

ture to its pristine prosperity, prosperity of the estate would work to one another's hands. It is said there are large tracts of land in England that cannot find a tenant that will pay a rent. This is a most unhappy state of affairs; yet it seems odd, when there are immense sums of money lying idle in our banks, or, worse still, sent abroad, and frequently lost in speculations in foreign countries. Surely a limited liability company might be tried to take up these lands and produce food for our teeming population. I need say no more. Some farmer's association might consider the question and report. There may be difficulties in the way unknown to me, but, on the face of it, the Limited Liability Act seems formed to remove embarrassments between landlord and tenant.

CHARLES WADDIE.
"Agr. Gazette."

THE MONTREAL EXPOSITION.

Reporters—The Secretary—Trappist Fathers—Cheese.

There is quite the same state of things at Montreal as at Syracuse as regards the patronage of the townspeople. However, the circumstances are different. Montreal has much to contend with, principally two nationalities. The French, who are in the majority, do not seem to attend. Some of the press are so shortsighted as to take issue against it. Incompetent reporters make poor work trying to report a fair that only comes once a year; they are all right on a murder trial or street improvement, but an agricultural fair is entirely out of their line. They get along all right writing up a special notice of some stove exhibit when the stove man tells them what to say. They don't know what to say about the fair from an agricultural standpoint; so they call it a failure. Montrealers gave a grand show, fully up to the average of our best American agricultural exhibitions, and considering that only a few weeks before the fair fire destroyed their main buildings, they are to be congratulated on their pluck and push in carrying out their intentions to have an exhibition at all this year.

I have been attending fairs as an exhibitor or judge for the last 20 years, and I must say I know of no fair management in this country or Canada or England where the managing secretary has had more to contend with, and has succeeded as well as has Mr. S. C. Stevenson of the Montreal Exposition Co. I mention this as showing how far from a failure the exposition really was.

The principal feature of the cattle show was of course the Ayrshires. Some eight of ten herds came into the ring, mostly animals of very high quality. In the aged cow class (some twenty or more) I had the pleasure of awarding five money, four V. H. C. and three H. C. prizes. Most of the young classes were exceptionally good. I doubt if all Scotland could make a better showing than this class last year. I know there are no better dairy cows among the Ayrshires of Scotland. The other classes of farm livestock were fully up to the average. The fruit exhibit was particularly good, and, as to quality, was hardly exceeded at Syracuse. Such a show of vegetables and honey I never saw in the States.

I must add a word for our friends the Trappist Fathers, of whom I wrote quite at length, in reporting this fair in '04. They are an order of silent monks, farming a large tract of land

near Montreal. Their exhibits are always above the average. Their cattle are mostly grades or "French Canadians," of which breed there was a large entry this year—something near a hundred. The most interesting thing about the Trappist Fathers, next to themselves, was their display of cheese. I have always been writing about Canadian cheese and its superiority over our own vile skin-milk stuff. The Trappist Fathers are the first to make and exhibit in this country, at Montreal, this year, some of the fancy cheeses made in France (from which country this order of monks originally came). I look upon this initial step in Canada as one of the most eventful in the history of cheese-making in that country. I have for years been trying to introduce the manufacture of better cheese into this country, holding up the Canadians, the English and the French, and every other country, to our own people, as examples of what might be done here, if our dairymen would turn their attention in that direction.

I repeat what I have often said, that there is a sure and remunerative future in this country for honest cheese. I may say to the Montreal press that if there had been no other exhibit at the Montreal exposition than that of the Trappist Fathers, the fair would have been anything but a failure. I congratulate the Montreal exhibition on being the first to have these new cheeses on exhibition, and the Trappist Fathers on their skill and foresight, good judgment and progress. The society should make them a special award, as no doubt they did. If their work becomes a success, they will deserve a monument.

"Country Gentleman."

PRESERVATION OF FARM YARD MANURE.

Pits—Drainage—Mixing.

The first thing I would advise for the preservation of farm yard manure is the making of a manure pit, say from three to four feet deep, with a gentle slope up the sides so as to cause no trouble in backing up either sleigh or waggon when removing the manure to the field. Cement laid on the bottom and sides of the pit will prevent the liquid manure from being absorbed by the earth. Some may say: oh! cement is too expensive; well, let them take clay, which can generally be got for the carting, pound it, and mixing it well together; they will find that it makes a very good substitute for cement.

The next thing I would advise is the proper drainage of horse, cow and pig stables, "into the manure" pit, it can be done very cheaply, either by wooden boxes or common drain pipes. It pays to have the stables properly drained, if only for the health of the animals. I think that the farmers of this province at the present day, have to greater loss than the loss of their liquid manure, for I am convinced that there is more plant food in the urine that comes from the horses and cows than there is in their solid droppings.

The next thing to be looked after is the careful mixing of horse, cow and pig manure once a day. How few farm yards can we go into without seeing at once that no attention is paid to the management of the manure pile; in one pile we see a lot of horse manure bordering on spontaneous combustion, and in another pile, cow or pig manure so cold that fermentation has never set in, whereas if it had

been properly mixed, fermentation would have gently set in all over the pile which renders the manure fit to act on the soil and become food for plant life.

We see other farmers going to a lot of trouble and expense in getting the best of artificial manures, but who pay no attention or care to the best of all manures, their own farm yard manure who, if you were to mention such a thing as the management of a manure pile, would laugh at you. An occasional layer of earth will help to enrich the manure by preventing some of the gases escaping which go to make up plant food. A little trouble in looking after our farm yard manure will more than repay us a hundredfold by the increased produce of our farms, besides putting money into our pockets, but like every thing else it wants attention.

Alex. B. STALKER,
Farmer for Dawes & Co.,
Willows Farm,
Lachine.

FRUIT IN U. K.

Scotch and English acreage.

I wrote from Scotland about the fruit-growing industry in that country, which is steadily increasing. But England is a monster fruit-growing country when compared with Scotland and Ireland. These countries put together have not 6006 acres under small fruit. Kent alone has over 22,000 acres. The total acreage in the United Kingdom is 74,920. There are 68,122 of these in England. One part of Lancashire goes in largely for this sort of thing, and there is a splendid outlet for all that can be grown in Liverpool, Manchester, and other large centers of population. I should say that in fact there is here a big stretch of the country which 9 or 10 years ago was farm land. It is now market gardens and fruit fields, the holdings ranging from 2 to 20 acres or more. I had an interesting conversation with one of the growers. He said they tried all kinds of fruit that would grow to profit. I could see this for myself, because there were in almost every holding orchard trees, small fruit, vegetables and flowers. The men are market-gardeners, fruit growers, and florists, just as these occupations are profitable. This secures them against a total loss in any one year, for it is unlikely that all kinds of fruit will fail at the same time. My friend said raspberries were not much cultivated, that they did not seem to pay, but that strawberries were grown. Land is rented at \$15 to \$25 in the outlying parts, and it is as high as \$50 in close proximity to the station. All seem to be making a fair living, though there is hardly a fortune to be realized at it.

T. BOWICK, in "Country Gentleman."

STATE OF THE CROPS—FALL PLOUGHING.

Grain—Roots—Fruit—Dairy products—Drainage.

BUCKWHEAT.—Is an excellent crop this season but the weather has been very bad for saving the crop. One third of the grain will certainly be lost, from having had to turn it over 3 and 4 times, only to get wet again. The straw is not worth much, even for manure.

CORN.—After all that has been said,

there are fields of corn that got frozen, and some even not cut yet at this late date (5th); but corn has done well latterly; those who grew it for the grain are well pleased with the result, and those who grew it for ensilage are highly pleased. Corn, when the season is favorable, is the best crop a farmer can raise, and when saved properly is nutritious. It is growing in favor more and more by the advanced class of farmers as the best and cheapest food for cows.

ROOTS are not all harvested yet, in fact they have grown more the last month than earlier in the season, mangels seem to be the best so far, although turnips are growing vigorously at present, and should be left the last crop to be saved: a light touch of frost seems even to improve them.

APPLES.—The idea I had in view last month, as to the "inspection of apples" before shipment, would have been an excellent thing as so many poor apples have been shipped, that the English Markets are all glutted and will take sometime to recover. And such a crop of apples! Had they been handled properly, Canada would have got some of the overplus of money they have over there. It will be a long time before we shall have to complain about too much money in this Grand Old Dominion of ours. Nevertheless, there are some fine things we produce here such as cheese, butter, wheat, bacon, and apples, that can hardly be beaten anywhere under the sun. Let us look after quality along these lines, and we shall get our reward.

BUTTER.—Has been looking up a very little lately, so a good many factories that are rigged for both butter and cheese have dropped making butter and are now running on cheese. The price has not reached the 20c limit yet, except on a pet lot or two, 19c seems about an outside price. We are coming back near to where we were years ago in our butter shipments. No doubt, if we can suit the tastes of the English we have a chance of an enormous trade with them.

CHEESE has been booming in great style lately, take the season as a whole it will not be too bad, the gain of 3 to 3½ per lb makes a vast difference to the patrons who have been furnishing the milk. Taking cheese round the 7c mark and under, there is nothing much for the farmer; but at 10 to 10½ it is quite a different tale. Nevertheless, the makers must

look out and see that cures are kept in the curing rooms. Makers often get careless at this time of the year though great care and attention are required, as there is no warm sun to heat up and aid the curing process; milk is richer, cheese requires more acid in the whey and a greater amount of salt per 1000 lbs of milk. The shipments of both cheese and butter combined are going to be away ahead of any former year. We can possibly spare more at good prices.

PLOUGHING.—A good many are busy at it, while others are waiting; some, because the land is not wet enough others, because it is too wet, and so will it be to the end of the chapter, try just a little to get the most of it done this fall, and I feel sure you will be satisfied with the result in the spring. It is rather early for the annual matches to take place yet, but they will be held before the close of the month.

DITCHING AND UNDER DRAINING.—A good many people are afraid to let the water off the land by an open