the system of judging, and a prize or an award must be some assurance of individual merit. Then will also be the time when agricultural exhibitions will flourish, being also established on the standard of merit, and the most attractive part in the performance will be that where the eye can distinctly see where the greatest profits reside.

Relative Profits in Permanent Pastures and Barley Growing.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate :

SIR,—In your October issue I see a letter on permanent pastures by Prof. L. B. Arnold, setting forth his opinions of its uses or uselessness, and giving his reasons all from theory and hearsay, but nothing from actual test.

In the first place he starts o with the assertion that "permanent pastures are appropriate only for three classes of farmers, viz :—Those who have land not arable, those who have too much land, those who are too lazy to work what they do have." Now, sir, I propose to prove by actual test that permanent pastures do pay, not only where land is not arable, but where it is worth $100 per acre. I have a field containing twenty acres in the rear of my farm, watered by a living spring, which I seeded to permanent pastures four years ago, and consequently have had three seasons' pastures from it. The land would sell for about $50 per acre ; the Prof. has been over the farm and knows something about its quality. It has never had any manure except the droppings from cattle pastured on it. The seed cost me $5 per acre, or a total of $120. It grew so rank the first season that I was obliged to pasture in the fall to keep from smothering during winter. The following season I got from it 4,370 days pasturing of beefing cattle, consisting of large steers, heifers and cows, about 7½ months' feed. The following year I pastured 20 milch cows constantly day and night from May 13th till July 11th ; then I mowed it and obtained 11 loads of good hay, containing about 10 tons, after which I received 1,830 days' feed for beefing cattle, making a total of 2,970 days' pasture, or about five months' feed and half ton of hay per acre ; this season I turned 16 cattle and 4 horses on it on May 19th, and they have never been off it, and are still on it, and you are aware this has been a trying season for pasture of all description ; also the hay crops were light with us.

Now let us figure up the results, and see whether it has paid us, even putting the land at twice its market value, and the pasture at $2 per month, which also leaves a margin of profit in cattle as well.

ACCOUNT WITH TWENTY-ACRE FIELD.

DR.

To capital, 20 acres land @ $100 per acre	$2000
" interest on same @ 6 percent per annum for 4 years	480
" cost of seed	120
" sowing and fitting land	80
" repairs of fence and taxes	40
Total debit	$2720

CR.

By 40 months feed, first season	$ 80
" 150 " second season	300
" 100 " third season, $200 10 tons hay @ $10, 100	300
" 110 months' feed, fourth season	220
" value of seed catch	50
" capital invested	2000
Total credit	$2950
Deduct debit	2720
Actual profit above interest	$ 230

If the land were taken at its value, a still further profit of $240 is obtained in interest, leaving a total profit of $710 from a capital outlay of $1000 in four years, or $177.50 interest on $1000 worth of farm property per year.

Now, sir, I submit that if all the land in Ontario could make as good returns as the above (and I believe all ordinary land can), the Professor is a long way astray when he says, "Pasture land in its best state generally pays the poorest of any of the arable part of the farm, and permanent pasture poorest of all." If the results I have obtained from my permanent pasture are the effects of being "lazy or shiftless, or having too much land," then all I have to say is, we should have more lazy and land-impoverished farmers in Canada to pay off the now existing mortgages on the soil, and I am not alone in this matter.

As I see the Professor names certain men to back up his theory of soiling, I will name some men of prominence who have experience with permanent pasture and are satisfied with the results, viz. :—Hon. Robt. Read, of Belleville ; Prof. Brown, Ontario Experimental Farm, Guelph ; Prof. Roberts, of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., and F. W. Stone, of Guelph, all practical stock men.

I not only submit that permanent pasture pays, but that it pays better than my plowed land, and will prove it by results obtained, of which I have kept a record. I will take the barley crop, as that is the most grown in this section and said to be the most profitable, and will take the four years parallel with permanent pasture above quoted, all from my own farm, and the barley ground was by far the best soil, as I enter it in my books at $100 per acre.

BARLEY CROP—1883.

Had 23½ acres in barley, which yielded 700 bushels, and which I sold at 60 cts. per bushel, leaving as total receipts for barley, $420; straw, $25; total, $445.

DR.

To 1 gang plowing	$23 50
" 1 single "	47 00
" harrowing, sowing, etc	21 00
" 47 bushels seed	28 20
" harvesting	42 00
" threshing, cleaning and hauling	70 00
" interest @ 6 percent on $2,350.	140 00
" taxes and fences	12 00
" insurance and buildings	20 00
	$403 70
By receipts (as above)	445 00
Total profit	$41 30

BARLEY CROP—1884.

Had 25 acres in barley; yielded 680 bushels; sold at 65 cts. = $442; straw, $28; total, $470. Debit without going into details, which I can give if necessary | $271 50
Interest on $2,500 at 6 percent | 150 00

Total debit	$421 50
Total receipts (as above)	470 00
Profit	$48 50

BARLEY CROP—1885.

Had 43 acres in barley ; yielded 1,872 bush., which realized $1,023 36 ; value of straw, $84; total, $1,107.36. Cost (by actual book reference, which I can give if needed) | $826 33
Interest on $4,300 at 6 percent | 258 00

	$1084 33
Total receipts (as above)	1107 36
Total profits	$23 03

BARLEY CROP- 1886.

Had 61 acres in barley; yielded 2,265 bush.; netted $1,265.75 ; value of straw, $90; total, $1,355.75. Cost (figured as in the former cases) | $995 30
Interest on $6,100 at 6 percent | 366 00

	$1361 30
Total receipts (as above)	1355 75
Total loss	$5 55

RECAPITULATION.

Profits, 1883	$41 30
" 1884	48 50
" 1885	23 03
	$112 83
Less loss, 1886	5 55
	$107 28
23½ acres, 1883, interest	$140 00
25 " 1884, "	150 00
43 " 1885, "	258 00
61 " 1886, "	366 00
152½ "	$914 00
Profits	107 28
152½ acres realized in 4 years	$1021 28
Or 38 acres per year left	255 32

Compare this with 20 acres permanent pasture :

20 acres realized in 4 years	$710 00
Or 20 acres per year left	177 50
Or 1 acre in barley per year for 4 years, left	$6 72
1 acre in pasture per year for 4 years, left	$8 87

These figures show that the barley left 6¾ percent on the investment in land @ $100 per acre, and the permanent pasture left 8⅞ percent in investment in land @ $100 per acre.

Now, sir, I leave the public to judge between pasture and grain and the method of testing, and the grain certainly impoverished the soil more than the pasture. As to the Professor's theory of soiling, all I have to say is this, that during the months of August and September I have found it has paid me to have some green crop to help up the pasture in dry seasons, as milch cows, if allowed to shrink on their milk, can almost impossibly be brought up again ; but cows will not give as much nor as good milk from soiling as on permanent pasture. But whether I am "to be pitied for my stupidity, or whether I employ "common sense" in my management, or "get what little I do easily and lazily," I would like the Professor or any one else to show me where I can "realize six or eight times as much with absolute certainty."

R. J. GRAHAM, Belleville, Ont.

Notes from Prince Edward Island.

[By a P. E. Island Farmer.]

As I do not often see anything from this "Isle of the Sea" in the ADVOCATE, I thought a few items regarding our doings in this preeminently agricultural Province might be of some little interest to your readers in other parts of our Dominion. Though our Island is small, it is by no means unimportant. We have soil and climate admirably adapted to the production of roots and all the cereals produced in the Dominion, except corn. With proper cultivation, wheat succeeds well ; this year it is an excellent crop, the season being dry and therefore suitable to the growth of that cereal.

Oats, which is our staple crop, is rather light in the straw this year, but is well filled and turns out well on the scales. The price of oats has been low for some years ; it is selling now for 28 cents per bushel of 34 pounds, but it mostly sells readily for cash.

Wheat is difficult to sell in any quantity for cash in this country. Our millers are content to grind custom grain for the farmers, and do