

Those fences are built of cedar rails or poles; the ground block is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, say 9 inches thick, in which two holes are bored 10 inches apart, with a 3-inch augur. 3-inch pickets, 5 feet long, of round or split cedar, with sawed blocks to fit in between the pickets, to support the rails. The cap-piece is 15 inches long, bored to fit the pickets. It is 6 rails high, with small riders 38 feet long, so as to break joints, which makes a strong and neat fence. It is likewise the cheapest kind, as it only takes 138 rails to the acre, and the rails may be lighter than for angle fences. The pickets and block can be prepared in winter or bad weather. They can be put together and laid by until required for use, and then waggoned to any part of your fields or farm. The above kind of fence is never changed or removed by frost, and if you want to remove your fence, you can do so without taking your blocks or pickets apart.

Below is a rough sketch of the blocks, pickets, &c.

I find that I have trespassed too long on your time.

I remain, yours truly,

McNab, 24th May, 1856.

JOHN ROBERTSON.

REMARKS.—The sketch referred to hardly needs to be engraved, as our readers will understand the plan from Mr. R.'s description. We may add that the rails are shown side by side, between the pickets, and not above each other, as they are sometimes placed. We don't see what is gained by this arrangement, as it is evident that the expense of "sawed blocks" between each pair of pickets and each tier of rails, would be avoided by making the end of each rail operate as a block for the other. The greater width of the fence gives it some advantage as against lateral pressure from wind, &c., but still, it strikes us that unless the pickets go through into the ground 10 or 13 inches, Mr. R.'s fence would be easily overturned by a high wind.

#### DISEASE AMONG CATTLE.

There has been a disease among the Cattle here the two last winters, by which many lost nearly all their cattle. Some call it the Black-hoof. They first swell above the hoof and then get lame, and in cold weather freeze, and then crack all round the foot. There has been no cure as yet got for the disease here.

Could you suggest any cure through your journal?

JOHN ROBERTSON.

BUTTER ADULTERATED WITH FLINT-STONE!—Astounding as is the announcement at the heading of this paragraph, it is nevertheless true. Butter is adulterated with flint-stones! This heartless and wicked fraud is especially practised in the low kinds of butter usually sold in large manufacturing towns to the poorer and industrious population. The flint-stones are ground and then chymically manipulated, until they are reduced into a soluble substance, which is known by the denomination of "soluble silica." When this latter preparation is dissolved in water it becomes a stiff gelatinous body, somewhat resembling strong jelly. This jelly is mixed to a considerable extent with butter of low quality, to which the fresh salt and colouring matter are added. The produce of this villanous adulteration is a compound which resembles a very good-looking dairy-made butter. But it has not the firmness or bright appearance of genuine butter, and is devoid of the richness and wholesome qualities of the latter. We have seen this gross adulteration at the laboratories of the Northern Analytical College, Sheffield; and we are credibly informed that Professor Calvert, of Manchester, has detected this fraud recently and frequently. Such is one phase of the adulterating system. It is a near approach to, if not a verification of, the poor man asking for bread and having a stone given to him. If such unprincipled sophistications are not soon done away with by stringent laws and public condemnation, it will end in our better halves treating ourselves and friends with luxurious gastronomic entertainments, in which flint-stones, lime, sloe-leaves, and sand, will form the chief ingredients of the family spread; and we shall be enabled to ask our particular friends to come and take a cup of sloe-tea, with a little "toast and flint," gravel, constipation, and diarrhoea included. Surely some legislative interference might be brought to bear upon the subject; if it were only to compel the vendors to placard on their goods the real quality. We should then be edified by show cards announcing the tempting truths as "flint butter," "Turmeric Mustard," "Vitriol Vinegar," "Carrot Coffee," and "Chalk Sugar-plums."—*Doncaster Gazette*.