

manure is, but in all these competitions, the constituents of the chemical manures ought to be given, as well as the quantity of seed to the arpent or acre. Ed.)

FARMING IN NOVA SCOTIA.

To the Editor of the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

Dear Sir,—Being in this part of our fair Dominion for a short time, I thought I would give my views on farming, as it is done in parts of this province.

I should say that farming is not the great mainstay of the people—it is fishing. When they cannot catch any fish they work on the farm. I should say that if the people would place more dependence on the farm and attend to it properly, they would be a great deal better off.

Another branch of farming, or rather in connection with farming, dairying, is sadly neglected too.

I must now give you my observations on farming here, only the main features as they struck me. The soil is free from stones, that is loose stones, there are some rocks, and rocky places, the colour of the soil is a reddish brown, something like that round a brickyard of a clayey nature. I remember seeing something like it once in the State of New Jersey. The land is also very hilly and rolling, but free from stone as I said before, even on the high ground. Usually, in the province of Quebec, high ground is very stony, but here the land is very free from stones. I observe also that they do a good deal of fall ploughing, but I have not noticed any first class work. I do not believe they have competitions here as they have in Canada; that is the term they apply to Ontario and Quebec, Upper and Lower Canada. Another thing that struck me forcibly: they do very little ditching or underdraining, and it is very much needed, as they have springs on the side-hills, and they allow the water to run wherever it likes. Instead of running a ditch to carry it off, they allow it to spoil all below it by keeping it wet and sour. I also mentioned they paid little attention to dairying, only keep a few heads of cows, and those few very indifferently fed. I asked how they kept up the fertility of the soil. It is done by "kelp," a sort of sea weed, and even by fish, and refuse of fish and fish bones. There are some seasons when herrings are so plentiful, that they

make a drill for the potatoes, and then scatter in the fish in the drill as is sometimes done with manure, and they grow excellent crops of potatoes, in that way, but I am informed, that the fish are only good for one crop. (Not so. Ed.)

The kelp is drawn out after a storm and put into a heap and allowed to rot; about 3 cartloads of kelp will make one load of well rotted manure. This is applied as a top dressing, or can be ploughed in, as the case may be. Another thing that struck me also, was the want of wood, or rather, the providing of it. There is plenty of wood, but very few have dry wood on hand; they believe it is time enough to cut it when they want it to burn. In the stormiest weather, after dark night, and even on Sunday, you will see them cutting wood. I have seen very few who had wood cut on hand and dry, for one you will find of this stamp I am sure you will find one hundred that have to cut it as it is needed.

The weather generally is not so cold as we have it further west, but the houses are poorly constructed and consequently they suffer more from cold than those who live in a colder climate, but are better prepared for it. It is a rarity to find a house with double windows; they are but shells, and some of them very poor at that.

One more branch in connection with farming that is neglected here, is good poultry. Very little attention is paid to them, and as consequence there is no profit in them. In summing up, I would say this to the farmers: keep up the fertility of your soil, keep it well drained, attend better to our cows and feed them well, they will furnish you with the material to keep up the fertility; keep a few good hens, pay a proper attention to them, and in a short time you will find your profits begin to accumulate. Attend to the small details, learn to do things in their proper season, cut your year's wood in winter time, when you have not got much other work to do, and you will soon have the wherewith to build yourself a comfortable home. In some parts of this province they do not raise enough to feed the population; they have to buy, from Prince Edward's Island, cheese, butter, oats, potatoes, etc., are brought here. Why the farmers cannot raise enough and to spare is because they neglect their farms. I have been telling them how much I grew on one acre and also of what was done by the Rev. T. Shaw Chapman, of Marbleton, P. Q., in your issue of the 1st Nov., but there are some unbe