

The *Agriculturist* advises farmers and fishermen to dry their boots, when wet, by filling them with dry oats. The grain rapidly absorbs the moisture, and as it takes it up swells enough to fill the boot like a tightly fitting last. When the oats are emptied out, put them in a bag by the fire to dry for future use.

A romantic York, Ill., girl thought to Maud Mullerize and "rake the meadow's sweet with hay." She stood over a yellow jacket's nest as she swung her little rake. First jump from the score eleven feet. Distance to the house, half a mile. Time, two minutes.

USE OF THERMOMETERS.—The differences in the ordinary meteorological observations are not so much owing to the defects of the thermometer, as a general thing, as to the want of a proper care in observation. To ascertain the true temperature of the atmosphere the instrument should never be hung against the wall of a building, as the heat absorbed and radiated will cause a change of several degrees, depending on the nature of the material of the walls and side exposed to sun or wind, as also the radiation from the internal heat of the building. The best place is under the shade of an open cover or tree, away from any buildings, suspended a few feet above the ground. The fact that the air may be at rest or in motion will not affect the temperature. To ascertain the heat of the direct rays of the sun the instrument should be covered with a coat of lamp-black, and exposed to the direct rays of the sun in a sheltered place.—*Western Manufacturer*

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Windsor, August 16th, 1874.

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THE CANADA FARMER is printed and published by the Book Printing Company, at 26 & 28 King Street East, TORONTO, CANADA, on the 1st and 15th of each month. Price one dollar and fifty cents per annum, free of postage.