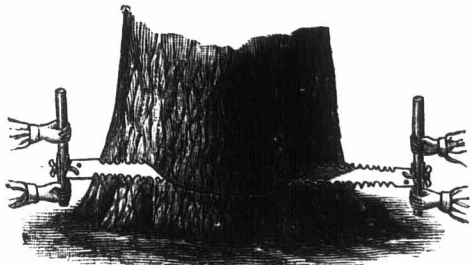


better, faster and further, last much longer and keep on less food, save suffering and shoe and treatment bills, which are no small items. The reasons are evident: 1. No restriction to the natural growth of the feet, caused by shoeing, no matter how well done. Shoeing is unnatural. 2. Letting the frog (nature's cushion) down to the ground, giving it exercise, softness, hence health to foot; whereas the shoe elevates the foot, suspends the frog, causing it to dry, becomes hard and dead, following which is contraction of the heel and inflammation of the foot. 3. The frog without shoe serves as a cushion to strike upon, relieving both foot and muscles from the jar of the step; especially can your steed be driven faster down grade; the step not so high as with the shoe, and but little shock to foot or muscle; for the same reason can be driven further in a day. No danger of clogging, forging, stumbling, etc. My experience is that with feet properly trimmed the gait is natural, easy and clear. 5. No danger—with any care whatever—of contraction by standing on floor. As a rule, unless the drive is every day, and long at that, the feet will grow faster than they wear. So much for light drivers. But I know of a number of teams (draught horses) always at work that were never shod.

The New Crosscut Saw.



As timber becomes scarcer greater care must be exercised in reducing the waste as much as possible.

The great waste made by the axe in felling trees and chopping them up, and sawing with wide-set, upright saws, would, if estimated, amount probably to millions of dollars. The Waterous Engine Co., of Brantford, Ont., have reduced the waste to a minimum with their large circular saws, and have, for their sawmill machinery, obtained a reputation of unsurpassed fame. They are now introducing the double crosscut, narrow blade saw. These saws are made of solid steel; the narrowness of the blade prevents the liability to bend. The handles are adjustable, and can be changed almost instantaneously, so that they can be drawn out of cut, if necessary, or the handles raised or lowered, as required. We give you accompanying illustrations of the saw at work. Fuller particulars you can obtain by referring to the company at Brantford. Their advertisement of engines, etc., appears in this issue. This firm has been long noted for the superiority of their productions, and for the honorable manner in which they have transacted their business. Their business has been yearly increasing in Ontario; now they have an establishment in Winnipeg, to enable them to fill the demands made for machinery in our North-west. We are pleased to state that they are meeting with the success they richly deserve.

Correspondence.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—1. Please write on one side of the paper only. 2. Give full name, Post Office and Province, not necessarily for publication, but as guarantee of good faith and to enable us to answer by mail when, for any reason, that course seems desirable. If an answer is specially requested by mail, a stamp must be enclosed. Unless of general interest, no questions will be answered through the ADVOCATE, as our space is very limited. 3. Do not expect anonymous communications to be noticed. 4. Matter for publication should be marked "Printers' MS." on the cover, the ends being open, in which case the postage will only be 1c per 4 ounces. 5. Non-subscribers should not expect their communications to be noticed. 6. No questions will be answered except those pertaining purely to agriculture or agricultural matters.

Correspondents wanting reliable information relating to diseases of stock must not only give the symptoms as fully as possible, but also how the animal has been fed and otherwise treated or managed. In case of suspicion of hereditary diseases, it is necessary also to state whether or not the ancestors of the affected animal have had the disease or any predisposition to it.

In asking questions relating to manures, it is necessary to describe the nature of the soil on which the intended manures are to be applied; also the nature of the crop.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the views of correspondents.

Fish Culture Again.—We are still receiving communications relating to fish culture, some without the names of the writers, which, of course, we do not answer. All the necessary information will be found in the correspondence columns of our last two issues. We have just received the following letter from Washington:—"Since the publication of my reply to your letter of inquiry in regard to Carp, I have received a number of applications from individuals in different parts of Canada. We can arrange to supply them by express direct from New York, if parties are willing to run the risk of loss in transit. If such be their desire, they should write at once, giving the express address to which shipment is to be made. I think, however, it would be wise for all in your latitude to wait until next fall, when I will arrange to send the fish forward at the very beginning of the season, before cold weather sets in."—M. McDONALD, Chief Div. of Distribution, Washington, D. C., Dec. 19, 1885.

Frozen Wheat in Manitoba—Apple Markets—Prices of Farm Products—Heavy Freights.—I did not observe until too late to mail you anything for last month, that you had thought my previous contribution worthy of insertion in your columns, or I would have kept my promise and sent you some brief account of our doings in this part of the world. The winter set in on us rather early this year, about the fourth of November, when the ploughs were brought to a standstill. This following upon an exceptionally dry fall, which made ploughing on heavy lands almost impossible, prevented many farmers getting their ploughing done. I think, as far as my own observations go, that fall ploughing is behind hand this season. This is to be regretted, for on getting our seed in the ground early in the spring depends our chances of escaping the early frost, and in giving our crops a chance to smother the weeds, instead of the weeds smothering our crops. This season it seems that the percentage of wheat damaged or spoiled by the frost is very large. Some authorities placing it so high as nine-tenths. The truth is that except in some few favored localities, such as that to which reference was made in your last issue, at the foot of Riding Mountain and around the Turtle Mountain district, and the stretch of country which the Pembina range of mountains protects, the whole wheat crop is to a greater or less extent damaged. There are farmers living on the western boundary of Manitoba who have had their wheat frozen for three consecutive years. One young farmer this year had fifty acres of wheat on new land that was not worth the cutting even for pig feed, and from what I can learn from those who travel more than I do, there are no exceptional cases. The average yield is about 18 bushels per acre, and the price at present paid in Southern Manitoba ranges from 35 to 65 cents per bushel for wheat, 30 cents for barley, 18 cents for oats. Beef and pork remain about the same, viz., 5 cents per lb. I see from your last issue that American apples are sold in England considerably cheaper than we can get them here. Surely if apples can be bought for export for one dollar per barrel, it would allow a sufficient margin for freightage and profits if they were retailed out to us at \$2.50 or \$3 per barrel, instead of which we are charged \$4 and \$4.50. The store-keepers tell us in reply to our grumbling that it is on account of heavy freight charges they are so dear, and assert that they can get their goods to Gretna on the boundary line by the United States railroads on reasonable terms,

but when the C. P. R. Company gets hold of it they have to pay very stiffly indeed. That certainly is one benefit arising from monopoly. Competition is the life of trade. And if our legislators in their wisdom had seen fit to allow us to have competing lines of railways, I think the farmers of Manitoba and the North-west would derive many other advantages than the getting of cheaper apples.—R. C. B. Stodderville, Man.

Farm Fences—Hauling Manure in Winter.—Will you kindly answer me the following questions in your next number: 1. Which do you consider to be the best fence on a farm? I bought a farm this fall which will require to be fenced throughout. There is any quantity of cedar and black ash on the farm. I thought of a straight rail fence, wired top and bottom, as taking up less room than the ordinary fence. 2. Would it be a good plan to draw out my manure this winter and spread it on the snow? I expect my time will be limited in the spring for such work, there being a large stock of manure to be spread.—C. S., Warton, Ont.

[1. No fence is best for all sections of the country. Your plan seems to be the best under your circumstances. You should, however, consider that your timber will be very valuable in years to come, and it might be cheaper in the end to build a wire fence—taking also the snow drifts into consideration. 2. Every farmer should haul most of his manure in winter, and spread it on the frozen ground or snow. In this case no straw should be used for bedding, but absorbents should be used to suck up the liquid manure. Cut straw, however, is not very objectionable. This method is best adapted to cattle manure, leaving the other manures to be heaped up and fermented.]

Keeping Mice from Trees.—I would like to know if coal or gas-tar would be of any use against the ravages of mice, if put on the trunks of young maples. I had a good many destroyed last winter. I would like to do something to prevent the same occurring again.—J. H. F., Beachville.

[We have never tried coal or gas-tar, as there is an easier and cheaper remedy against the ravages of mice. Hill up a cone-shaped mound of earth against the trees, about 10 inches high, in the fall before the frost comes, taking care that the mound contains no grass, and that the surface be made smooth. These mounds should be leveled in the spring. One man can go over a large number of trees in a day. The best preventative is to keep the surrounding fence corners clean.]

Our Fruit Exhibit in London, Eng.—There is much said about the coming Colonial and Indian Exhibition to be held in London next summer. This is one of those golden opportunities that invariably come sooner or later in lesser or greater frequency to every individual, and to every people. Happy if they are only appreciated and improved, but woe to that man or to that people who lets them carelessly slip by unimproved. In my humble opinion this is one of the best opportunities that has ever been offered to us to advertise our position as a wide-awake and progressive colony of the British Empire, and one in a home they need not be ashamed of, to successfully and for ever dispel those crude ideas so largely held by some that our landscape is a perpetual scene of ice and snow. This ludicrous idea of our frigidity and barrenness has been largely catered to by men who should have done better for us, as when Lord Lorne, in his beautiful new book on Canadian scenes, assisted by his royal spouse, has intentionally or otherwise pictured us in our fathomless ice and snow. But in this opportunity, and simply by means of our Canadian fruit alone, how could we so successfully and forever banish this idea of perpetual frigidity in Canada? Had this item of our national industries been properly managed as it should have been, and timely notice given, the exhibit of Canadian fruit that could have been collected might have been something perfectly astonishing, not only to the average Englishman and the sunny Indian, but also even to ourselves. Never has there been such a brilliant and extensive crop of perfectly developed fruit almost without a blemish, as was to be seen over our country this season. But what are the most likely to be the facts in connection with our fruit? The President of the F. G. Ass'n., who has kindly consented to act as collector, was appointed and commissioned for that purpose at the very last moment, after the bulk of the fruit crop was disposed of. Up to the first part of November he reported 52 persons only who had sent in fruit for exhibition, consisting mostly of apples, a few pears, a few grapes and a very few plums. Now had this collection commenced early enough, say a month earlier, with proper advertising notices sent out over the country long before that time, the exhibit of grapes alone would have been sufficient to astonish all beholders and satisfy them of our resources, not to say one word about our strawberries and our raspberries. These would have told a tale of sunshine, of brightness and congenial warmth that would upset all their ideas of ice and snow, and just what we would want them to know. But such seems to be the way of late that our public business is managed. If a valuable chance comes and is graciously offered to us, it is recklessly dribbled away. The Canadian exhibit may be all right for aught we know in machin-