

rape, of which plant M. Bégín speaks very highly.

We would say more, were it not that the table of marks speaks for itself, and we therefore rest contented with the expression of our satisfaction at seeing such good work so perseveringly carried on. It is a very good example for a family. (*parish?*)

M. Bégín is allowed 87.55 marks, which entitles him to a silver medal and a diploma of very great merit, and to our sincere congratulations.

#### No 9. Mr. SAMUEL EDWARDS.

Mr. Edwards farm consists of 125 arpents under the plough, 10 in permanent pasture, and 65 in bush : 200 in all, with a nice orchard.

Rotation : 1st year, oats or maslin ; 2nd, hoed-crops and pease ; 3rd, barley or wheat with clover and timothy.

Three or four years in meadow, and then pastured.

We allowed full marks for this, as Mr. Edwards takes the greatest care of his manure, and his farm, moreover, is very free from weeds.

Mr. Edwards is a most industrious man. His constant activity has enabled him to clean up his farm which in some parts was literally covered with stones, all of which he has used for drains and fences.

We reckon that he has carted off 14,000, loads of stones, making 40 arpents of generally well built walls with them, and drains in several places. The drains are so laid down as to form drinking-pools for cattle in several of the fields.

Management good. Suitable buildings and well kept up.

We refer the reader to the table of marks for the rest, except that we may observe that the owner of this farm is a man to whom time is money. Very poor when he began, Mr. Edwards is now at ease, surrounded with a fine family that if they follow their father's example must turn out well.

Mr. Edwards wins 87.15 marks, and thereby can claim a silver medal and a diploma of very great merit.

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### Notes by the Way.

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**Food and milk.**—We have often spoken in this periodical on this, as yet unsettled, question : can milk be made richer by feeding the cow that yields

it on richer food ? Not six weeks ago, the "British Dairy-farmers' Association" had their annual outing at which it is the custom, after each day's work of inspecting dairy-farms and herds in different counties, to listen to lectures, given by men of theoretical as well as practical attainments in dairying, and after the lectures, discussion are held, and opinions are—as usual in England—*very freely* given on the subjects discussed.

At the meeting in question, held this year in the County of Cornwall, Mr. Lloyd took as his subject the dispute among dairymen mentioned by us at the beginning of this article. Has he any authority to speak on this point ? Why, as he is the chemist of the Association, he may be supposed to have some notion of the action of food on the product of the cow that eats it ; besides, he is widely known as one of the most thoroughly practical of the chemists who have devoted their talents to the cause of agriculture.

And he is pretty positive in his statements, too, is Mr. Lloyd, as, being of Keltic extraction, he is bound to be. He has no doubt about the matter. The prevailing opinion among experts appears to be that the quantity of milk and butter yielded by a cow is affected by her food, but that the ratio of butter to milk is hardly at all affected by any change in diet. We prefer Mr. Lloyd's, summing up of the arguments : when properly fed a cow will neither gain nor lose in live weight, and will produce the maximum quantity of milk her physical conformation permits, that milk being of its maximum quality. If an excess of nutriment be given, the tendency to fatten will gradually outstrip the tendency to milk production ; if too little nutriment be supplied, the body will suffer first, than the quality of the milk, and *lastly the quality*. Change the food, and a change in quantity and quality will be evident in the milk ; but it will not be immediate, and so the results of experiments are often misleading, because they are commonly carried out for too short periods.

Mr. Lloyd, holding our opinion, the opinion of every dairy-farmer we ever met with, carried on an experiment of keeping cows on pastures of different character, and the milk varied in both quantity and quality according to the pastures upon which the animals were feeding. Nothing that he has yet heard can shake his conviction that food has a marked effect on the *quality* as well as the quantity of milk.

Mr. Nuttall, one of the largest cow-feeders in the