In severer cases, internal remedies may accompany the bathing. Poke root, grated, and given in a mess of feed, is a common prescription, and, though I can see no reason for its producing any specific effect, it does often act like a charm; and what seems equally strange, cows troubled with garget often show an appetite for it, though they would reject it at other times. Dose, bulk of half a hen's egg. Half an ounce of saltpetre morning and evening, dissolved in the water she drinks, will often render essential aid. When the case is so severe as to need internal remedies, the bag, besides being washed morning and evening with warm water, may be bathed in the middle of the day with liquor of ammonia diluted with some light oil like oil of turpentine, and well rubbed in. This will help to dissolve and scatter the obstructing matter. In such a case the patient should be kept in a comfortable stable and lightly fed with laxative food.

SIR,—I thought I should give some of my experiments in agriculture, as I have now been testing a good many kinds from West and East these seven years as follows: I've tried 13 kinds potatoes, 10 kinds oats, 3 of barley, 7 kinds of fall and 5 of spring wheat, besides clover and grasses, and other seeds.

I am proud to say my fall wheat looks most splendid. I have now growing, 1st, Deihl, the poorest; 2nd, Alexander from North East, very good; 3rd, is reddish blue, strong straw, large heads, great yield, but I've no name; 4th, Soules, shows well; 5th, German is a good wheat; 6th, Tredwell is a splendid wheat, done well last year; 7th, the Scott, is a No. 1 wheat, the above promises fair again. Also have spring wheat, viz., Fife, Weeks, Jerusalem Bald, McCarling, Midge Proof and Black Sea, I hope to look fair this season.

If I had time I would send my experiments for the benefit of our loyal farmers, East and West.

Most respectfully,

Avenmore, P. O., Ont. ADAM H. RUNIONS.

We are always well pleased to hear from such enterprising farmers as Mr. Runions. Not for themselves alone do such men make experiments, but for their neighbors and the country at large. The introduction into the country and testing our valuable variety of seeds or roots may be worth many thousands to the farmers of Canada; and the more so when the person who tests them gives the result of his experience so liberally to the community at large.

SIR,—I noticed in your last paper a brief account of British Columbia, from a Mr. Snise, as there are a number of young men in this part of the country who would be pleased to receive further information. I think if you could get him to write an article in your paper and an account of the free grant lands, and the amount of capital required for a young man to start, and the best season to come, you would confer a favor on us. I cannot close without thanking you for the valuable information we receive through your paper; we would not be without it for anything. We will look for an article in your paper on the above subject.
Your Servant,

Woodstock, June 10th, 1875. E. TOPPING.

We hope to receive from some of our friends in British Columbia such a description as will be useful to Mr. Topping, and other enquirers. We would consider it a favor if Mr. Adam Innes, or