

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

How brightly, through the mist of years,
My quiet country home appears !
My father busy all the day
In ploughing corn and raking hay ;
My mother moving with delight
Among her milk-pans, silver bright ;
We children, just from school set free,
Filling the garden with our glee.
The blood of life was flowing warm
When I was living on the farm.

I hear the sweet church going bell,
As o'er the fields its music fell ;
I see the country neighbours round
Gathering beneath the pleasant sound.
They stop awhile beside the door,
To talk their homely matters o'er—
The springing corn, the ripening grain,
And "how we need a little rain ;"
A "little sun would do no harm
We want good weather for the farm."

When autumn came, what joy to see
The gathering of the busy bee ;
To hear the voices keeping tune,
Of girls and boys beneath the noor ;
To mark the golden corn-ears bright,
More golden in the yellow light !
Since I have learned the ways of men,
I often turn to these again,
And feel life wore its highest charm
When I was living on the farm.

— From "Poems of Home Life."

At a recent dinner of the export cattle dealers of Toronto, reported in the *Maritime Farmer* of Fredericton, we find it stated that Mr. Hall recommended Canadian cattle raisers to endeavor to get an equal price with the English and Scotch beef of like quality, by keeping up the quality of the cattle that they send across the Atlantic. There can be no doubt of the propriety of this. The speaker said they should make it a point to breed a heavy grade of cattle, feed them well and give them comfortable quarters during the winter. He was of the opinion that they would do far better to feed the grain than to sell it, and thus prevent any failure that might arise by sending to the market half-fed animals. This point, said Mr. Hall, should be impressed upon the farmers most earnestly, for their opportunities were most excellent, as there was now no prejudice against Canadian cattle, which really came to the markets in better condition than the Irish cattle did. A better breed of sheep was also desirable. Sometimes the very "outcasts" of the country were sent across. This did not pay and was a damage to the trade. Exporters should send none but the best, and preference was given to *wethers*. The best prices would be secured for good sheep. Will our farmers make a note of this?

In reply to a question, he said there are plenty of *half-fed* cattle offering, but they are not taken, for we cannot use them.

MR. Baring Gould, in his new book on Germany, says that the agricultural population are, as a rule, happier than the manufacturing, and draws the melancholy conclusion that the commercial prosperity of a country and the sum of happiness of its people vary in inverse ratio. The peasant forms the arm, masele, and good heart of the country. The moral degeneration of the North German cities is appalling. His opinion of the German people, male and female, is very decided. An Englishwoman is lovely, a Frenchwoman is charming, but a German woman is angelic !! The men have right principle, steady endurance, genius and power ; but the diamond needs to be cut, the silver refined. German school-boys have no public games, and don't get common sense and knowledge of the world like the English. Certain it is that the most productive fields in the world are the sandy deserts of North Germany. We commend to our local legislators a careful consideration of the opening sentence of this paragraph. The Dominion Government can deal with the N. P., but our Local Government have the interests of our farmers and "peasantry" in hand, and can do much to promote the happiness of the people in general by directing their energies into proper channels.

Koumiss, a fermented liquor made originally by the Tartars from mare's milk, is now prepared from cow's milk, and is strongly recommended for medicinal use, and to displace intoxicating drinks. It appears that not only in Europe, but at Sydney and in the United States, there are koumiss factories, and koumiss cure establishments. The koumiss is made in this way: fresh mare's milk is diluted with a sixth part of water, then an eighth part of the sourest cow's milk added; this rests for twenty-four hours in a moderately warm place; when soured it is beaten with a churn staff and left as before; again beaten, etc., until it becomes homogeneous. It is agitated every time it is used. It has a slightly acidulous, sweetish taste, savouring somewhat of buttermilk, and leaves a fresh very agreeable after taste, and is more effervescent than champagne. It was exhibited in the Agricultural Hall, London, as a tea-total drink.

ARRANGEMENTS are in progress for holding the Royal Agricultural Show of England at Derby next year. A subscription of four thousand pounds is being raised in the locality by the Town Council.

THE Champion Potato appears to be the great potato in England now,—one that grows well and resists the rot.

BUCKWHEAT requires peculiar treatment in the harvesting, and those who are not acquainted with it are apt to make mistakes. It should be cut before it is fully matured, and its habit of throwing out blossoms at the top until killed by the frost is apt to mislead. When the frost is expected the crop should be cut, and many immature grains will become perfect in a few days during which it is drying in the field. Whenever the lower branches are well loaded with ripe grains it may be cut. This should be done with the cradle, and while the stalks are damp with dew, or moist after a shower. The grains are loosely attached to their stalks and are easily shaken off in the cutting or raking unless these are carefully done. After the swaths have lain a few days for the grains to ripen, the buckwheat is raked up into bunches, and these are set up in gravels or loose stooks, without being bound, the tops being gathered together as much as possible. In this condition the crop remains until it is threshed. As it heats very rapidly it should never be put into the stack or moved away into a barn, as has been sometimes done by experienced farmers. When the buckwheat is sufficiently cured and dry and the unripe grains have matured it may be threshed by treading out with horses, with the flail or the threshing machine. The first buckwheat flour in market brings the best price, and it is not unusual for the price to fall one half in a few days after the first demanded for new flour has been met. It is a crop to dispose of as soon as possible, at least as regards that intended for sale. When taken to the mill for grinding a dry, windy day should be chosen, as the best quality of flour can be made only in such weather; indeed, few millers will grind this grain, unless obliged to do so, in any other weather than that described.—*Vermont Record and Farmer*.

THE total acreage of potatoes in Cambridgeshire and Lincoln this year was 47,000, an increase of nearly 3000 acres over last year. One-half of the total area has not reproduced the seed planted, —on which alone the loss will exceed 35 millions of dollars. These facts are taken from an article in the *Agricultural Gazette*, in which it is remarked that in Scotland oats seem to be the only good crop this year. The potato crop is small and the tubers smaller. The price is £5 to £5 10s. per ton.

GLASS mortars are now made of toughened glass, by plunging into oil while still at a red heat.

WE regret to see notice of the death of Prof. Clerk Maxwell, one of the ablest physicists of the day, appointed to his chair in Cambridge only eight years ago.