

Miscellaneous.

ERRATUM.—Page 79, line 36, "some sections of Canada" should read *some sections of Colorado*.

Implements.

PATTERSON'S SPRING TOOTH HARROW.

When we first saw this harrow at an exhibition we thought it hardly deserving of attention, as it appeared an awkward looking thing in comparison with our gang plows, cultivators and harrows. But we are often apt to be deceived with appearances. We know of no implement in Canada that manufacturers and farmers have been so much surprised with. It is an American invention, and was at first disregarded, but after several trials our manufacturers found that it was a very valuable invention, and now we hear from reliable farmers and manufacturers that it is satisfactorily taking the place of many old cultivators, and is giving great satisfaction. It is claimed that it will pulverize land better and easier than any of the cultivators now in use. The novelty of a spring on a cultivator, plow or harrow appears at first sight ridiculous, but on trial it is found that the continued spring and jerk tears up the ground much easier than is done by a steady pressure. It can be set to any depth required. Many of the best farmers we know speak most highly of the implement, and the manufacturer informs us that every man who has one is satisfied with it. Mr. Patterson is advertising for more hands for his foundry, as the demand is so great for these implements.

J. O. Wisner & Son, of Brantford, Ont., have already sold their spring stock of grain drills, and are working with full force at their horse rake, which they claim to be the best in this Dominion. They say that several parties have attempted to adopt its principles, but they have detected and stopped them.

Harris, Son & Co., of Brantford, Ont., are manufacturing a large number of self-binding harvesters this year. They only made a few last year, but the satisfactory results from these have justified them in extending in that line. It is a great saving to use a self-binder when farming extensively and the ground is adapted to their use. To show the extent of these works, there were 16 painters at work last week when we passed through the manufactory. These were all employed at that time in painting the Kirby reapers and mowers.

Messrs. Massey & Sons, the gentlemen who erected the extensive implement works near the Exhibition Grounds, Toronto, have now their works in full operation. They employ nearly 200 hands; they are turning out reapers, mowers and horse rakes at a rapid rate. They claim that they have the best steam engine in Canada to run their machinery. We have no reason to doubt it, as we have never yet seen one that has pleased us better in appearance. It is worth a visit to the place to see this engine. It runs so nicely; is so scrupulously neat and clean; it is polished, painted and varnished in the neatest manner, and the engine room is carpeted. It appears like a piece of drawing-room furniture in a glass case, but the least motion of its arm starts into life the whole of the trip hammers, punches, lathes, saws and grindstones of the whole establishment. The engine was imported from the States, and cost \$3,000, but Messrs. Thompson, of Stratford, Ont., have procured the right to make them in Canada. If you go to Toronto and are interested in machinery go and see this engine.

The Waterous Manufacturing Company are sending their world-renowned saw mills to several foreign countries, and claim that they would establish a far more extensive manufacture than any yet established if the Dominion of Canada had a person to represent her interests in those countries. The United States and Britain are represented, but Canadian interests are not. We consider that our commercial trade and intercourse may profitably extend to countries perhaps unaware that such a place as Canada exists; many foreigners think that Canada belongs to the United States.

Experiments prove that there is no feed for cows so well calculated to produce gilt-edge butter as red clover in bloom.

Laudanum in ten-drop doses will be found a cure for cholera or poultry intestinal fever, the destroyer of so many fowls.

A stock-keeper reports curing many bad warts on cattle and horses, during several years, by application to each of "one good daub of tar."

Many amateur window gardeners have little success in growing plants, because, although they water them daily, and keep the earth in the pots well stirred up, they pay no attention to the cleanliness of the leaves.

A correspondent at Keene, N. H., recommends boiled potatoes as a remedy for diarrhoea in cattle. He says that three pecks a day, fed warm, cured in two days an ox of his that was affected in that way.—[Connecticut Farmer.]

Sulphur has been found to cure roup in fowls, when applied as follows: Open the affected fowl's beak, and with a tube, which may be formed of paper, blow half a teaspoonful of sulphur down its throat. Three applications have been known to cure.

APPLES.—If we could foretell the future prospects of the market how soon we should be rich! Some apples were sold in England at a loss last autumn. The present price is from \$6 to \$8 per barrel in Liverpool.

Beauty on our farms, as exemplified in handsome shade trees and shrubs, is a marketable quality. One hundred dollars' worth of suitable hardy plants, judiciously planted, the Rural New Yorker thinks, will add not less than \$1,000 to the value of a farm in five years.

Four years ago St. Joseph's Island, near Manitoulin Island, could not boast of more than eighty-seven inhabitants, half-breeds included; but now there are between 2,000 and 3,000 people, and the majority of them settled within the past two years. It is expected there will be a great rush in the spring.

SHIPPING BEEF TO ENGLAND IN CARCASSES.—A Quebec merchant has experimented successfully in shipping beef to England in carcass. The animals are beheaded, the entrails are taken out, and the bodies pressed into a small compass and frozen. The hide is not removed until the voyage is over, and it is claimed that the meat is superior in appearance to other imported beef, and keeps longer.

THE QUANTITY OF FOOD NECESSARY FOR A HORSE.—The required amount of food for a horse for ordinary work is 12 pounds of oats or any other kind of grain food, and 14 pounds of hay. A horse weighing 1,000 pounds, and fed 8 quarts of grain or oats, which is equivalent to 8 pounds, should be fed 18 pounds of hay. Hay is the nerve food for a horse, cattle or sheep, and grain is the muscular and adipose of fat-producing food.

GRAPES.—Every farmer's family should have all the grapes they can eat, from September to January. It is not necessary to have a large vineyard for this; a few vines, each of the best sorts, and properly treated, will give a great amount of fruit. There are hundreds of out-of-the-way places where a vine may be set, such as along the fence, or it may be by the side of a shed or barn; with good soil, and care in pruning, satisfactory returns may be expected.

It is folly to keep old sheep. They should be turned off to the butcher while they are in their prime. It does not take half so much to fatten them then. When they get old and thin, in order to put them in condition to slaughter, the whole superstructure must be rebuilt. Four sets of lambs are all a ewe can bear; this will bring her to five years, and this is an age when, with little extra care, she will round up to a fine carcass. Exceptions may be made when the breed is scarce, and the blood is more valuable than anything else.—[Rural World.]

The Gardeners' Monthly gives a most useful hint in regard to pruning evergreen hedges, remarking that the only way to trim them so that the foliage will keep green from bottom to top is to trim each side slopingly from base to apex. In trimming the top of a hedge flat and the sides upright, the sun is kept from the foliage at the base of the plants and the lower branches will become bare of foliage and dead. But trimmed in the manner indicated, the sides will present a uniformly green, thick, healthy appearance. This method applies to hedges of Norway spruce, hemlock, arbor vitae, and, in short, all evergreens. The square and upright method of training has long ago been discarded by all who have tried the form recommended.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

The sum of \$5 will be given for the best essay on the following question:—Which is the most profitable for Canadian farmers to raise for fattening stock in winter, roots or cereals? The essay that gives the most valuable information to the farmer to be awarded the prize. Space, two columns or may be continued; the essay to be in this office by the 15th of May.

The prize for the essay in this issue on Manitoba, was awarded to Mr. J. S. Ireland, of Chatham, Ont.

More Cattle Disease in the U. S.

A mysterious disease has broken out in a herd of cows in Litchfield, Connecticut, N. E. The disease shows itself first in a frothing at the mouth, after which the animal grows weak and dies. What the disease is is yet a mystery, but it will be investigated, and due care taken to prevent its spread, if contagious, to other herds.

Greenwich, Connecticut, which has suffered so much from pleuro-pneumonia, is now in trouble with a new horse disease, which has appeared in some of the stables there. The attack results fatally within twenty-four hours, and the Cattle Commissioners have been called upon to give it their attention.

Better Meat.

Mr. E. B. Morgan, the principal fat stock exporter from Ontario and surrounding counties, recently returned from England. At a dinner given in Columbus, he stated that the difference in the price of our Canadian cattle is very great; that English butchers will pay two pence more per pound for a smooth symmetrical animal than for a rough one. He states he can buy better cattle in Ontario than in the United States, and finds them free from disease.

Gooseberries.

I am reminded that I have said nothing about gooseberries by a letter from a lover of that fruit, in which he asks how he can prevent his from mildewing.

I have not been troubled with mildews. I think the reason may be, that I keep my bushes thinned out so that they are quite open to a circulation of the air. I leave only five or six stalks to each clump. My bushes bear well, and have never troubled me in any way, except once; then they were infested with small worms. I sprinkled them in the morning before the dew was off, with fine ashes, and the worms took their departure. Unless gooseberry bushes are thinned out every year, they become a jungle on a small scale, and it is almost impossible to gather the fruit from them.—[Review.]

A balky driver makes a balky horse. In breaking in colts, the trainer should never lose his temper. A firm hand and gentle manner will bring any colt, however spirited it may be, into subervience to the driver. The animal must be made to rely entirely upon its master. It cannot be made to do so by brute force. The same means should be used as with a child.

There are about thirty species of insects which subsist on our garden vegetables. The grape vine has about fifty insect enemies; the apple tree seventy-five; the different shade trees have over a hundred; wheat, barley and oats fifty. The estimated annual destruction of property by insects in the United States is as high as \$400,000,000. A great portion of this loss might be prevented by the preservation of many different kinds of birds.