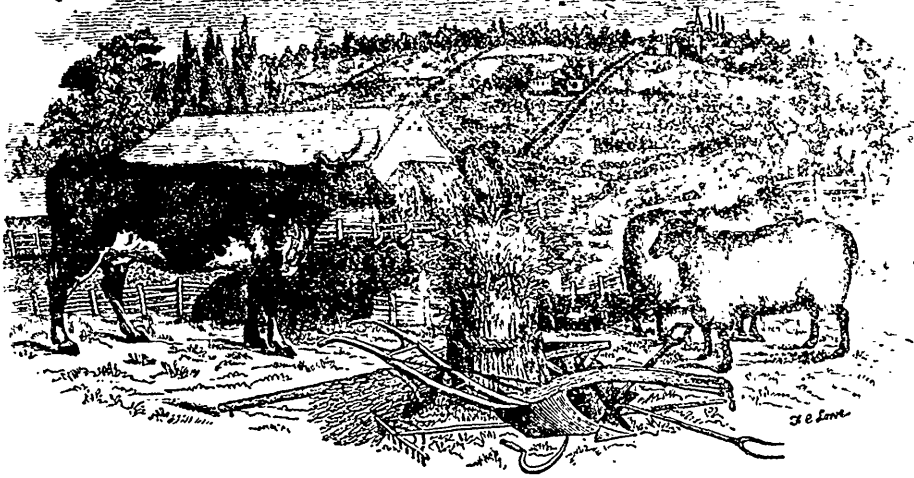


# CANADIAN AGRICULTURIST.



“The profit of the earth is for all; the King himself is served by the field.”—ECCLES. v. 9.

GEORGE BUCKLAND,  
WILLIAM McDUGALL, }

{ EDITORS AND  
PROPRIETORS.

VOL. II.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1850.

No. 2.

## The Canadian Agriculturist,

Published Monthly, at Toronto, C. W.

TERMS.

ONE DOLLAR A-YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

Twelve copies, for one year . . . . . 3s. 9d. each.

To Clubs and Societies,

Twenty-five copies and upwards. . . . . half-a-dollar each.

New Subscribers can be furnished with back numbers for 1848 and 1849.

Bound Volumes, for 1849, will be supplied for 5s., delivered at our office.

All remittances should be forwarded to WILLIAM McDUGALL, Proprietor, Toronto.

Letters are expected to be post-paid.

**INCREASE OF FERTILITY FROM SHADING THE SOIL.**—Every observing person, says the *American Agriculturist*, must have noticed the unusual productiveness of soil which has been closely protected for a time. The earth under a building, the northerly side of a wall or large log, is itself a valuable manure. How is this result or change in the character of the soil produced? Will some of our scientific readers explain?

We know that such earth contains large quantities of nitrate of potash (saltpetre), and nitrate of ammonia, and it is frequently used for extracting saltpetre in the manufacture of gunpowder. Does it not contain other salts, absorbed from the atmosphere, and developed in the soil, in consequence of its peculiar position, all of which are highly favourable to the growth of vegetation? And how can this result be made of practical benefit to

agriculture? We have heard much of the beneficial effects of *Gurneyism* (covering meadows and pastures with straw, or refuse vegetables.) Has this been tried, and with what result in this country?

**FEEDING QUALITIES OF PIGS.**—A correspondent informs us, he bought, in September, two Berkshire pigs, six weeks old. He kept them in a warm pen, and gave them the slops from a small family, intending them for breeding. On looking at them, the last of winter, he found them too fat for breeding, and accordingly slaughtered them, at eight months old, when one was found to weigh 240 lbs., and the other 278 lbs., dressed.

Another says, a sow, mostly Berkshire, was butchered on the 9th of January last, in Conn., at precisely a year old, and dressed 553 lbs. A neighbour has just slaughtered two swine, at about fourteen months old, both kept together and fattened in the same pen. One dressed 478 lbs; the other 274 lbs. The lightest had eaten much more than the heaviest, and when the last had filled himself from the trough, the other, though eating faster than his chum, was always on hand for the remaining food; a very coarse brute, too. So much for breeding.—*American Agriculturist.*

**PITHY HINTS.**—Snuff on the necks and backs of calves and young cattle, will do more good than in the nose of any maiden lady or dandy batchelor; and brimstone, bought for the hogs, will not prove that the itch has got into the house. Cards, on the cattle, make them look as much better as children with their hair combed. A clean barn is a hint to the woman who takes care of the kitchen. Good milking stools save much washing in the house. A scraper on the door-step, saves brooms and dust.