which the societies of agriculture have leave to distribute. Messrs. Blackwood and Barnard made a verbal report of their visit to the faculty of veterinary science at McGill University, Montreal, which report will be submitted in writing at the next meeting of the Council. After this report, M. Joly de Lotbinière informed the Council that several applications had been made to him from the Eastern-Townships for the reorganisation of the English agricultural school. A discussion followed, in which MM. Pilon, Rocheleau, Blackwood, Descarries, and Marsan took prominent part.

The president related to the Council the arrangements he had made, with a view to facilitate the manufacture of drain pipes, and to encourage drainage in the district of Quebec, in reply to the pressing requests of many farmers in the above district. In future, drain-pipes will be for sale at "La Petite Rivière," near Quebec, at the following prices per thousand

> 11 inches, interior diameter...... \$ 8.00 3 16.00

and so on in proportion for pipes of 5 and 6 inches bore. The Council approved of these arrangements which promise to supply one of the most pressing needs of agriculture in this

M. Descarries informed the Council that Mr. Chas. Sheppard, 402 Parthenais St., Montreal, will keep this year on hand at his shop drain-pipes at the following prices:

2 inches, \$12 per 1000 ft, weight 23 lbs F. O. B. on cars or at the kiln. 18 27 . 38 42 Length of pipe 123 inches.

This notification was also received with satisfaction, and the Council trusts that the farmers of the district of Montreal will profit by this occasion of draining farms at a cheap rate.

The president reported that the Commission of the Provincial Competition of Agricultural Merit had met the previous day, and would meet again after the adjournment of the Council, in order to define the measures necessary to the inspection of the farms of the second agricultural region, which inspection will begin on or about the 15th of June next.

The Council then adjourned.

(Signed) Ed. A. Barnard. Sceretary of the Council of Agriculture and Director of the Journal of Agriculture.

DE OMNIBUS REBUS.

Plaster.—As I have always had a doubt in my mind about the effect of dry plaster scattered over manure in the stable or cow-stall, as a fixer of ammonia, I wrote to Mr. Macfarlane, the chief analyst at Ottawa, on the subject. He kindly replied, by return of post, as follows:

There is no doubt that plaster will act as described with ordinary stable-manure including the urine. I know it from my own experience. As regards dung absolutely dry, I can

only say that I think it would act.

Sheep.—It is a pleasure to me to see my views taken up by the papers of the United States. The readers of this periodical know well how often I have tried to show the advantages to be derived from sheep-farming on the worn-out lands of this province, as well as on the deserted farms of the New-England States. On this point, hear the American Wool Reporter:

The American Wool Reporter thinks that a man of some business sense and a little capital who could not take one of these abandoned Massachusetts, farms and make it pay ten per cent net by a judicious application of sheep-husbandry would be an exception. Vermont Watchman.

Pigs and green-meat —At the Ontario station, in an experiment in feeding swine on green-fodder, the conclusion was reached that " there was no profit in it except when given in very moderate quantities." I take it that the fact is with pigs, as it is with cattle, that green meat is a very good thing when growing animals are supplied with vetches, clover, and other leguminous plants, in an advanced state of growth-1. e, when in flower-and meal of some kinds added to it; but that green-meat in an immature condition, green-corn, for instance, will not help them much. In England, when the horses are fed in the yards with clover and vetches, the pigs of all ages run with them, and do very well on the green-meat that falls from the racks, supplemented by a little wash and pollard. Boars, with us, always have their tusks filed off, or else they are kept in the styes, as they soon "out up rough" if the horses disturb them, and then the femoral actery of the latter is just within easy reach of the boar's weapon of offence

Town-manure.—The Corporation of Manchester, Eng., seems to make good use of the refuse of that town. The following is the analysis of the "Manchester Corporation Concentrated manure: "

	per cem	ι.	
Nitrogen	3.00	=	\$0.42
Potash			
Phosphoric acid			
Sulphate of lime (plaster)	2 50	=	0

This makes the gross ton worth \$16.00. The selling price, delivered in Manchester, is \$14.60. Cannot our large towns. Montreal, Quebec, &c, go and do the same thing?

Waste of manure.—A correspondent seems to have been surprised at a statement of mine, in one of the late numbers of the Journal, that "at least \frac{1}{3} of the elements of fertility in dung must, in spite of all the pains we may take to preserve it, infallibly be lost before they are appropriated by the crops." My authority for this statement is Sir John Lawes, as well as the practice of all the great valuers of farms in England. For instance: the estimated value of the manure from the consumption of one gross ton of cotton-seed cake is, according to Lawes' tables, \$31.59 (£6.10 stg :), but no valuer would allow more than \$21.00 for it when settling the account between an out-going and an in-coming tenant. Of course, when comparing the values of dung and artificials, it will easily be seen that the elements of fertility in the dung even if they were all intact on leaving the stable, an absurd supposition, would take some time—months probably—before they were made ready in the land to supply the crops with food, during which time, rain would lixiviate them and send part of them into the ditches, and the melting snow of spring would rob the soil still more severely; whereas, the nitrogen and phosphoric acid of our nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, and superphosphate are ready to go to work at oncein 24 hours even—as may be seen by scattering a handful of any nitrogenous artificial manure over a weakly crop of grain in showery, weather; and as their effect is immediate, so there is less time for the above causes, rain, &c., to carry off the valuable constituents of our chemical fertilisers. And, besides, dung-heaps must be made; for it is not to be supposed that the farm-lands of our province are so free from