

SPINKS ON AGRICULTURE.

The harvesting is progressing favourably. The weather is extremely propitious, the reaping machines have been put in active operation, and a splendid crop is being gathered into the garner. The special correspondent to whom we have entrusted the investigation of agricultural affairs, has given us a preliminary report.

It will be seen that our correspondent has given, for the benefit of city, a sketch of the first principles of the science.

The first indispensable to the practice of agriculture is land. During the time of the flood, therefore, farming operations were suspended for 120 days at least. Farming without land is therefore *outlandish* occupation. Land is sometimes called soil, and is invariably dry. In a state of moist consolidation, it is called mud, the beloved compound so carefully preserved by city fathers in the Spring and autumn.

The word agriculture is derived from the name of the Roman General Agricola. When that notable Italian invaded Britain, he was such a ripper for digging into the affections of the aboriginal Britons, that the latter finding they could make no impression on him, turned to digging the soil and called the science agriculture in his ho. or. Agricola gave the best instructions to them in the new art, and being a knowing *card*, they called him the ace of spades.

The next agriculturists who blessed the early Britons were Henooost and Horsehair, two Saxon gonuses, the first of whom *egged* them on to the cultivation of poultry, without making them suspect *foul* play, at the same time taking care that they should *shell* out in return. This egg-celient event has been set to music in the *lays* of the ancient Druids.

Horse-hair imported blood mares, (the night-mare included) which he re-tailed to the Britons at high prices. He introduced the Roman Circus, (no connection with Spalding's) and the young horses which cantered therein were styled *coll-revolvers*.

Pigs were introduced into Britain by the Jews in the sixth century. Sheep were brought from Gramplan Hills a by Norval's father after *lan*(b)ing the "band of fierce barbarians" who faced the music so badly. Mutton was therefore in early times a great *Norval-ty* (novelty?).

There are several sorts of ploughing; one of the most celebrated is "the hoof of the ruthless invader" once used in Polish agriculture, in *be-hoof* of the Russians. The sub-soil ploughing was first practiced by the *mole* (when he had completed his work the ground was said to be *mould*.) With the free spirit of savages, the early Britons thought ploughing decidedly *infra dig*. (In for a dig)

The earliest manure was imported from the peat-bogs of Ireland. Guano consists of the fossil eggs of the Iguanodon, and the idea of applying them as manure was first *hatched* by the fertile brain of the venerable Bede.

When this lesson has been sufficiently digested, our correspondent will give a second on the same *fertile* subject.

SUNNYSIDE PIC-NIC.

We had much pleasure in participating in the excursion to Sunnyside in honour of Lieut. C. E. Holiwell. The day was very favourable—the party exceedingly agreeable, and the demonstration must have been as gratifying to Mr. Holiwell, as it was deserved. It was pleasing to see the unanimity with which the members of the Field Battery and the deputation from the R. C. Rifles entered into the spirit of the occasion: Lieutenant Patterson was lively and serviceable in looking after everybody's comfort; Adjutant Cull contributed to the ornamental and literary pleasure of the party, whilst Lieutenant Joseph descended from his proud eminence to mingle with the pleasures of the general crowd. We have only to add the adieu of his comrades, and the good wishes of the GUYARDS on the

A HOME FOR FRIENDLESS GIRLS.

The ladies of Toronto have immortalized themselves by founding a Home for "Friendless Boys." Will no one found a Home for Friendless Girls? It is much wanted. When a girl is homeless and friendless she is in a far worse position than any other human being could possibly be placed in. It is needless to dwell on the temptations that surround her, and the fate that awaits her if she falls into temptation. For a homeless and friendless girl there are but two paths, humanly speaking: to fail or to die; which path is most commonly chosen is too well known. We throw out these suggestions in the hope that the charity of the ladies of Toronto is not exhausted, that they will extend the same friendly hand to those of their own sex that they have done to friendless boys; and that a Home for Friendless Girls will be established.

AS LONG AS THE AVENUE.

Councilman Finch called on us the other night to frame a petition as long as the Avenue, and to sign our names thereon with a crow-bar. The petition is now lying at Mr. Finch's, having been manufactured by that clever fraction of a man out of the skin of the sea-serpent. The crow-bar may be seen at Rice Lewis's. Some of the signatures have proved too large for the parchment already and have each been spread over several lines. It is fortunate that the majority of the Council are not likely to sign the petition, as we should have to add a whale's skin to the present document, to accommodate the rambling pot-hooks of the municipal fathers.

Alarming Prospect.

—We are told that the hay crop will be very light this year. A correspondent informs us that he was told by a young lady who has afflicted his cardinal development "to go to grass." In the present dearth of the green herb he desires to be advised what to do. How is he to go to grass, when there is no grass to go to?

Mathematical.

—Professor Chorrman, of the Toronto University, writes to tell us that if the *Proposition* made by a certain Councilman, to run the first road across the Avenue is acceded to, other roads will follow as a necessary *Carrollary*.

EARNEST ENTREATY.

To Ogle R. Gowar,

SIR,—With the utmost horror we have read your letter to the *Colonist* on the Avenue question. Dont write any more, like a good fellow. Why cant you subside till the House meets? You'll have plenty to do to get up the batch of universal reforms for next session. Do not interfere with our affairs, neither your health nor your sanity will stand it. Above all, do not injure our cause by defending it. Your advocacy would ruin the noblest cause in the world. Do be quiet, there's a good fellow, and you will earn the eternal gratitude of

Your mortal detesters,

CATES.

ASTOUNDING CHEMICAL DISCOVERY.

Professor Croft writes to us, that he has just made a very important discovery. In the event of the pea crop failing, the learned Professor has discovered an unfailing substitute. Take a good sized pease pudding, digest with 5 HO in a state of ebullition, evaporate and crystallize. The product will be a fine pot full of excellent peas, double the size of nature. When peas are scarce, be sure and make use of your pease pudding.

Ontario Literary Society's Pic-Nic.

—On Tuesday, the 17th inst., the Ontario Literary Society will give a Pic-Nic at the popular rendezvous, called Sunnyside. Invitations have been issued to quite a large number of our citizens, and we have little doubt that they will be readily responded to. Mr. Webb will be the caterer for this occasion, and the omnibuses leaving the front of Knox's church at 1 o'clock p.m., will deposit the guests at Sunnyside in time for a comfortable repast.

To Bird fanciers.

—A correspondent who attended the College Avenue Meeting the other night, inquires what tribe of Finches the clever little tailor on King Street belongs to. We are certainly of opinion that he is not a *greenfinch*, he has not yet proved himself a *goldfinch*, (vide speech in Avenue). Perhaps he is a *chaffinch*? □
A Pellicle.

—One of our occasional illuminators alluding to the opposition of a certain worthy Councilman to the mutilation of the Avenue, states that the spoilers desisted from their dire designs only because they were so well Pell-ted (pelted).

BUSINESS NOTICE.

—The season for travel for 1859 has now set in. To those tired and worn out commercial devotes seeking some relaxation from their labours, and to those who know the value of their health, and annually seek its improvement in travel, we wish to commend our obliging friend John I. Shaver. One of the prime requisites, in starting on a tour—after determining the place of destination—is to find out the best possible way of getting there. Every facility for ascertaining this important fact is afforded by the urbanity of the gentleman above named, and the most un-sophisticated wanderer may safely entrust himself to his care, satisfied that he will be wisely and truthfully directed. Office in the Resin House, where tickets may be procured to all points and every information obtained.