

til the approach of spring, this winter accumulation is largely destroyed and lost in the wood cut out. When, however, the vine is pruned in the fall, the winter accumulation will be deposited in the buds and parts left after pruning. Such buds will start vigorously and in consequence of their better development, the fruit will be increased, the shoots will advance rapidly in growth and attain maturity sooner than those from weaker buds.

This becomes a matter of considerable importance in localities such as this, where the growing season is of barely sufficient length to ripen the fruit.



The Maritime Provinces.

Editor O. A. C. Review.

DEAR SIR, In response to your request I forward this letter giving my impressions of the Maritime Provinces when viewed from the standpoint of agriculture. Of course I can only speak of the portions of country which came under my immediate notice, and of the conclusions which may legitimately be drawn from the agricultural products on exhibition at St. John and Charlottetown. The only portions of the country through which I journeyed by day were from St. John to Pointe du Chene, and from Summer-side in P. E. I. to Charlottetown.

The portion of New Brunswick referred to, though very pretty and picturesque, is evidently not a first-class farming section, nor is it farmed in the best style. Farming there is conducted too much on the patch-work system. The country is naturally rough, but a little more system and that hang-on-determination which is one of the best things in the world, would make it much smoother. Its three great wants it seems to me are, first, the removal of brush-wood which rears its head in so many of the cultivated areas, second under-drainage to remove the superabundance of water in the soil and to obviate the necessity for using deep narrow surface furrows which hinder

the use of machinery, and third the vigorous application of muscle both on the part of man and beast. This done the New Brunswicker would have large open fields which would enable him to throw away the scythe when he cuts his oats and hay. The portion of New Brunswick which I saw is not well adapted to sustaining cattle of the heavy breeds, but dairy cattle of the lighter breeds, as the Ayrshire, the Jersey and the Guernsey, all of which should flourish there with others that might be named.

The New Brunswicker has a mine of wealth in the portions of his country which may be made subject to tidal overflow. These low lands produce enormous crops of hay, and when renewal is required it is obtained in finest form by warping these areas for a single season. If more of the enormous crops of hay which may be grown upon this land forever, were fed rather than sent to New England, then the upland areas might be made far more productive than they are.

I am simply charmed with the agricultural capabilities of Prince Edward Island from what I saw on the journey by rail. Its uniformity of soil is simply wonderful. The constant effort of its soil seems to be to cover itself with a vigorous and dense vegetation. The amount of waste land upon it is a very small factor, and the gentleness of its swells and undulations are not much greater than those of the waves that border upon it, when rocked by the health-giving breezes which play upon its shores. I would not say that the soil of this beautiful little island is quite as rich or so easily sustained as that in some parts of Ontario, but it is better than the farmers know, or they would not be content to allow so many ill-bred animals to feed upon its luxuriant herbage. Oh, shadowy thought, how many generations are to come and go before our farmers will all know that it takes less food to make a pound of well bred meat rich and palatable than to produce one of scrub meat tough and unsavory and unfit for any but scrubs to eat?

In speaking of the agricultural capabilities of those provinces I base conclusions on evidences drawn from a wider area. Making due allowance for the unfavorable harvest I would say from the exhibits that hay, oats, buckwheat, potatoes and field roots are the leading productions of the Maritime Pro-