

ral of our readers, that *Blossom* was intended for exhibition at the last Provincial Show, at Cobourg; but in consequence of the injuries she received in the boat coming from Hamilton, arising from the extreme roughness of the weather, it was deemed inexpedient to take her any farther. *Blossom* was bred and fed by Mr. Fergusson, of Woodhill, who has been so honourably distinguished for a great number of years for his zealous and successful exertions in improving the live stock of this Province, and the advancement of its agriculture. When we look at what has been done and what is doing by an enterprising farmer scattered here and there, we fondly cherish the hope that the time is fast drawing nigh, when Upper Canada will be awakened to a perception of her great natural capabilities. The subjoined facts will show that among many other advantages, our country is well adapted to the improved breeds of stock:—

Marketable beef, - - - - -	1,249 lbs.
Tallow, - - - - -	215 "
Hide, - - - - -	95 "

*Blossom's* total weight, - - - 1,559 "

Or 111 stone 5 lbs., at 14 lbs. per stone.

We will only observe, in addition to the subjoined extract from the *American Herd Book*, that the quality of the meat was unanimously pronounced by Mr. Armstrong's customers, to be of the finest description.

"*Blossom*.—White, bred by and the property of Hon. Adam Fergusson, Woodhill, near Watertown, Canada West; calved 16th August, 1843; got by Strathmore out of Beauty, by Snowball (2647), by Lawnsleeves (365), by Mr. Mason's Charles (127)."

## NEW SETTLEMENTS.

### LIFE IN THE BUSH.

GENTLEMEN,—I enclose the sum of 5s. as my subscription for the *Canadian Agriculturist*, during the current year.

This portion of Canada is of comparatively recent settlement, and the progress of practical agriculture has hardly extended beyond the first rude efforts to clear land for the purpose solely of sustaining animal life. Nevertheless, there are instances—and not a few—where an economical expenditure of labour has been succeeded by the most gratifying result.

During the month of December last, when in the discharge of the duties of my office, I inspected four lots of land, adjoining each other, in the township of Glenelg, which were located by Mr. J. Leadingham and his three sons. They commenced operations in the spring of 1847, and at the time referred to they had upwards of fifty acres under crop and well fenced. Their barn—considering the almost total failure of spring wheat—was well replenished. Their stock of cattle, which was very considerable, had comfortable shelter. Their dwelling—a rude shanty—was clean, well-ordered, and each article of

furniture was a specimen of the mechanism of the back-woods; and their table, in addition to substantial, was supplied with jellies and preserves. The chief—the most interesting feature in the subject matter of this reference, is the fact, that these things were the products, under providential arrangements, of their own labour, expended in converting the forest into a fruitful field. Labour is necessary to human enjoyment.

Yours respectfully,  
GEORGE JACKSON.

Bentinck, March, 1849.

## FENCE-MAKING—A NEW PLAN.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I beg to offer a few suggestions with reference to the construction of a cheap and durable kind of fence. In most parts of Canada where timber is plenty, the common zig-zag rail fence answers the settler for a few years, but as is already the case in some districts where timber has become scarce, some other mode of fencing our farms may be resorted to with advantage.

Where the soil is of stiff clay, the following plan possesses some advantages on account of its durability and cheapness. It consists merely of two parallel ditches, with a ridge of earth piled between them: small posts, (usually cedar,) five feet long and from six to eight inches in diameter, are set about six inches in the ground and ten feet apart, in a line where the ridge is intended to be raised; the ditches are then dug about two feet deep and three feet apart, the sides of which are of such a slope as to be capable of producing a tolerably stiff sod from being sown with grass seed. The ridge, which is raised about 2½ feet high, should, like the ditches, be sloped on each side, so as to admit either of a covering of sods directly or of being produced by seeding. It may be remarked here, that it is important that the work be performed in the spring of the year, when it can not only be done cheaper but rendered less liable to sustain injury from the frosts of the ensuing winter, than if accomplished at a later period. On the posts, which will remain uncovered about two feet, are nailed two boards, one on the top and the other on one side, when the fence will be complete. The advantages of this kind of fence over a board fence are considerable. First, it effects a great saving of timber; secondly, in low or wet land it answers the double purpose of a fence and drain: finally, it is more permanent, as the posts are less liable to be raised by the frost than those of an ordinary board fence, the earth in which they stand being kept comparatively dry by the ditches, and placed around them in an oval form, will naturally incline from them as the frost works its way under the surface.

I am aware that some farmers will say that "It appears all very well on paper," but I can assure such that fences of this description have been in use in this District for the last four or five years, and thus far show strong evidence of their ultimate utility.

I have not as yet had any constructed on my own farm, and cannot therefore say from experience what would be the expence of such a fence, but am credibly informed that it need not exceed two shillings per rod. But this fence, like many other things that are well adapted to the requirements of