

mighty engine of knowledge, "the Press," and as I have stated above quite against my will and without any act or part or even knowledge, until too late to prevent its publication, in fact, that it was published in the first instance only from information got through my children and their young friends, so far as I can learn.

I am, sir, your obedient servant.

"THE MAN OF DUNDAS."

Dundas, Nov. 23rd, 1870.

NOTE BY THE ENTOMOLOGICAL EDITOR.—From the above communication it appears that we have unintentionally wounded the feelings of "The Man of Dundas," by our recent article on the supposed poisonous Tomato Worm. This we regret very much, as our object was, not in any way to be personal, but to cast as much ridicule as possible upon the popular error of ascribing venomous qualities to this much maligned caterpillar. We have so often endeavoured in the columns of THE CANADA FARMER to disabuse the minds of the people of this country of their terror of this creature, and apparently to so little purpose, that we at once seized upon the little paragraph that went the rounds of the papers respecting the case at Dundas, as a fitting text for another article. We can assure our correspondent that we could have had no reference to his habits or mode of life, since to this hour we do not even know his name, much less are we acquainted with his private character. We merely inferred, both from the account of the case and from the popular and we believe proper treatment in such emergencies, that an unusual dose of spirits had been taken as a remedy. We wish very much that he had preserved the specimen which appears to have so much affected him, and sent it for identification to us or to some other entomologist. We are really most anxious to find out what ground there is, if any, for all the wonderful stories we hear regarding this poor unfortunate insect. For another article on the subject we may refer our readers, and our correspondent in particular, to THE CANADA FARMER for October 15, 1869, page 378.

THE RAPE BUTTERFLY, OUR NEW CABBAGE PEST.—This most destructive insect is fully realizing our prophesies. Salt is the common remedy, but Mr. Quinn, at a late meeting of the N. Y. Institute Farmers' Club, gave his experience as follows:—"I have tried no less than fifteen different powders and decoctions, and find the best result from the application of a mixture composed of twenty parts sulphate of lime, one part carbolic powder, and three or four parts of quicklime. This I sprinkle in small quantities upon the leaves and parts affected, making the application in early morning before the dew is off, or after a shower. Frequent repetition is sometimes necessary."

Correspondence.

Preserving Woodlands.

To the Editor.

SIR, I noticed the other day an excellent suggestion in the address of the President at the late successful Fair at London, viz., that farmers should begin to plant trees for fire-wood, and he suggested the white willow as a good one for that purpose. I fear, however, that in a country like this, where labour is so expensive and the means of farmers so limited, few will act upon his excellent suggestion. But where farmers have a fair proportion of their farms in "bush," they can secure fire-wood for their own use and their descendants for generation after generation. A friend of mine John M. Ball, Esq., of Niagara, has not allowed his cattle, or horses, or sheep, to run in his "bush" for many years past; and he told me recently, that thousand and thousands of young trees are growing up in his bush, to the height of ten and twenty feet, which will replace those trees that will be cut down, when they cease growing, for the use of the house. In this way he expects, and I think with reason, that his "bush" will be continually replenished, as the seeds of the old trees strike root and send up young ones every year.

It is true, Mr. Ball loses a little pasture about the skirts of his "bush," but that loss is nothing to what he gains by keeping his animals out of his bush, who would destroy the young shoots by browsing, if he allowed them, as most farmers do, the run of it. I might say that Mr. Ball mentioned his plan to me several years ago; and when travelling through the country, I have often regretted that the fine wood lots which I passed, and which were evidently growing thinner and thinner every year, had not been treated as Mr. Ball's have been.

I have often thought of writing to the public papers on the subject, but did not like to do so, until I had learned from Mr. Ball how his plan worked. Having now obtained full information on the subject, I feel it my duty to give it to the public; for, though it may be somewhat out of my line to write on such a subject, yet I believe it to be the duty of every patriot to do what he can to benefit his country.

The preservation of timber is well known to have a beneficial climatic influence, by drawing down more rain from the sky, as proved most incontrovertibly by the late very extensive experiments in planting trees, by the Pasha of Egypt; and as we suffer most years from excessive droughts in Ontario, it should be the object of all farmers to secure more moisture by maintaining as great an extent of forest as possible in the country. I trust that those farmers who can do so, will follow the excellent example of Mr. Ball.

T. B. FULLER

Toronto, Oct. 3, 1870

Working Cows

To the Editor.

SIR, A few years ago I read in some agricultural paper of a man who had trained a pair of cows to plough and do other farm work; and so far from spoiling them for dairy purposes, he said they gave more milk than any other two cows he had. Not that the working made them milk better, but the extra care and feed they got on account of the work told on the milk. Would you state, for the information of a reader of your valuable journal, whether in your opinion such a plan would be practicable, and would it be worth while for one near a cheese factory, with a small quantity of arable land, to make the experiment?

J. M.

Bridgewater.

NOTE.—With a small quantity of land, entailing only light work, the experiment might be made; but heavy work would be apt to tell injuriously on the secretion of milk.

The Cattle-fly Disease.

Notwithstanding the investigations that have been made during the past summer into the nature and causes of the so-called "fly disease," by veterinarians and entomologists, there still seems to my mind some doubt on one or two points which require further elucidation. Why, for instance, has the complaint been so much more severe during the past season? If the fly be the sole cause, have we not had the fly from time immemorial, and yet it never gave a tithe of the trouble that we have experienced this year. One thing, however, and that the most important, seems to have been established, and that is the efficacy of tar in various preparations to keep off the pest and heal the sores.

A curious fact in connection with the matter has come under my notice, namely, that these flies which have tormented cattle and horses so during the past summer seem to shun particular places. Cattle kept in dark stables during the day, and turned out to graze in the night, are free in a great measure from the torment, and when soiled during the day in the stable in the dark, and turned out at night, take no harm.

In the township of Bosanquet, at the upper turn of the River Sable, there is a long wooden bridge about twenty feet high above the water, and defended with the usual protection on each side. This bridge, or rather the middle of it, seemed to have an immunity against the attacks of the flies, and the cattle and horses soon found it out. The consequence was that they crowded the bridge, and remained on it during the day-time, until the dung of the animals had accumulated to more than a foot deep, and it seems likely to destroy the timbers by the decay it will induce, for its being nobody's