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EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

CANADIAN.

The new college buildings of Acadia College, Nova Scotia, will cost $34,500.

There is a strong feeling in Peterboro' of separating the High and Public School Boards.

The Perth Board of Education has decided to open and close their meetings with prayer.

Mr. Jas. Davison, of Whitby, has been appointed mathematical master in the Guelph High School.

The number of pupils attending the Ontario Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, Belleville, during the last term was 253.

At the recent examinations for teachers' certificates in the County of Brant, 50 candidates presented themselves, of whom were successful.

The total cost of a year's tuition at Victoria College, Cobourg, varies from $120 to $140—certainly "higher education" cheap in Canada.

The Rev. Dr. Honeyman, F. G. S., has been appointed a fellow of the University of Halifax, in place of the Rev. G. Grant, resigned.

At the last Junior Matriculation examination of the University of Toronto, 129 candidates presented themselves, the largest number since 1875.

During the four years which the Brantford Ladies' College was in existence, 22 young ladies have graduated. Of these, graduated in 1876, 13 in 1877, and 23 in 1878.

The last number of the *Canada School Journal* contains an excellent likeness of Dr. Hodgins, the Deputy Minister of Education, with an accompanying biographical sketch.

The staff of the Hamilton Collegiate Institute consists of 16 teachers. During the past four years 40 students from the school entered the Toronto University, gaining scholarships.

A new High School for the Province of British Columbia, the second in the Province, will be erected in New Westminster and opened at the commencement of the next term in August.

The Woodstock Board of Education are about to erect a central school building, that town at a cost of ten thousand dollars. The trustees will pay to the architect whose plans are approved, the sum of $10 and a percentage.

Mr. D. A. Maxwell has been appointed Public School Inspector for the County of Essex, in the place of Mr. Bell, who has resigned. Mr. Maxwell held the position of headmaster of the Strathroy High School at the time of his appointment.

There are 408 globes, 491 clocks, 1,2[illegible] hand-bells, and 188 thermometers, in use in the schools of Nova Scotia; also 112,319 square feet of blackboard surface. The total value of books and apparatus belonging to the schools is $38,565.

It is probable that the St. Marys Public School will be constituted into a Model School, provided the County Council will grant the usual $100. The Council has refused the grant, but we hope that this will be induced to reconsider their action.

Of 99 candidates for third-class teachers' certificates at the late examinations in the County of Northumberland, 44 were successful. Of the successful candidates, 17 were from the Public Schools, and 17 obtained over 900 marks, the maximum being 1,292.

In contrast to the action of the Port Hope Board, the authorities of the Cobourg Collegiate Institute, so says the *Sentinel*, have under consideration the abrogation of fees of all pupils who attend the Collegiate Institute, but to do this it may be necessary to make a reduction of salaries.

Brother Tobias has been appointed director of the Separate Schools in Toronto. We trust that this appointment will tend to allay the feeling of dissatisfaction which has for some time past been prevalent with regard to the condition of these schools, and we notice also that at a public meeting recently held, at which prominent Catholics were present, resolutions were passed expressive of confidence in the Archbishop of Toronto.

FOREIGN.

The number of pupils in the Rhode Island State Normal School during the past year was 145.

In 24 years it seems that 925 persons have been sent to the New Hampshire State Reform School.

Mrs. Barton, of Philadelphia, has given $50,000 to endow the Rhea Barton professorship of surgery at the University of Pennsylvania.

Professor Hodgson has been elected to the chair of Political Economy in the University of Edinburgh for another period of seven years.

Middlebury College, at its late commencement, conferred the degree of LL.D. on Wm. Wood, Esq., President of the Board of Education of New York city.

At Swarthmore College, in the U. S., there are two professorships held by women—that of History by Miss Sandford, and that of Mathematics by Miss Cunningham.

The late Rufus Dodge, of Beaver Dam, left to Ripon College, Mich., a legacy of $5,000 as a permanent fund to aid young ladies of limited means in getting their education.

The cost of the drill inspection of the pupils of the London (Eng.) schools last year was over £160, so that the Board, by a vote of 22 to 5, resolved to discontinue it in the future.

The professors of Yale College do not suffer from poverty. Ex-President Woolsey is assessed upon a property of $47,320; Professor Dwight on $57,290, Professor Silliman on $37,600, and Professor Hoppin on $34,781.

The third annual report of the Japanese Minister of Education has been published, and is an interesting document. The number of elementary schools in the seven grand school divisions was 24,225, of which 21,998 were public and 2,237 private schools, being an increase of 4,208 over the preceding year. The total number of elementary school districts was 45,778. The average area of the districts is about 25 square miles. The number of teachers was 44,501; of which 40,511 were male and 538 female teachers of public schools, and 3,196 were male, and 256 female teachers of private schools, the increase in the number of teachers being 7,631. The number of scholars was 1,926,126, of which 1,377,591 were male and 426,43[illegible] were female, showing a total increase of 211,358. The whole population of the school districts is estimated at 34,008,08[illegible], out of which there were 5,167,667 children of school age. The children of school age who received education during the year were 1,828,474, and those who received no education were 3,339,193 of middle schools the total numbers were 116, of which 1[illegible] were private establishments. The total number of scholars was 5,620, and the number of teachers was 265. There are 90 Normal Schools in the country, of which 8 are controlled by the Government. The number of instructors in the Normal Schools was 588, and the number of students 7,696. On an average there were 6.5 instructors and 85.5 students to every school, and 13.09 students to every instructor. Of the colleges for special sciences, the foremost is the Tokio Kaiseigakko, in which the number of professors was 40, of whom 21 were natives. The average number of students was 324. In the Tokio Igakko (or medical college) the number of professors was 29, of whom 19 were natives, and the number of students was 488. The number of students attending all the colleges was 936, or 1 to every 36,333 of the whole population. The number of newly-erected school buildings were 3,881, or 15.81 per cent. of the entire number of schools. The above statistics show the great growth made by the Kingdom of Japan in the matter of education, which will be gratifying to all friends of education in this and other countries.

THE LADIES' CORNER.

THE ART OF FOLDING LINEN.

Though washing machines, wringers, and various new kinds of soaps have greatly lessened the labour of washing, nothing has yet come into general use which does away with the old-fashioned laborious system of ironing. There may be mangles and things of that sort, which lessen the labour, but they are not common. To be able to iron nicely is a great accomplishment, and every young lady should know something of it. The wheel of fortune is constantly turning, that even the highest cannot tell how soon she may be glad to have a little household skill in the matter. However neatly a garment may be ironed, the effect is spoiled if it is not also neatly folded. Teach the little girls this in their first attempts at ironing, and they will remember it all their lives. Let the hems of handkerchiefs, pillow cases, and the like, be brought together with mathematical nicety, and then the folds carefully pressed down.

The old town of Anjou was once most remarkable for its folding of linen. It seems a little thing to distinguish a place, but one who had once witnessed a display of the fine old cabinets of its spacious mansions, would be likely to remember it ever afterwards.

It was a great pride of a housekeeper in that an establishment to throw open her linen presses and reveal the curious contents. Here would be an immense sheet of heavy linen, shaped like a drinking mug. Around it would be four and twenty sheep fashioned from other linen sheets, all with bowed heads as if drinking. At the head stood a tall shepherd carved from some other garment. Windmills, abbeys, towers and castles are very common, not to speak of the lesser articles of napkins and the like, which are folded into beautiful shapes of lilies roses and other flowers.

STARCH POLISH.

Take common dry potato or wheat starch sufficient to make a pint of starch when boiled. Then add half a drachm of spermaceti, and add half drachm of white wax, and then use it as common starch, only using the iron as hot as possible. In this manner a brilliant polish is produced. Epsom salts have also been recommended for use in starch. To each bowl of starch add one teaspoonful of Epsom salts, and dissolve in the usual way by boiling. Articles starched with this it is said will be stiffer and will be rendered to a certain degree fire-proof.

A USEFUL PRECAUTION.

There is a very simple process by which muslins used for ladies and children's dresses can be prevented from catching fire. Dissolve a small piece of alum in the water in which muslins are rinsed. When dry, if a light be put to them, they will smoulder away slowly, but not break out into a blaze. And this, so far from being injurious to muslin, improves its appearance greatly.

POCKETS.

The radical difference between the habits of men and women is, perhaps, in no way more significantly indicated than in the number, style and location of their pockets.

A woman stays in the house a good deal as a rule, and isn't out of it more than a few hours at a time. She has her work table, her writing desk, her toilette table at home, for it is at home she is expected to be most of the time. Therefore she usually has but one pocket, and that is within easy out of sight in the folds of her dress, just below the waist on the right side. What does she carry in it? Not much usually, or it would bulge, which would be especially ungraceful and easily detected in the present style of having the front of the dress skirt drawn tightly away and bunched up at the back.

She carries in this one pocket her handkerchief and portmonnaie, the latter containing, besides currency, visiting cards, a pencil and small memorandum book. The few other articles hidden in this mysterious, out-of-sight pocket vary according to the character of the woman. A thimble, a love letter, a photograph, a small bit of embroidery work or tatting, a pocket mirror, a miniature volume of poetry, an address book, a smelling bottle, a paper of pin-bones, a bunch of keys, her gloves, a fancy sewing case, or a slip cut from a newspaper—some one or more of these articles you will be sure to find in every woman's pocket.

I knew one lady who always had her pocket placed on the left side of her dress for the better circumvention of pickpockets, who, when a woman it to be the victim, always rummage about on the right side. Such guns, whose cells contain nothing which can be called private property, often have an immense pair of pockets, almost like saddle bags, sewn upon each side of a band of stuff, which is fastened around the waist beneath the nun's robe, in which two cells are made to give access to these receptacles. At convent boarding schools girls sometimes imitate the nuns' example and almost live in their pair of pockets. Times were my storehouses when I was but some years old, while my desk had no lock to it, and my trunk was in the trunk room.

We all remember how convenient were the jaunty sacques with outside pockets which were so much worn a few years ago. Now it is the caprice of fashion to denude them of the pockets, and I regret this very much, as pocketless, they are not half so convenient nor so pretty.

I do not like bag muffs, and since I have had several handkerchiefs, a door key and some odd gloves out of the round ones, I detest and mistrust them for any purpose but that of keeping the hands warm. They are such tempting, treacherous things. One can't help stowing something away in them temporarily—especially when wedged between two people in a street car, where it is hard for a woman to get at her pocket—and the next thing you know—it's gone! Hand bags are intended to supply the want of pockets felt by women. But they are a great bother, because you must keep them in hand constantly, and so they are not generally patronized. I am inclined to think that more pockets—at least two, say one on each side—are needed by every woman. The keys rub the portmonnaie and wear it out rapidly, and there are other objections to depositing everything that it is necessary to carry about the person in a heterogeneous mass in one pocket. We really deserve not to be able to find anything without rumaging for it, or to find it broken, or in a snarl, when we do this. We were foolish to deprive our sacques of their pockets; but after all, it is better to have all our pockets in one dress.

And now to come to a man's pocket. Did you ever see such a perfect contrast? He has from twelve to twenty places in nearly every available part of his garments. Indeed, he is all pocket. The fact indicates his roving, unsettled, uncertain, out of door life which men often lead. I am sometimes lost in wonder over a man's pockets; and my wonder is tinctured with envy. There are first his vest pockets. How many? Four in some cases, though one of them is only a fob pocket. In the others he carries small currency sometimes and other small valuable articles. To be sure the pockets also are so small that he never thinks of putting more than three nickels in them when feeling for anything which they contain; but they fully answer the purpose for which they were intended. Then there are his pantaloons pockets, one on each side and sometimes one behind. The rear pocket is a convenient place for a small pistol when there is any need for carrying one, though I cannot say that I think a revolver exactly calculated for self defence when carried in a pocket, as it is more likely to hurt the wearer than anybody else, if it goes off accidentally. The front pantaloons pockets are strongholds against those who pick these receptacles.

ANTS.—A small quantity of green sage placed in the closet will cause red ants to disappear.

BREAKFAST TOAST.—Mix two tablespoonfuls of sugar, a little salt and a well-beaten egg in one-half pint of milk; in the mixture dip slices of bread, and fry them on a buttered griddle until they are light-brown on each side.

TOMATO SOUP.—To one pint tomatoes, canned, or four large ones, cut fine, add one pint of boiling water and let it boil; then add one teaspoon of soda, which will cause it to foam; immediately add one pint of sweet milk, with salt, pepper and butter to taste. When this boils add eight crackers rolled fine.

CHICKEN SALAD.—Stew chickens tender and cut the meat in small pieces; to every pint of meat add same quantity of celery cut fine; to every quart of these, when mixed, add four hard boiled eggs chopped fine, one small potato mashed smooth, a piece of butter, a teaspoonful each of ground mustard, pepper, and salt, and one-half cup of vinegar.

HAM SANDWICHES.—Cut slices of cold or baked ham, chop very fine, fat and lean together, add mixed or French mustard to your taste, or in proportion of a tablespoonful to a small bowl of chopped meat; chop this in well; cut thin slices of bread, or rolls split in half, butter them, and with a broad-bladed knife spread a layer of the ham on a slice, and place it over another slice which has also been buttered, or you may put very thin slices of cold ham slightly spread with mustard between the slices of bread and butter.

SWEET POTATO BUNS.—Boil and mash two potatoes; rub in as much flour as will make it like bread; add a little nutmeg and sugar, with a tablespoonful of good yeast. When it has risen work in two tablespoonfuls of butter cut fine; then form into small rolls and bake on tins to a nice brown. Serve hot. Split open and butter.

FOR INVALIDS, never make a large quantity of one thing, as they seldom require much at a time, and it is desirable that variety be provided them.

Always have something in readiness; a little beef tea, nicely made and nicely skimmed, a few spoonfuls of jelly etc., that it may be administered as soon almost as the invalid wishes for it. If obliged to wait a long time, the patient loses the desire to eat, and often turns against the food when brought to him or her.

In sending dishes or preparations up to invalids, let everything look as tempting as possible. Have a clean tray cloth laid smoothly over the tray; let the spoons, tumblers, cups and saucers, etc., be very clean and bright. Gruel served in a tumbler is more appetizing than when served in a basin or cup and saucer.

SPRUCE BEER.—One gallon of water, one quart of good molasses, ½ ounce whole cloves, ½ ounce white ginger root, ½ ounce whole allspice, ½ ounce sassafras. Boil all well. I boil mine three hours. After taking it off the fire, pour it into a clean tub and add one and a half gallons of water. Let this stand till milk warm, then add two tablespoonfuls of baker's or brewer's yeast; then stand away in the cellar or some cool place during the night, covering it. The next day it will be fit for bottling. One or two raisins, with a hole in them punched in them with a fork, placed in each bottle, add greatly to the flavour. Put it in strong bottles, cork tightly, and tie down with twine. Set in a cold cellar and in three or four days it will be ripe.—*Ger. Telegraph.*

The carpet-bug, the new pest of house keepers, and said to be fully as ravenous and twice as saucy as the potato-bug, has been found in two or three dwellings in this city; and, as it breeds rapidly, it bids fair to become more too numerous to mention. It is a small black bug, very nimble, and it will walk through a carpet like a horse-shoe through a cornfield. Ordinary insect powders and preventives make it smile. Carpets laid over floors which have cracks in them are often found cut through in strips and utterly ruined. Heavy cotton-lined paper placed under the carpet has been found quite efficacious in preventing its ravages in other cities.—*Springfield Union.*

CROP REPORTS.

The Prospects in the Western States.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—The estimate sent last night is confined exclusively to spring wheat. The wheat crop of the western States just harvested was unusually large and of excellent quality. It is safe to say that in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, and Iowa, the aggregate acreage is nine millions seven hundred and fifty thousand, and the total production 190,000,000 bushels, against 150,000,000 last year. The increase is well divided among the States named, but Kansas and Illinois may be credited with the greater portion.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Late returns to the Department of Agriculture show a decline in the average condition of spring wheat from 106 in July to 75 in August. The excessive heat of July inflicted very great injury upon the crops of the Northwest, especially in Minnesota, where the promise of the crop is reduced to little more than half the average. Heat especially affected the late sown wheat. In some counties the harvest was delayed by rains until the grain was over ripe. Nebraska suffered less than other portions of the North-Western spring wheat region, but over her average condition was depressed ten per cent. The California conditions of growth deteriorated during July, especially on the western slope of the coast range. The spring wheat region of the East reports a much higher condition than the North-West. The general average condition of corn on August 1st was 96, against 95 in July. The Atlantic States north of North Carolina generally show an improvement. In the South Atlantic States the season generally has been more beneficial to later plantings, while on the Gulf coast the earlier plantings, which were greatly in a majority, enjoyed especial advantages. Texas correspondents speak of the season as the most propitious for many years on the eastern slope of the Mississippi Valley. Wet and dry weather alternate in contiguous zones affecting the crops very differently, generally showing a decline south of the Ohio river, and an improvement north of it, west the Mississippi. The most marked feature is the prevalence of rain in what was called the Great American Desert. All States of this region, except Missouri, show an improvement during July.

"That valuable member, Mr. Bowman," quoth the organ. Valuable where? To whom? Out with such stuff!

A London lady wore in the park a dress made of thirty-nine silk pocket handkerchiefs in blue and white. Some one called it a "symphony in spots."

The New York *Tribune* has a "scare" for the Northern States, which may turn out no mere scarecrow either, but a reality. It takes the shape of Southern war claims, which are to be sprung upon the country as soon as the Democrats have a majority in both House and Senate, to pass them. These claims are for cotton and other property seized during the war; for refund of cotton tax, 3 cents per lb., collected in 1866 and 1867; and for slaves, supplies, buildings, &c., taken for Government use. They foot up to the gigantic total of $350,000,000, and more than one bill virtually providing for their payment has already been before Congress. An army of claim agents, to each of whom success in this matter would be a large, independent fortune, are working day and night, preparing the mine which, when exploded, is to blow open Uncle Sam's Treasury door. One bill introduced by Senator Christiancy, of Michigan, under the modest title of "A bill to reorganize and extend the jurisdiction of the Court of Claims," is by the *Tribune* pronounced sufficient, if passed, to settle the whole question by giving the claimants all they ask.

FARMER'S CLUB.

UTILITY VS. FANCY IN SHORT-HORNS.

The *National Live Stock Journal*, in its August issue, thus discusses the short-horn question:—"Its solid and permanent basis of value must depend upon its capacity to produce milk and beef. Its ancient pedigree is of value only so far as it assures an eminent capacity to this end, of producing milk and beef most economically. It must be judged simply from this practical standard. If it be estimated from the beef standard only, more than half its real value is gone. The successful breeding power of a race is largely dependent upon its capacity to secrete milk. Short-horn breeders have usually acted upon the opposite principle—sought to repress the milk secretions and turn the whole activity of the system into the laying-on of flesh and the deposit of fat. That the original short-horns were deep milkers there is abundant proof, and it is very unfortunate for the usefulness of the race that this aptitude has been repressed. It must be remembered that one of the strongest reasons offered for not using short-horn bulls for dairy cows has been that the dams of those bulls are not good milkers, and therefore these bulls will not propagate good milkers.

"The success of the Herefords at the late show of the Bath and West of England Society, held at Oxford, in which the white faces carried off both sweepstakes prizes over all other breeds, has attracted a good deal of attention on both sides of the ocean, and has provoked the enquiry whether, after all, the breeders of short-horns have not relatively lost ground in point of real merit in the breed during the period of immense popularity this favourite race has enjoyed for the last two decades. Have they not been content to rely upon the achievements of the past for a continuation of their supremacy, without in the meantime adhering to the principles of a careful selection of the best, and a rigid rejection of inferior animals, without which the excellence of no breed can be maintained, and has not a blind devotion to certain fancy strains or so-called families, without any regard whatever to individual merit, aggravated by the in-breeding so closely followed by the admirers of these fancy strains, tended to produce an actual deterioration in the stock?

The Herefords have not been basking in the rays of popular favour, and Hereford breeders have not hitherto been dazed, by fictitious values and fabulous prices, into neglecting the substantial qualities that give real value. And while the chief care of the breeder of Short-horns has been to know that the bull which stood at the head of his herd, and the cows from which he is breeding, are of this or that family, *because upon pedigree depended the fact whether the animals were worth hundreds or thousands*, the breeder of Herefords has been compelled to study the question of what plan of selection, breeding, and feeding, will produce *the best carcass of beef for the least money*, for upon that has depended his chances of success. And is it not reasonable to suppose that if the ruling motive with the two classes of breeders has been as we have stated it, that deterioration in the one case and improvement in the other should follow as an inevitable result?

So conservative an authority as the English *Agricultural Gazette* is constrained to admit, in speaking of the exhibit of Herefords at the show above referred to, "that the yearling heifers and calves indicate that this breed is, as beef-makers at an early age, quite up to the highest short-horn standard," and this is precisely the point upon which the breeders of short-horns have hinged their strongest claims to superiority.

The *Mark Lane Express*, of June 17, has some sensible remarks upon this question, from which we extract the following:—

We consider the short-horn cow class to be a disgrace to the breed, and therefore to the breeders. We are quite unable to discover the "grandeur" and the "superb character," and the "magnificent character" of these old crocks which some of the short-horn fanciers appear to have the faculty of discerning, and do not hesitate to record them as being just a rough lot of cows; if their blood is of the bluest their carcasses are of the ugliest, and not worth anything beyond contractors' price when they come at last to the shambles. We can't help thinking that to a really unprejudiced mind there must be evidence of a something quite outside agriculture, and quite useless to the rent-paying farmer, in this short-horn "fancy." * * * We hear a great deal about "the alloy," and, if correctly informed, it means an infusion of Scots blood of some kind, and to our mind the very thing these short-horns are now needing is another infusion—a strong one—of some alloy which will give them the thickness of flesh, the wealth of hair, and the butcher's form they so seldom possess, and then we should be prepared to expect great things of the renovated blood.

Of the awarding of the champion prizes, the same authority gives the following account:—

One of the most attractive features of the open judging was the awarding of the champion prizes given by the Oxfordshire Agricultural Association, and a great deal of interest centered in it. For the best short-horn animal in the yard, the award was given by the short-horn judges, of whom there were but two—Mr. Drewry and Mr. Tindall—and the contest was between Mr. Linton's Sir Arthur Ingram and Mr. Marsh's heifer Diana, and after some little time the bull took the prize card. To our mind the white bull calf Prince Victor was a better short-horn than either of them. He would be a bold man who would stake his reputation on a calf, as it may not realize the expectations formed of it, but taking the animals as they stood, simply on merits actually possessed at the time, we thought the calf the best; nor were we singular in our opinion. Then the whole conclave of judges came into the ring to decide which was the best male horned animal in the yard, and here the short-horn men were in a hopeless minority—cornered in a manner that does not often happen in a showyard. In vain Mr. Drewry contrasted the strong points of Sir Arthur Ingram with the weak ones of Mr. Rogers' Hereford bull Grateful, it was all to no purpose, the rest could not get away from the Hereford, whose wonderful rib and forehand was too much for the short-horn, and a show of hands showed an overwhelming majority for the Hereford. There is no doubt that had the short-horn judges been of sufficient numerical strength they would not only have prevented this Hereford triumph, but also that which followed, when the best female horned animal had to be decided upon, for it went sadly against the grain to award even such a heifer as Mrs. Sarah Edwards' Leonora the championship over the short-horn Diana; but it had to be done, and we think there were few outsiders who were not thoroughly satisfied. These champion awards were an unquestionable streak of lean for "the fancy," and we may depend on their not allowing such a thing to occur again, if they can possibly help it. This, coming after Paris, is about as much as they will be able to bear with patience. We should be glad to see sweepstakes judging of this kind occur more frequently.

Mr. William Rennie, the well-known Toronto seedsman, sends some notes of his rambles through Europe. Of the Dutch farm waggon, he says:—

"It is of peculiar construction, there is neither pole nor shafts; usually the waggon is drawn by one horse. If two are required they are driven tandem. The driver sits in front with right foot on a pole about four feet in length, which turns up and back in a circular shape. In going down an incline the brake is applied simply by the driver putting his foot on the horse's hip. If the incline is steep the driver must not be weak-kneed. I was much struck by the number of wind mills throughout Holland. They are used for pumping up the overflow of water into the canals. There are no fences, and the farms and fields are divided by ditches five or six feet wide, which stand full of water, and no animal can cross.

Holland is almost entirely a grazing country, and very rich. The Dutch cheese commands very high prices. They are made round like a ball, five or six inches in diameter. Leaving Holland, I went east to Hanover, in Germany. The scenery is quite changed; I am now in a grain-growing country—scarcely any cattle to be seen. Where cattle are kept they require herding, as there are no fences of any kind. It appears to me that farming in Germany requires a radical change. It must have one before they can use reapers and mowers. At present a farmer cultivates his farm in patches, and each patch ploughed a different way; and even in those small patches there will be several kinds of grain, both fall and spring. I notice a favourite style is to make the lands in the shape of a half moon. If the lands are long they are ploughed the shape of an S. I thought to myself that if some of our Canadian ploughmen were here on a farm they would be very much inclined to go straight through. I only saw one reaping machine in Germany. The farmers are busy cutting their fall wheat and rye; in most cases the scythe is used, the swath cut to the standing grain, and gathered by women. The scythes are six or seven inches wide at the heel; the swath is long and straight; the left-hand nib turns down, and is 14 or 15 inches long. Many reap their grain with the hook. The ploughs are of a most primitive style; the beam is a straight timber about eight feet long, the front resting on an axle carried by two wheels, on the other end of the beam is fastened the working part which is simple. Two short handles extend from this timber. In passing through France I find a similar style of farming. I find the crops in both countries almost free from foul seeds. I observed an occasional field with wild poppies, wild mustard and thistles, the latter I took at first to be our Canada thistle, but on closer inspection I found to be a half-breed. In travelling from Frankfort in France to Paris, I passed through many thousand acres of vineyards, which are principally on the sides of the hills. The wine manufactured in France must be enormous. I am collecting all the information I can get relative to Germany and France in connection with the manufacture of sugar from beet root, the result of which you can expect by next mail.

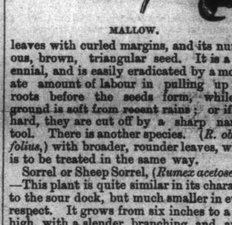
Yours truly,
WM. RENNIE.

WEEDS AND THEIR DESTRUCTION.

(*From Rural Affairs.*)
(Continued.)

Mallow, (*Malva rotundifolia,*)—Well known by its round leaves, prostrate stem, and its circular fruit. It is somewhat troublesome in gardens, but is not a formidable weed.

Sour Dock, or Curled Dock, (*Rumex crispus.*)—Well known by its long narrow



MALLOW.

leaves with curled margins, and its numerous, brown, triangular seed. It is a perennial, and is easily eradicated by a moderate amount of labour in pulling up the roots before the seeds form; while the ground is soft from recent rains; or if too hard, they are cut off by a sharp narrow tool. There is another species. (*R. obtusifolius,*) with broader, rounder leaves, which is to be treated in the same way.

Sorrel or Sheep Sorrel, (*Rumex acetosella.*)—This plant is quite similar in its character to the sour dock, but much smaller in every respect. It grows from six inches to a foot high, with a slender, branching, and angular stem, the whole plant of a strong and rather agreeable acid—and when in large quantities giving a peculiar reddish appearance to the field. It usually grows most abundantly on sandy soils, more particularly those of a rather dry and sterile character, but often on richer loams. In the former case, lime or ashes, or both, have tended to expel it; and in the latter, through culture. Neglected and superficial cultivation is to be avoided in all cases; and seeding down very densely with clover and a small portion of timothy, tends to keep it out. On the exhausted lands of Virginia, dressings of limeand marl have destroyed it thoroughly—in other regions, these applications alone have produced little effect, and the use of the plough, cultivator and hoe have become indispensable.

Garlic, Field Garlic or Wild Garlic, (*Allium vineale.*)—Nearly allied to the onion, and growing in many places extensively in meadows and pastures. It imparts a strong and disagreeable odor to the milk and butter of cows which feed on it. It is subdued by a rotation of crops with thorough culture.

Nettle, (*Urtica dioica,*)—A rough upright plant, growing along fences and in waste places, armed with stinging hairs, which produce an intolerable itching in the skin for a short time after application. Darlington quotes Culpepper as remarking, in allusion to this quality, "that they may be found by feeling on the darkest night." The root is perennial, and the plant easily

NETTLE.

destroyed by cultivation. There is a smaller species, (an annual,) which, like this, was introduced from Europe, and a native species, with broader leaves, growing in moist places and along the borders of streams, all of which have similar properties; but the first only is much known as a weed.

Sweet Flag or Calamus, (*Acorus calamus.*)—Known by its strong aromatic character and odor, by its dense mass of creeping roots, and by the yellowish-green spadix or fleshy spike of flowers at the middle of the leaf-like stalk (or scape) which supports it. It often obtains possession of wet or swampy lands to the exclusion of everything else. To eradicate it, first drain the land, and then repeatedly plough with a steel mouldboard, and harrow, for two seasons. Where the land cannot be drained, the mass of plants may be cut into blocks with sharp spades, and thrown into heaps. When dry, remove these blocks of roots, and convert them to compost in layers with stable manure. Seed the cleaned land with red-top, or timothy if dry enough. The small fibrous roots which run downwards from the large creeping ones, are easily cut off with a spade or

CANADA THISTLE.

aud by the observance of a simple principle, the whole subterranean net-work of roots may be easily destroyed. The roots cannot live, unless they breathe through their lungs, the leaves. Keep the portion of the plants above ground from growing, and the whole patch may be destroyed in a single year. This may be accomplished in several ways. Small patches may be smothered by covering with boards, closing the joints with a second layer, to prevent a single plant from finding its way through. Sawdust, tan, or straw, will accomplish the same end, if laid on thick enough. If a single plant, however, escapes, it will sustain life in a portion of the roots. Another way is to cut the plants off daily even with the surface of the ground, so that a single leaf cannot grow. The best way for common practice is to plough them under, and continue the ploughing often enough to keep them smothered. If well and deeply done, once a month will answer the purpose. This mode succeeds best on heavy clayey soils which do not permit the thistles to find their way readily upwards. But even on such soils, the work must be very carefully performed, for if a portion of the weeds are but partly covered, they cannot be destroyed. On gravelly and other porous soils, it is more difficult to destroy them by ploughing. The operation must therefore be more frequent on such and greater care taken to do it deeply and in the most thorough manner. The Double Michigan plough will be found to answer an excellent purpose on these as well as all other kinds of soil.

Toad Flax or Snap Dragon, sometimes called "Butter and Eggs" from the colour, (*Linaria vulgaris,*)—An exceedingly troublesome and pernicious weed, extending now through the Northern and Middle States. The root is perennial and creeping; the whole plant very smooth; the flowers somewhat in the form of lips, the outer part pale yellow, the palate tinged with orange, and each flower furnished with a horn or spur half an inch long. It grows one or two feet high and quite erect. It is common in many places along roadsides, fences, and in pastures. Cattle will not eat it, nor the grass it grows with. Spreading in dense patches, it soon prevents the growth of other plants. It is difficult to eradicate—the best mode is repeated ploughing and harrowing.

TOAD FLAX.

To be Continued.

KILL THE WEEDS IN AUGUST.

There is no better month in which to kill the Canada thistle, as well as weeds generally, and the destruction of bushes, than August. It is also peculiarly a time when farmers are not so much hurried, and when the weeds have fully developed themselves. The farmer can see at a glance, indeed has seen all the season, the necessity of commencing the work of destruction.

The best thing to be done with weeds of all kinds extirpated from the land, is to use them in the compost heap, or gather them in large heaps to remain there until dry, and then burn them up, "root and branch." The practice of some farmers who look only to their own selfish purposes, who live for themselves, and rarely have a neighbour with whom they are on friendly terms, is to pull up and throw into the public highway the weeds from their fields. There they are left to ripen their seed, and the first heavy shower of rain that comes, they are carried away, sometimes for miles, either into the land of some other farmer, or into a stream, to be landed along the banks for a great distance. We have more than once seen people calling themselves farmers and Christians engaged in this mean business.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

An Endorsation of Dr. Tupper.

(*From the Halifax Reporter.*)

There is one thing which ought not be lost sight of. That is the earnestness with which the intelligence, the moderation, and the non-partizanship of the country grasps the questions of the hour. Here is a quotation from the Cape Breton address to Dr. Tupper which deserves more prominence than it has received. The quotation has its weight because of the men who sign it. We don't mean the politicians, but the clergymen. Clergymen of different denominations, men well and widely known, emphasize the statements of the Opposition press in a way that is gratifying to the editors, being in fact the best sort of endorsation of their views they could desire.

"While yourself and Sir John Macdonald, the great Chieftain of the party, associated with others of a kindred spirit, held the reins of power, the country prospered and saw a brilliant future before it. Comfort, happiness and wealth everywhere prevailed, but alas! others assumed the reins of Government, and what a change for the worse followed! The industries of the country became paralysed, prosperity and wealth disappeared, poverty and misery took their place; our labourers are without employment, and in many instances our merchants and builders are bankrupt."

Signed by
REV. H. McLEOD, D.D.,
REV. A. FARQUHERSON,
REV. S. F. KENDALL,
REV. J. QUINAN, P.P.,
REV. A. McGILLVRAY, P.P.

GENERAL.

Kossuth has protested against the Austrian occupation of Bosnia.

Mr. Spurgeon has returned to London, greatly benefitted in health.

Mr. James Carpenter, a leading abolitionist, died at Orange, N. J., on Friday.

Prof. Baxter, Professor of Elocution at Harvard College, was drowned at Cape May, N. J., while swimming beyond his depth.

The Queen, desiring to form an estimate of the value of the latest accession to her empire, has commissioned a photographer to obtain for her a series of views of the Island of Cyprus.

A despatch from Rome says Cardinal Nina, the Papal Secretary of State, urges the Pope to go to Perugia, and has informed the Nuncios that a change of air is necessary for the Pope's health.

Hugo's "Histoire d'un Crime" has proved immensely popular in France. There have been sold 150,000 copies of the two-franc edition, and a new one, illustrated, at two sous a number is projected. "Le Pape" has gone through ten editions.

Mr. Moody has given $5,000 to Wellesley College, from the proceeds of the sale of the Moody and Sankey hymn books. It will be permanently invested in a scholarship, to be known as the "Moody and Sankey scholarship," and be used in educating some deserving beneficiary.

Mr. Moody has rented a house in Baltimore, and will remove thither with his family about the 1st of October. His health has been somewhat impaired by his labours, and he desires to rest and study. He will hold meetings during the winter months in the churches and public halls. Mr. Sankey is going to Europe.

The American Freemasons (Mary Commandery, K. T.,) have been entertained in London at a banquet in the Great Freemason's Hall. Among the toasts were:—"The Queen—the daughter of a Mason and the mother of Masons;" to the toast of "The Prince of