

THE ILLUSTRATED
Journal of Agriculture

Montreal, October 1, 1895.

Table of Contents

NOTES BY THE WAY:

The Montreal Exhibition of 1895..... 195
Milk or butter cows..... 195
Side-hoes..... 195
Sugar as muscular food..... 195
Hay..... 195
English crops 1895..... 195
Russian do. do..... 185
Hops..... 193
Bread, price of..... 195
Nitrate of soda, do..... 195
Wool, do..... 195
Butter, do..... 195
Cheese do..... 195
Bacon and hams, do..... 195
Potatoes, do..... 195
Hops, Kent experiments on..... 195
Lightning..... 196
Mud-drying..... 196
Hop-drying..... 197
Rape..... 197
Tomatoes..... 197
Source of fat in milk..... 197
Fat from albuminoids (protein)..... 197

FARM WORK FOR OCTOBER:

Fall-ploughing..... 197
Potato-harvest..... 197
Sugar-beets..... 197
The herd..... 197
Sheep..... 197
Swine..... 197
Horses..... 197
Poultry..... 197

THE POULTRY YARD:

Development of trade in poultry..... 197
How to secure markets..... 198
A circular..... 198
Shipments by cold-storage..... 198
Results hoped for..... 198
STATE OF THE CROPS..... 198
FARMERS' SYNDICATE OF QUEBEC..... 198
PRIZES FOR SEEDLING APPLES..... 198
Fall ploughing and fertilizing..... 199
FARMERS' CENTRAL SYNDICATE..... 199

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS:

Godet skirt..... 199
Cooking vegetables..... 199
Storing apples..... 199
Flavouring vinegar..... 199
Onions as a medicine..... 199
To save tomato-seeds..... 200
How to wash coloured clothes..... 200
A garment for baby..... 200

LIVE STOCK:

Kerries and Dexter-Kerries;—III..... 200
The stock-feeding problem..... 201
Guernseys, as butter-cows;—II..... 201

GARDEN AND ORCHARD:

Apple growers in Convention..... 201
Friends in the garden..... 202
To Apple growers..... 202

THE DAIRY:

Straw as stock-food..... 202
Stabling cows in fly-time..... 203
Good cow judgment..... 203
Prof. Henry on skim-milk..... 203
Macpherson on "Intensive Farming"..... 203
Canadian dairy-notes..... 204
Gould on failure of hay, &c., in Ontario..... 204
Pure cultures, or lactic ferments..... 204
FARMERS' FAMILIES, GEO MOORE ON..... 205
Cruelty to animals..... 205
Economy in children..... 206

THE FARM:

A permanent pasture..... 206
Clover running out..... 206
The sowing of winter-wheat;—III..... 206
The season in S. New-York..... 207
Two fences..... 207
Some Notes in La Bresse..... 207
Report of M^r G^ogault and Leclair..... 208
Competition of Agricultural Merit..... 209

Notes by the Way.

The Montreal Exhibition of 1895 is allowed by every unprejudiced person to have exceeded all its predecessors in variety and excellence of its exhibits in live stock. We have heard but one opinion about it; and although our health did not permit us to take a long survey of its varied attractions, we were more than pleased with what we did see. The cattle, sheep, swine, and last, but by no means least, the horses, were all good of their kinds, and the Dairy-show was quite worthy of its painstaking managers, M^r. Taché and Castel. When we say that our valued contributor, M^r. George Moore, was pleased with the flower show, we have said all we need say in its favour. We are promised an article from his pen for our next number, and we trust other of our friends will send us contributions on different features that may have struck them as worthy of notice.

We were honoured by being selected as judge of the essays competing for the prizes offered for essays on root-growing, care, &c., of manure, and other interesting subjects. We did our best to be impartial, but it was a difficult task.

Milk or butter cows.—A very sensible suggestion was made by a well known dairy-farmer, M^r. E. Matthews, one of the judges at the Tring Show milk trials. He proposed that farmers should test their cows to see if they were likely to return more profit as producers of milk to be sold as such, or as butter producers. Taking the value of milk at, say, 12 cts a gallon wholesale, and butter at 32 cts. a pound, if they took the milk of the best cow among the Shorthorns exhibited, it would be found that her milk = 7½ gallons, (77.35 lbs.) was worth 90 cts a day, while the resultant butter 2 lbs. 3 oz. would only bring in 66 cts; taking on the other hand, the best butter cow at the show, Capt. Brand's Jersey, her milk = 4½ gallons, (46.50 lbs.) would only fetch 60 cts., whereas the butter, 2 lbs. 10½ oz., would be worth 80 cts. True enough, but the immense quantity of skim milk and the ease with which she can be made ready for the butcher at any time, will always help to keep the Dairy-shorthorn cow in the front rank in England.

Side-hoes.—At page 177 of the September number of the Journal, in the same space as the cut of the "Howard's Subsoil Plough," are two side-hoes, that have no explanation attached to them. The omission was our fault entirely. These hoes have a peculiar office to discharge. They are intended to be attached to the 3-hoed horse-hoe, instead of the usual simple grubber-teeth, and their use is universal in England. Their office is to cut up all that part of the space between the drills that the front-hoe has left undone, and to pare down the sides of the drills so as to leave not more than the two, or at most three inches on which the row of plants stands to be done with the hand-hoe. Any one who will adopt these side-hoes to any common horse-hoe will soon see how very superior their work is. On referring to p. 99, May No., 1894, will be found an engraving of a horse-hoe, from a photograph of one made after my own plan, with the exception of the side-hoes which have not had suffi-

cient curve given them. The three hoes are plenty; a grubber-tooth is not wanted except in strong land.

Sugar as food.—A well known chemist, Dr. Thomas Oliver, writing upon the diet of the "Working Classes," speaks very strongly in favor of sugar as a muscle food. He thinks it should be much more used by the workers. There is always 1/5 of one per cent in the blood, and when muscle is in a state of activity, there is a disappearance of sugar from the blood, four times greater than occurs in the blood issuing from muscle in a state of rest; clearly showing that, during active exertion, sugar is used up.

In Harley's experiments to discover whether or no sugar is a muscular nutriment, he abstained from all food except 500 grammes = 1.102 lb. of sugar daily, and he found that there was not only an increase in the amount of work accomplished, compared with that done fasting, but that fatigue of the muscles was decidedly retarded. It is recognised that when sugar is added to food, a man is capable of more work than without it, and that this extra capability is perceptible in its highest degree about two hours after it is eaten.

A very pleasant thing to know that theory is in accordance with practice; for what physiology is now teaching us has long been practically known to the Northumberland coal-miner and the English navy.

Hay.—As far as we can judge, there will be a fair demand for our hay on the English market after Christmas. The "rowen"—second crop of meadow-hay—and the second cut clover will be abundant there, but the quality of such hay is never very good. (1) Our people had much better consume their hay at home.

The English crops of 1895.—Some wheat and winter oats suffered from rain, and, here and there, a little was grown in the sheaf; but, upon the whole, the native new crop of wheat is coming to market in good condition. No complaints of rust, and prices run from 28 to 24 shillings a quarter for white and red wheats respectively, which is a distinct improvement on the opening prices of last year. Reading, in which market we well recollect seeing, some 40 years ago, a lot of the finest white wheats we ever met with, and that, not on one or two market-days, but generally throughout the year; Reading, we say, quotes new Talavera wheat as high as 30 shillings, about the same value as No. 1 hard Manitoba old wheat; but Talavera is only used for biscuits—not hot rolls, but crackers.—Grinding barleys are plentiful at 15s to 20s for English, and 12s to 13s for Persian. Best English and Scotch oats, for the "West-End" are worth 27s; Russians, 14s; New-Zealand 24s, Canadian white pease fetch 27s per 504 lbs.

Russia.—Plentiful crops of every thing in the Southern provinces and the best of harvest weather. In fact, from all we can gather, the universe can boast of a famous yield everywhere except in Southern England, and, even there, it is not so bad as the farmers try to make it out to be.

Hops.—The reports from the great hop-growing county of England—

(1) Too much dew and moisture in general during the making.

Kent (1)—are of a very encouraging nature, except as regards prices. Some of the grounds where Bramblings and Goldings are grown, are described as magnificent. Germany reports an over-average crop, and in the States, the plant seems to have benefited greatly by the late rains; but the price! Five to seven cts for '94s and eight to ten cts for 1895s! Beer ought to be cheap with hops at 10 cts for the best and barley 54 cts a bushel!

Bread ought not to be dear with flour at present prices. A barrel of the usual make up costs, say, \$4.50. How many pounds of bread will it make in skilful hands? About 260 lbs., equal to 65 loaves of 4 lbs. each, or 43½ of 6 lbs each: cost per loaf, 10½ cts, and 6½ cts, respectively. Really the "horse and the driver" must be costly things to keep up. But it is so long since we bought bread in our family, that we do not even know what its present price is.

Nitrate of soda at Liverpool is worth \$34 the ton of 2,000 lbs. This makes nitrogen worth there 10½ cts a pound, whereas the chief analyst at Ottawa, gives 14 cts as its value here, which would make the price of the 2,000 lbs of nitrate \$44.80, which is rather more reasonable that it used to be.

Wool remains at about the same figures in London; but the market is more lively. A very healthy tone prevails, and as other branches of trade are giving signs of improvement, the wool trade will certainly not deteriorate. Still, down-tog wool is only worth 29 cts a pound!

Butter, particularly Danish, is in good request in England at very moderate prices: Irish creamery is worth, for best qualities, 100s a cwt., and Danish, 106s.

Cheese.—Good to fine new Cheddar is selling in London at 60s, and the best Cheshire at 65s. People here are often deceived in the quotations of Cheshires, not knowing that whereas Cheddars, Glosters, &c., are all sold by the cwt. of 112 lbs., the Cheshire cwt. is 120 lbs. The quotation of Cheshire price given above stands in the original "70s a cwt.," and the deduction made for long weight brings the figures to 65s.

Bacon and hams.—Supplies from Denmark very large: market, consequently, down 2s to 6s. Highest price Irish bacon, 67s; highest price Danish, 62s; Canadian best 52s: all for lean, sizeable. American hams, 48s; Irish up to 98s.

Potatoes.—The crop of potatoes in Britain is large, and in spite of the late rains, the quality is good; prices are down in the great London markets from 5s to 10s a ton of 2,240 Beauties of Hebron, and other top qualities are worth 90s a ton.

Scientific Hop-growing.

KENT COUNTY-COUNCIL EXPERIMENTS.

The Burrs' Hill Plots.

Nearly 18 years ago, we wrote our first article in this Journal (2) and the subject thereof was "Hops". We re-

(1) Out of fifty-eight thousand acres of hops grown in England, upwards of thirty-five thousand are grown in Kent!
(2) See vol. 1, p. 47.