

Peas, 33; Spring Association, 33; Mushrooms, 33; Sower, 31; Steamers, 34; Distributors, 34; Crop of the British Farm in other

Model Farming, affects both Pro. The Dry Earth, 36; Cultivation, 36; The East, 36; the Hoof, 36; 7; Scratches, 37; Cattle, 37; Management of a of Horses, 37; Foot of a Horse, on Health, 37.

Cloves and Clover, Dairy Business to Y. Butter Market, 38; Diarrhoea, 38; An Live Stock Prevention Stock Sale, 39; Breeds, 39; Ram The Spring Care

Apple-Tree Plant, 41. Pepper's Ghost, 41.

Sheep's Watering Cart, 42; Shall we Road Fences, 42; and Farmers, Prize, 42; Scott

HEALTH, 43. 44.

46.

INEMORE,

RETAIL.

PHANTS.

MASTER AND TED LIQUID

HEESE BANDAGES

ET SQUARE.

OST FREE

M'S CATALOGUE

for 1874.

the Dominion at AY THE POST-Obtain fresh seeds Establishment as ally in my store.—Orders will receive their Post Office

postal card for a

ROOM, er, London, Ont.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

SUPPLEMENT FOR MARCH, 1874.

Reports of Farmers' Clubs.

MEETING OF THE FARMER'S CLUB COWANSVILLE, Q.

Muck as a Manure.

In the Cowansville Observer, Jan. 9th, we have a report of a meeting of the Farmer's Club. Their subject for discussion was the treatment of hog manure and muck. The result of the discussion appeared to be that the use of muck was only to be recommended when mixed with the manure, or to absorb liquid. Later in the evening various minor matters of interest to farmers were spoken of. Drainage was spoken of as the subject for the next meeting. The interest of the meeting of the club seems not to have abated, while the meetings are becoming more profitable. Although very little drainage seems to have been performed in the neighborhood those present seemed to have perceived its good effects in other places and acknowledge its value, generally in that hilly country surface draining was thought sufficient. Orchard cre chosen as the next subject.

Now if there be any one subject in farming more than another with which is thoroughly conversant that subject is the accumulation and value of farm manure prepared on the farm; having used for that purpose, year after year, large quantities of muck composed with other manures, and he will now very briefly say what he has learned on the subject from experience. The accumulation and care of manure sufficient for such a proportionate extent of land—20 acres of every one hundred—require some expenditure of time and money but labor and money expended on this object were well invested.

The value of muck or peat for manure varies very much. Some times it is found resting on a bed of marl or marley substances; it is then mixed with the muck in making up the compost heap. Peat of this description may be ranked A. 1.—it is of the best quality. When properly turned in a heap and exposed for some time to the influence of the atmosphere, it is without any admixture a valuable manure; however it too may be made still more beneficial by adding to it some of those elements of plant food of which it is deficient. Of carbon it is especially deficient, and consequently such manures as are richest in carbon should be added to it.

There is peat of another quality; it is light, and mossy, and of little or no value as manure. It is not worth what the hauling of it would cost. But there is peat, different from either of the above mentioned, and very valuable as manure when properly prepared. It is more or less alloyed with other alluvial deposit, and is improved by this admixture. It is dark and heavy and is only second to the marley muck in its value in the compost heap.

In the Autumn, cart the muck to the place designed for the compost heap; and there let it be thoroughly exposed to the atmosphere. Rain, dew, sun and frost will improve it, and add to its value. It will lose much of those qualities that detracted from its fertility as plant food, and will absorb those elements in which the atmosphere is so rich. The process of decomposition is by this exposure carried out, and it undergoes an almost entire change.

Having thus prepared it for the compost heap add to it the animal manure of your barn yard, turning it over and mixing it and it will become a mass of rich manure most valuable for the growth of grasses and roots. For the garden also it is of great value. By this admixture the needed carbon is supplied, and carbon as the heat producing element, is absolutely necessary for vegetable as well as for animal life. The addition of liquid manure will increase its fertilizing power, in proportion to the quantity added.

Year after year the writer experienced the advantages of muck heaps prepared in this manner—some of them composted in the field to which they were to be applied. One muck heap in the centre of the farm yard covered an area of 40 feet by 35, and measured in height from its base from 8 to 10 feet. The stables, cow houses, &c were on

each side of the yard separated from the manure heap by a car-way. The position of the heap so near to the stables made the labor of adding the animal manure less than it would be if at a great distance.

Lime was used extensively on the farm, 40 to 50 barrels to an acre being sometimes spread just from the kiln at the time of sowing the seed; and often mixed with earth collected from headlands, ditches, and drains. It was not in any instance mixed with the muck heap. Though it has an immediate and powerful effect on all vegetable soil, and of this muck is a variety; still was not mixed with the muck heaps as muck was known if so mixed to neutralize the chemical action of lime.

And now—we would add that we are glad to learn that, in Quebec as well as in Ontario, Farmers have their clubs, and discuss those subjects in which they have so deep an interest. Our Canadian farmers bringing with them to the New World the knowledge and experience acquired in Europe, and more especially in the British Isles, need only the necessary improvement required by the interchange of ideas, for which Farmer's Clubs give the best opportunity, that by their well directed labors, our country may become that which Nature designed it—the granary for millions in the Old World who are seeking from our fertile fields food and raiment.

Farmers' Clubs.

In our advocacy of all that tends to improve agriculture, and to raise it to that position in the country that its importance demands, we have not overlooked the great advantages of Farmers' Clubs—advantages that can hardly be estimated too highly. It is with much pleasure we hear of the reports of their meetings in all parts of the Dominion. In order to stimulate them in their good work, we devote some space in the ADVOCATE to a brief notice of sub-reports, preparing them with a brief article from an English Journal of the highest authority on all that pertains to agriculture.

IMPROVEMENT OF FARMS.

The *Mark Lane Express* in an article on farmers associations, says:—There is nothing more noticeable when reviewing the progress of agriculture during the last quarter of a century than the improvement which has characterized the conduct of our public or social gatherings. There was a time when the long clay pipe, the somewhat boisterous stove, and "hot stooping" were regarded as the chief inducements of getting farmers together. But these days have gradually passed away, and with some experience of other large assemblies, we are inclined to think that nowhere will men as a rule keep closer to the point to carry themselves more becoming than the occupiers of land where they draw into a focus at a Society's show or a club discussion. More information has been disseminated, more intelligence developed by such a means than through any cause which could be spoken to. By the further aid of a good, reliable report, this system of mutual advantage comes to be almost infinitely extended. Many a man who fights shy of a royal essay, although he found the pages "cut" to his hand, he will eagerly turn to see what his next door neighbor had to say or some more famous agriculturist to offer on the merits of the principle under consideration.

NORTH RIDING OF HURON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Abridged from the *Clinton Monitor*. On Tuesday evening last the annual dinner in connection with the North Riding of Huron Agricultural Society came off in Ross's Hall.

About eight o'clock the tables, capable of seating over one hundred persons—were filled, and fully as many more had to await a re-adjustment of matters before they could partake of the good things prepared. Mr. Clark being called upon expressed his approval of gatherings of this kind, and he was sorry to say few agricultural societies carried out the custom. The farmers as well as other members of society need to cultivate sociability, and should be less estranged and isolated from one another;

and meetings of this kind were calculated to make friends friendly, and give an opportunity of exchanging opinions with those of different ideas. Merry making and conviviality was good if moderately indulged, and all classes needed holidays. He said that farmers took too little recreation, and worked too hard, and reason gave way under the pressure; therefore meetings of this kind should be kept up. He showed that farmers did not take a sufficiently prominent position in the affairs of the nation, and were not as fully represented as they should be; but the evil was remedying itself, and when fully overcome there would be a great improvement in their interest in our Legislative halls. He suggested the propriety of loans being granted for the purpose of promoting drainage in this country as in the old country, especially as we were financially in a good position, and could make grants to railways, &c. Farmers had too little faith in farming, and invested their surplus money in bonds and stock, when they could employ it to greater advantage and profit to their lands, in underdraining and in other ways improving them. The country where we had to cast our lot, was a great and good one; he thought it was the first climate in the world, and passed an eloquent eulogy upon the seasons as they passed in grand procession, and, as a fruit country, Canada was the best in the world. He contrasted our climate with that of countries where they had no winters, and showed that with all its rigors it gave us advantages that were not possessed by them. He had travelled a good deal but did not know a better country than Canada in the world. The United States held out their vast prairies as inducements to immigrants, but young and old would only require to spend a few months on them to be convinced of the superiority of Canadian soil, and showed that the western farmer was unable to make farming pay, as they had too much to pay for the shipment of their grain, and their farms were as a consequence nearly all mortgaged. In many instances it costs them three bushels of corn to get one to market; while they were almost destitute of timber. The speaker dwelt a considerable length upon the difficulties to be met with in connection with farming in the west, and showed that the balance of advantages were on the whole on our side, and that erroneous views of Canada as a farming country were being dispelled. The rev. gentleman then dwelled on soils and manures, and gave some good information on these subjects, urging the composting principle, and the application of leached ashes as manure and better tillage of less land, as tillage was most equal to manure. Thistles and weeds should be exterminated; Mr. Sturton's thistle Bill was a move in the right direction, and if more farmers were sent to parliament, the interests of agriculturists would be better attended to, and evils of this kind would be remedied.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the East Nissouri Agr'l Society took place yesterday at Kintore, on Saturday the 10th inst., when the annual report was read by the Secretary, which showed a balance on hand of \$24.94. "In the Stock Department I noticed the greatest improvement at our late Fall Show. The show of horses was very fine, including two superior imported heavy draught stallions. Sir Colin was bred by Mr. Adamson, of Castlandhill, near Dunfermline, Scotland. Sir Robert Bruce was bred by Mr. Sanders, near Dunfermline, Scotland. They were imported to this province by their present owner, Mr. Thompson. The exhibition of carriage horses, double and single, was a fair selection of choice animals. The show of short-horns was the most interesting part of the show. The chief exhibitors in this class were Messrs. J. and Hugh Thompson. They exhibited some very superior cows and heifers. We regret that Mr. Hugh Thompson lately sold his fine imported Durham bull to Mr. Birell Johnston, of Pickering, for the sum of \$975. The sheep and swine were as usual. There were some good specimens and chiefly the same exhibitors. In the show of grain and roots there was a good display.

There is another point which I wish to speak upon, in order for farmers to compete successfully with their brother farmers, it is necessary for them to take an agricultural paper. The FARMER'S ADVOCATE, edited by Mr. Weld of London, should be encouraged, for it advocates purely the farmer's interests. By reading agricultural papers farmers become familiar with all new improvements and inventions of this progressive age.

Bury Farmers' Club, P. Q.

The Sherbrooke News gives an interesting report of the annual dinner of the Bury Farmers' Club, from which we give some abridged jottings. Nearly two hundred persons sat down to dinner. The toasts usual to such occasions were proposed and drank with enthusiasm.

The Hon. J. M. Pope took a review of the position of the country, and showed that, from all that man can see, it was destined at no very distant time to become in every respect a great country.

Then C. P. Mallory showed the importance of scientific knowledge to the farmer, and pointed out that by analysis of the soil, farmers of the old countries are enabled to tell the exact material, and the quantity required to make soil fertile. He hoped the Bury Farmers' Club would progress in scientific knowledge, and that other municipalities would join that of Bury in its endeavors to improve the knowledge and practice of farming.

Elma and Wallace Agricultural Society.

At the meeting of this society, held January 31, the subject was discussed, "By what means can our society do the greatest amount of good to the farming community?" On motion the following subjects were submitted, and prizes offered for essays thereon:—

"How best to promote health of the soil, including views on rotation of crops, and the best means of exterminating thistles and wild oats.

"How best to insure the greatest remuneration by the growth of flax.

"On the most approved assortment of machinery and implements for farming purposes.

"On the best method of manufacturing butter.

"On the best method of making factory cheese.

"On the best method of producing home-made cheese.

"On what system of stock raising is most profitable to the farmer."

The Chinese Northern Yam.

The above engraving shows the yam, the set and the tuber, described in Feb'y number. Those who wish to try the sets must send in one new subscriber to the paper.

They are not for sale this season. When you send your subscriber mention that you wish this prize; they will be sent by mail as soon as the season is favorable.—One tuber and one set may be sent to persons ordering packets of seeds to the amount of \$2, if asked for. Those who have sent in one or more subscribers, and have not been remunerated in any way, will also be supplied on application. Any one sending in two subscribers will receive three sets and tubers.

