

result will be that you will neither have ches nor smut. As soon as it is all brined and skimmed, empty it on the barn floor, and riddle new-slacked lime on it, and then stir it well up, and that will dry it sufficiently so as to leave the hand when the sower sows. For I believe that wheat not sound and not having body in itself, will either turn to ches or smut, and I am sure that I have proved that it has turned into ches, without any mistake. Now, Sir, you may make any remarks you think proper, so no more at present.

Yours truly,

GEO. THOMPSON.

Komoka, Aug. 28, 1870.

Mr. Thompson has our thanks for his experience. Here are facts. Where are all the abstruse, theoretical writers, our botanists and chemists? Practical tests are worth all the volumes they can write. There is more sound practical information founded on facts in the above letter; yes, and more valuable and profitable information, than is contained in half the garret trash that is printed, bound in a showy cover, and sold at an enormous price. We hope Mr. Thompson will take his pen again, and hundreds more like him, and furnish us with such really useful information.

Mr. Thompson is a practical man, without college or botanical education. Where is the man who can confute the facts that he has stated?

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

The Provincial Agricultural Association.

SIR,—There is evidently a desire on the part of the Ontario Government to bring the Board of Agriculture under a certain amount of government control. This might have been expected after the exposure made of the mismanagement of the Board in the past. With the infusion of new blood under the recent Act, it was hoped that an effort would be made to bring matters into a more satisfactory state; and, to certain extent, this has been done, but only just enough to stop popular clamour for the while. The roots of the old tree yet remain, and the grafts are bearing fruit too much akin to that of the old stock with which they were united. There is a desire on the part of some of the new members to see a better state of affairs brought about; but so long as they can be outvoted by the old ones, who have axes to grind, and friends to favor, there can be no hope of permanent amendment. At the last meeting efforts were made by some of the more independent members, who have the real interests of agriculture at heart, to have the matter of the selection of judges so arranged that thoroughly reliable and competent men only would be appointed in each class. This, however, did not meet the views of the majority, each one of whom seemed to think it incumbent upon himself to get some one appointed from his own particular section. Whether his friend was a competent judge or not, made no difference to him.

It is to be feared that in many of the classes the decisions as to superiority must be left to the good sense of the public rather than the awards of the men appointed, whose decisions are not likely to carry much weight. This is to be regretted, as, unless some fairer plan can be adopted in selecting judges, the exhibitions will cease to be of any real value towards directing the progress of agricultural improvement, and become a mere handle for enterprising showmen to advertise their wares by. Unless the Board show more regard towards the real wishes and requirements of the agricultural interests of the country, and an independence of local claims, it may be as well if the Government steps in to relieve them of the performance of their duties, or insists on such a reconstruction and regeneration as will result in the constitution of a new Board, that will command the confidence of the farmers of the Province. If this is not done it may be well for the farmers themselves to take the matter up, and start a new and independent organization that will be kept free from family compacts and political tricksters.

JACQUES.

August, 1870.

Best display of cattle for breeding—not less than ten owned by one person, 1st premium, \$500; 2nd premium, \$100.

For the Farmer's Advocate.

A Word to Sisters.

BY I. F. INCH.

Many grown-up girls—sisters who have younger brother and sisters—are very little aware of the important situations they are placed in, and the respective duties that they are expected to perform. There are few persons on earth who can exert a greater influence for good than an elder sister. To her the younger children look for counsel and advice; to her the mother unburdens her heart when overloaded with care and sorrow. The grey-haired father tells his plans for the future and his business affairs to his eldest daughter, and very often she gives advice that encourages both father and mother.

Girls, think of this. You are seeking for pleasure in society. You are just emerging into womanhood, and anticipating a happy future. The bright and golden visions that float before you fill you with unbounded delight. You build great airy castles where you imagine all is beauty and sunshine. It seems as though the birds will sing sweeter and all nature be brighter when you are women. This is all very well; but, stop a minute. Don't lose the pleasures of the present for the vain anticipations of the future.

Remember the aphorism: "Anticipation is better than participation."

Look around and see if you can't make yourself useful, and find pleasure in so doing. On a Sunday morning don't spend all your time in dressing for church, and leave your mother to get breakfast, dress the children, milk the cows, and perform all the little duties that have to be attended to on Sundays as well as on week-days. The Sabbath was given for a day of rest; and your kind, patient mother requires a cessation from toil, as much as her reasonable daughter. If you want pleasure, help your mother; talk to your little brothers and sisters; when Willie or Susy comes to you with a broken kite, or a doll, don't bring the tears to their eyes by sending them pettishly away: just put down your work and aid the little creatures. It seems nonsense to you, perhaps, but bear in mind that your brother's whole heart is set on his new kite, and his grief is as great at the loss of it as your's would be at the loss of your greatest treasure. That wee sister only beginning to walk is just as sorry about the nose being broken off the doll as you would be were you to lose your gold ring. Soothe, then, their little sorrows, and make their pathway as smooth as possible, and see if you can't win paid by their bright smiles and happy "Thank you, sister."

Kilsyth, Ont., August, 1870.

We insert with much pleasure the articles of Miss Inch—so full of instruction and so much calculated to add to the pleasure and happiness of the social circles; and whenever acted upon cannot fail producing the best results, the effect of which will spread around far beyond the little sphere of the family, but will permeate all society that comes within their reach. We consider them full of the best and soundest instruction. Would that we had more contributors like her. Cannot some others of our fair readers enrich our columns and do the country they live in some good? This life is the season of sowing and the only season that is given us; and as we sow, so shall we reap.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Change of Seeds.

SIR,—Last fall I procured three kinds of imported wheat, viz.: Baltic or Felton, Stillin, and Tauntindean. The two former did not do well with me, being quite short in the head and weak in the straw. I would not recommend either of them as adapted for this country. The Tauntindean possesses some advantages which may prove it to be worthy of attention, being strong in the straw and carrying a large head. I might say all the three kinds were badly winter-killed, as well as my old Treadwell, which was sown in the same field at the same time. Tauntindean is some days later than the Treadwell in maturing, and was somewhat effected by

the midge. I consider it had not a fair chance of a trial, from the hard winter and the extreme wetness of the summer; as also from the land on which it was raised being strong and very retentive of water; but I think under more favorable circumstances as to season and otherwise it might prove a valuable variety. I also procured, direct from the Western States, some Treadwell, and sowed it by the side of the old kind, which has been in the country for some years. When harvested I observed a marked difference between the two kinds: that from the States stood the winter better, and was fully larger in the head.

H. CROTTY.

Ingersoll, Aug. 27, 1870.

We have tried each of these varieties, and do not think much of them. But we feel convinced of the necessity of frequent changes being made from other parts, either of old or new varieties, and feel certain of this. We but only express the opinions of all intelligent men engaged in farming.—[Ed. F. A.]

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Highly Pleased.

MR. WELD, LONDON.—The Carter's Ditching Machine I had from you was tried the other day in hard clay, and very stony in some places, with one pair of horses. The day following it was again tested on a neighboring farm, where from 20 to 30 persons were present, and all expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the manner it performed its work. As to my own opinion I am so satisfied with it from what I have already seen that I consider it a perfect success.

MOSES MOTT.

Norrichville, Aug. 16, 1870.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Another Complaint.

MR. WELD.—It is now late in the month, and though we have watched the Post Office every day, still we have not received the Advocate. We do not know where the fault is, whether in the Printing Office or the P. O.—Mr. Kinchen, of Owen Sound, received his August number but not the July number. We got the July but not the August number.

Your paper not coming regularly is greatly the cause of its not circulating more in this neighborhood.

The Mammoth Squash Seed you sent father is doing well. Some of the Squashes measure 48 inches round. We did not plant the seed until the 10th of June, so I suppose had they been planted in season they would have been so large that it would have taken two men to move them.

I am home now after my rambling excursion, and am attending to the garden; so please send my paper to Kilsyth. When you take up your bulb roots, don't forget the tulips and dahlias you promised me in the spring. The flower seeds you sent me have added greatly to the beauty of more than one garden. Some of the Balsams are perfectly lovely. I saw none to equal them in the Hamilton Horticultural Show on Dominion Day.

I remain, yours respectfully,

I. F. INCH.

Kilsyth, August 24, 1870.

The complaint made by Miss Inch of the non-delivery of her paper, is only a repetition of what we have almost every day, arising from the remissness and carelessness, if not bad arrangement of the Post Office. We venture to assert that if any private business was as culpably negligent in its transactions it would not exist for one month. We are certain that every subscriber on our lists has his paper mailed regularly every month; as we have the utmost confidence in our clerk, by whom every one of them is addressed. But, notwithstanding, there is never an issue mailed, but we have some dozens of such complaints come in; and

as Miss Inch states, we know that this bad administration of the postal arrangements, besides costing us about \$50 every month, does more to check the circulation of our paper, than all other causes put together. We want some reform here, not only in better management, but also in a reduction of rates. As we have often stated, agricultural papers ought to be as cheaply carried as political ones, but such is not the case. When getting letters and parcels from the States, in one case the postage on the other side was \$1, but the charges on the same here were no less than \$2.50! What, are our authorities asleep? Or are they only incompetent? The one or the other must be the case.

We have no complaints to make about the letter postage, but the paper postage is a disgrace to the Dominion.

RINDERPEST.—It is said that a Russian remedy for rinderpest, consists in taking the skin of an animal that has died with the disease, wrapping a hundred and twenty pounds of salt in it, and placing it for a whole night before a large fire. The salt thus medicated is given to healthy cattle, which are inoculated and have the disease in a mild form, recovering in a day or two, and becoming proof against the infection.

The Colorado Potato Bug.

It is much to be regretted that this threatened pest has now been allowed to invade our country. Its progress has been much more rapid than we anticipated; it has now arrived in this county, and, no doubt, has already deposited sufficient seed to give us stock enough for another year. Neither of the four contending Agricultural lights have made the least move towards the prevention of the great loss that us farmers must suffer. We mean the Minister of Agriculture, the Agricultural Board, the Entomological Society, or the Fruit Growers' Association. We pay taxes for agricultural purposes, and money is forthcoming for any and every other purpose. But who is to look after the interests of agriculture? It wants a little larkspur lotion sprinkled among some of the above-named parties.

Those desirous of seeing the potato bug may call at our office, where there is a sample.

Salt for Cabbage.

A New Jersey gardener considers salt necessary to the development of cabbage, especially in places far from the coast. He finds them more crisp, of better flavor, and to keep better when salt is used than without. He uses it as follows:—"A few days after setting out the plants, and when they are damp, either after a rain or when the dew is on, I take a small dish of fine salt and, walking among the rows, sprinkling a little pinch of salt on the centre of each plant. When the leaves begin to grow I repeat the salting, and when the centre of the leaves begin to form the head I apply salt again, scattering it over the leaves; after this I look them over occasionally, and if I find plants that do not head well and appear diseased, I sprinkle the salt over freely; this will save all such plants. A quart of salt is sufficient for 500 plants in a season, although more can be used with safety.