

soak them in boiling water before they can be sprouted. Hedges of this shrub, if planted properly and given the necessary attention, will make a stock-proof fence in four years. There is no doubt about this point as the first that was planted in Canada as a business was in May, 1889, in the South West counties of Ontario, and are being finished this fall.

In preparing the ground for planting the hedge, first clear the row of all obstructions—fences, stones, logs, too close over-shading trees, roots, etc.—plow the ground and prepare it for planting as soon as the frost is out. The ground may be plowed in the fall if desired. When the ground is well drained and you have plenty of room it should be prepared as follows: After determining just where you want your line of hedge to stand, plow a strip six feet wide, turning the furrows all one way to effectually turn under all sods and grass, harrow thoroughly and break up clods, making the surface quite even. Should the weather be dry rolling before planting is necessary. The planting season commences as soon as the ground is in proper condition to work in the spring. After the plants have become accustomed to their new quarters, which will not be very long, weeds should be cleaned out, and a mulch applied if the season is dry.

During the third autumn the finishing operation, known as plashing is in order, which means bending the plant at the root at an angle of forty-five degrees and attaching four horizontal wires to the canes, making a hedge and wire fence combined. The philosophy of leaning is that the sap flows on the upper side of the stalk and thereby throws all the energy to pushing sprouts upwards from the top side of the stalk, and the strongest stalk generally comes out nearest the bottom of the parent stalk. It stands the winter in any part of Ontario; grows twelve miles north of Barrie. Some of the attractive features of the Honey Locust fence are: It improves from the day it is finished, while a wooden or wire fence becomes worse. It will never blow down; stock will not push against it; pigs cannot get through it. The question of trimming comes up. With a knife twenty-two inches long, a man can trim one mile in a day, and once a year is all the trimming that is required.

In conclusion I would say, whatever kinds of fence are used on a farm or elsewhere, keep them in as good order as possible. There is nothing gives more annoyance, and unsightly appearance than ill-kept fences. J. B. S.

### TIDY WORK ON THE FARM.

*To the O. A. C. Review.*

MR. EDITOR,—In trying to think of a subject on which to make a few remarks these words came to me: "Tidy work on the farm," and I thought they were quite suitable for an agriculturist, and being a practical farmer myself, I can speak from experience.

To my mind, "Tidy work on the farm" is one of the most essential things in making farming a success.

Before entering on the subject, it might be well to observe what I mean by "success." I don't mean altogether that of accumulating riches, for that is one-sided success. Neither do I mean only to succeed as a tidy workman. He who succeeds best is he who works for love. Therefore, if a man works because he loves his business, he will not work for money only.

By "success," then, I mean a general gain all along the lines in whatever direction the pursuer is inclined to follow. His gain may not be very great; indeed, if he holds his own in some things he may be said to succeed in that particular line.

"Tidy work on the farm," then. Of what advantage is it to the farmer? First, I would say along the lines of economy. Second, it adds to his comfort. Third, it has all to do with a neat and tidy appearance of the farm in general.

First. As to economy. We all know that without eco-

nomy a man may work hard and have nothing. Therefore, a farmer above all others, should study economy. And, tidiness, as we shall see, is a great factor in the farmer's economy: for, if a man is tidy about his work around the farm buildings he will not have boards and rails lying round his barn and barn yard to harbor vermin, and more than that, to be strewn about and tramped under feet by the live stock. Neither will he allow sticks and bits of boards to be thrown about, to become mixed with the manure, as we often see in too many farm yards, which is not only a waste of fuel, but also a great hindrance to the man who may have the good fortune of loading the manure on the wagon. Not only do they hinder the work, but often bend and sometimes break the prongs off the fork. And then, if the man have an evil temper (which is very likely to be associated with untidiness), he will be very apt to lose his temper to a certain extent, and not only injure himself, but the poor dumb animals will have to suffer through his untidiness. This means more loss than most of farmers will admit.

Tidy workmen have a proper place for their tools, but the average farmer has no special place for his. In this also I have observed much loss of time and patience.

A tidy workman does his work in such a way as to facilitate his labor. For example, the untidy workman (and even those who think themselves good workmen), have no order about the barn, the stable or the driving shed, and when a busy time comes the barn is in a muss, and probably the harvest has to wait or something has to suffer because the barn is not fit to receive it. And in the driving shed (if they have one) things are in such a shape you could not get an implement out without moving so many others. All this I consider a loss of time. Small tools are left lying round and get buried and probably lost. Every time a farmer has to take time hunting for tools unnecessarily is time lost. All these unnecessary losses amount to a good deal in a year. It is those little things that eat up the profit on the farm and cause the farmer to cry hard times more than the low prices, of which he complains so much.

Tidy work will not allow the plow to stay in the field half the winter to rust and rot, or the grain drill to remain out in the weather a month or two after spring work is over, nor the reaping machine or self binder to remain exposed to dew and rain, and thus cause these things to decay and break before they are half worn out. Then they must be replaced, which is simply an indirect way of throwing away money.

Another great source of loss both of time and labor is in the field. That man who does his work crooked and untidy loses much that he never thinks of in time and labor. So it is with him, who, when hoeing is careless and untidy; and he who spreads his manure unevenly does not get full benefit of it. In all these things it is plainly seen that tidiness leads to prosperity.

Our second thought was that of the man's own comfort. It is not necessary to dwell on this point, for we can plainly see that the man who is tidy shall inherit comfort thereby. And if his "better half" is tidy about her domestic affairs, with a sweet temper withal, he will have pleasure in the house, pleasure in the field, and in fact his home is a little Eden on earth.

Our third thought was: The general appearance of his property is greatly improved through his tidiness. The passing stranger turns aside to view his property, and is so impressed with the first appearance that he does not forget to remark about the man's farm, his buildings, his yards, etc. So he has a travelling advertisement which cost him nothing but tidiness and neatness of taste in adorning his yard, lawn, &c. And when his property comes to the market, if he should ever desire to sell, his farm is worth fully ten per cent. more than his neighbor's, who has been careless and untidy, even though his land is just as good. Hence our conclusion is, The tidy farmer is on the royal road to wealth.

A. H. CHRISTIAN.