

Correspondence.

NON-ARRIVAL OF TREES.—To "Charles Gillis."—We are unable to tell you why you did not get your trees. Had you sent your order as you intended, you would have received every attention. All the nurserymen who advertise in *THE CANADA FARMER*, keep first class establishments.

FILBERTS.—A lady, writing from Menford, inquires why the Canadian farmers do not plant filberts in their orchards, as is done on the Medway in England. She thinks it would be delightful to go nutting in one's orchard, and that the children could be trusted with the harvesting of them. Have any of our readers any experience with the growing of filberts in Canada?

ERRATUM.—"W. S." of Woburn, sends us the following correction. "In the article on 'Legislative Encouragement to Farm Improvements,' in our number of 15th June, a misprint of one short word occurs, in line 22, top of the third column, page 169, which confuses the meaning. The words 'absolute free simple of the townships,' should read 'absolute free simple to the townships.'"

SEEDS OF FOREST TREES.—For the information of our correspondent whose letter on this subject appeared in our last issue, we may mention that Mehan and Wandell, of the Germantown Nurseries, Pennsylvania, advertise silver or soft maple seed (*Acer dasycarpum*), at \$6 per bushel, including cost of packing. They state that this seed is now about ripe, and that to insure germination it must be sown forthwith.

LAYERING GRAPE VINES.—"D. W. E." is informed that there is no trouble in making the grape vine root from layers. It is only necessary to have the layer buried sufficiently deep to keep constantly moist. For minute detail of the several modes of propagating grape vines, we must refer him to the "Grape Culturist," a book recently published in New York, by Andrew S. Fuller, in which the whole subject is fully explained.

DEATH OF A PEAR TREE.—To "B. R. S." It is not very easy to say what is the cause of the death of your pear tree. It is possible that the roots are suffering from excessive moisture. Perhaps you gave it too much liquid manure. Pear trees will not live long in a cold, wet soil, nor will they bear over stimulating with strong fertilizers. We are disposed to attribute its death to one or both of these causes, and not to any insects.

LARGE GALLOWAY YEARLINGS.—The following note from Mr. John Snell, of Edmonton, ought to have appeared sometime since:

"With regard to the weight of Mr. McNeil's Galloway calf, given in No. 6, of *THE CANADA FARMER*, page 86, I think you need not be doubtful. It is quite likely that the figures were 'right side up.' I showed a Galloway bull, at the county of Peel spring fair a year ago, 15 months old, which weighed 1160 lbs."

WHEAT MEAL CAKES.—A correspondent in West Missouri sends us the following: "Those who cannot make good fermented or loaf brown bread, may find a good substitute in wheat meal cakes, made as follows:—Wet the meal (Graham flour) with water, into a rather soft dough, then roll it into very thin biscuits, and bake in a range oven, stove, or before the fire. They should be made fresh every day, and may be eaten as soon as cooked, whereas fermented bread should never be eaten till one day old."

BROWN OR GRAHAM BREAD.—"A lover of Brown bread," says: "The very best that I ever ate, was made from the following recipe:—Three-fourths rye flour, one-fourth corn meal, 1 pint yeast, 1 tablespoonful of baking soda, and a little salt, wet with sweetened water, as stiff as it can be stirred with a spoon. Bake from one hour to an hour and a half, according to the size of the loaf. By following this recipe, 'a subscriber at Clinton,' will have as good brown bread as any one can wish to eat."

EXTIRPATING CANADA THISTLES.—"Anti-Canada Thistle" sends us the following recipe for getting rid of this troublesome weed:—"Manure the patch well with good manure in the fall before ploughing. In the spring following, the thistles will be very rank; the stalks will be long and hollow: cut them just before blossoming, in a wet time, and the water will run down to the roots and rot them. By this means three-fourths of the thistles will be destroyed. In about ten days plough the patch, in a dry time, repeat two or three times during the summer, and you will not be troubled with any more thistles to hurt. The ranker you get the thistles, before cutting, the better."

Another Correspondent writes, "I notice in a late No. of the *C. FARMER*, an article over the signature of 'L.' in reference to Mr. Stirling's bill now before Parliament for the destruction of Canada Thistles, and cannot but think his reasons for recommending delay in bringing the bill into operation very unsatisfactory."

It is my opinion the matter has been delayed already too long. All must be convinced that the longer it is delayed the more difficulty will be found in carrying it out. An evil cannot be checked too soon. Have not farmers who strive to rid their land of noxious weeds been annoyed long enough with this greatest of all pests? "L." seems to question the expediency of such a law, but I have no doubt it will be approved of by nine-tenths of the practical farmers in the country. I would, with "L." recommend meetings of the Agricultural Societies, for the purpose of organizing to assist him in sustaining those charged with carrying out the law.

THE MIDGE DESTROYED BY FIRE.—"M." of Glanford, writes: "Is it generally known that a fire, near a field infested with midge, will destroy them? I was shown an oil lamp yesterday, which had been burning a few hours near an open window, a short distance from a wheat field, the glass chimney of which contained thousands of the dead insects; and Mr. Jacob Smnek, of this township, informs me that last week, he built a large fire by the side of a field badly infested with midge, which seems to have completely destroyed them, as he has not seen a single one since that time."

"HYDRAULIC STUMPING MACHINE."—On this subject "W. S." of Woburn, writes:—"A correspondent, in No. 10 of *THE CANADA FARMER*, is quite facetious on the idea of a hydraulic stumping machine. He assumes that the working of the pumps, would be a very serious matter, so serious, indeed, that the idea would be impracticable. I reply, that any one who has ever seen, or who knows any thing about a hydraulic press, will bear testimony that, at any rate this objection is not tenable. A hydraulic power equal to many hundreds of tons, can be exercised by a child! In any properly constructed machine, this would be about the last objection that could be urged."

HOW TO CAUSE A EWE TO OWN A LAMB WHETHER HER OWN OR NOT.—"A Boy that reads *THE CANADA FARMER*," sends us another method, as follows: "Put a leather strap round the ewe's neck, to which attach a small rope, and tie her in a small apartment in your sheep house, separate from the rest of the sheep. Induce the lamb to suck, holding the ewe still at the same time. Repeat frequently the first day or two, and in from three to eight days she will own it. The time depends on the obduracy of the ewe. Last spring our lambs came during that cold snap we had, about the middle of March, a number of them died in spite of all the care we took of them; but every ewe that lost her lamb or lambs, we gave her another, from one that had twins."

AN INTENDING FLAX MANUFACTURER.—Mr. James Spence, of Frye Village, Andover, Mass., U.S., writes us to say that he wishes to settle in some good locality in Canada, where he can commence the manufacture of flax, with the prospect of doing a good business. He thinks of starting scutching, heckling, spinning twisting, and weaving machinery, and desires to know of an idle water power, in a suitable locality, to sell or rent. Mr. Spence has had many years' experience in this business, in the old country and in the U. S. Desirous of encouraging such settlers to make their way to Canada, we thus give publicity to his wishes, in the hope that parties who know of a good opening for flax manufacture, will address our correspondent as above. Meantime, our advice to Mr. Spence is to come, and select a locality for himself. He will, we think, have no difficulty in finding one to meet his views, for the flax trade in Canada is capable of indefinite expansion.

EVERGREENS.—In reply to an admirer of evergreens, we will say that the autumn is the worst possible time to plant them, and so far as our experience extends, the middle of May is the very best season that can be chosen. The reasons for this opinion are based upon actual experiment; our theory is that the frosty winds sweeping through the foliage, dry up the juice of the autumn planted tree, and the dry hot sun of July and August, has the same effect upon the summer planted evergreen, while the roots, as yet are drawing but slightly upon the moisture of the soil. We have not thought that spruce was very particular about the nature of the soil, though doubtless the nearer it approaches to that in which it is indigenous, the more likely it will be to grow vigorously.

GUENON ON MILCH COWS.—"L." of Hay, says:—"Some four or five years ago, I came across a small volume, entitled, 'A Treatise on Milch Cows, whereby the quantity and quality of milk, which any cow will give, may be accurately known by external signs'—by Francis Guenon, a Frenchman. I made myself sufficiently acquainted with the details of Guenon's system, to enable me to make a few observations, and I have come to the conclusion that there is some truth in it."

Ans.—We have read the book, and, like our correspondent, think "there is some truth" in the theory, but have not tested it sufficiently to speak with confidence.

COST OF TILE FOR DRAINS.—In reply to two or three correspondents, who have sent enquiries on this subject, we may state that the following are the prices asked by Mr. Thomas Nightingale, of the Yorkville Tile and Brick Works:—

	At the Yard.	On board the Cars.
For 1½-inch bore.	\$4 56	\$5 50
" 2 "	6 00	7 00
" 3 "	10 00	12 00
" 4 "	16 00	18 00
" 6 "	50 00	56 00
	Per foot.	Per foot.
" 9 "	\$0 15	\$0 17

These prices are for 1,000 pieces—each piece is 13 inches long. The 9-inch are sold by the foot, and are mostly used for chimney flues.

TRUSTWORTHY CROP REPORTS.—On this subject, "Simplex" says:—"Far from the least interesting of your contents is, to the mind of many, the report of farming prospects throughout the Province. Newspapers are so misinformed by commercial travellers, and even by their own reporters and editors, that the published paragraphs as to the state of crops have little trustworthiness about them. It is one thing to look over the fences, or out of the railway cars, and see the June grass waving in the wind, and a most cheering sight it is to the weary editor, who no sooner reaches Toronto, than he tells the *Globe* or the *Leader* 'they have splendid grass crops in Eastern Canada.' It is another thing for the farmer to walk through his meadows and find that they are scarcely worth mowing, although they look so luxuriant from the roadside—that the timothy is shooting out when only a few inches high—and then he consults with an old neighbour, who says:—'If rain does come, it is too late for the hay crop. After timothy and clover have blossomed, no rain will make a short plant a long one; and so with grain; but rain may make heavy ears instead of light ones.'"

ESTIMATING GRAIN IN THE BIN.—"Douglas," of Bromley, sends us another method of doing this, which he states as follows:—"Multiply the length, breadth, and depth of the grain in inches together, and divide the product by 2150, the quotient will be the number of bushels in the heap, bin, or granary—but the grain must be level and of a straight four-sided figure, either square or oblong. The divisor, 2150, is the number of inches in the Winchester bushel, disregarding the fractions, and will give the quantity with sufficient correctness for an estimate: Feet. Inches.

Operation:—Length, 12 8	=	152 inches.
Breadth, 8 4	=	100 "
		15200
Depth, 2 6	=	30 "
		2150) 456000 (212 bushels.
		4300
		2600
		2150
		4500
		4300
		200 remainder.

FISH AND SEA-WEED FOR MANURE.—"P. Murison," of New Carlisle, writes:—"I would like to know something with respect to the application of fish as a manure. We have a small fish called Caplin, which coming in in the spring, is applied as a top dressing, to all sorts of crops, with wonderful results, (in its raw state,) also a great quantity of sea-weed, which I allow to rot before using; in the spring the sea-weed is filled with herring and caplin spawn, and soon rots and makes a very good top dressing for hay land."