

purchasers from all parts, who evidently have laid their hands on many of the best. He has however this year been using a famous imported bull, we forget the name, whose produce will probably restore the excellence of his herd. We spent 3 or 4 hours in looking at the cattle and talking over Mr. A's fields of clover, corn, beets, carrots, &c., (he grows but little grain) enjoying the pleasure and profit of an interchange of thought with intelligent minds and the refreshing, vivifying influences of delightful scenery. On our return we took a substantial English dinner with Mr. Sotham, who by the way is an Englishman, promising to spend the next day with him in viewing his splendid herd of Herefords. The weather we are sorry to say prevented us, but we shall avail ourselves of the invitation on another occasion.

Mr. Sotham's stock is the best of the breed in the United States. He was the first to import it, and has almost single-handed defended his favourite against the attack of about 50 Short Horn men, who publicly, and privately kept up an incessant fire upon him for three years. He has shown the spout of a genuine John Bull, and the result has been that this breed are more and more sought after, and no one, he says, has ever purchased an animal of him who became dissatisfied or did not apply for more. He never sells a calf for less than \$100 and has more orders than he can possibly fill. We shall examine the character and claims of this breed in connection with Mr. Sotham's herd, in a future number.

FARMER'S CLUBS, AND ESSAYS ON AGRICULTURAL SUBJECTS.

With all our Agricultural Societies, Provincial, District, and Township, we have nothing in the shape of Farmers' Clubs, as they exist in New York and some other cities of the United States, as well as in some places on the continent of Europe. The New York Farmers' Club, for instance, holds weekly meetings in that city, at which essays are read, new improvements noticed, & their usefulness discussed by scientific men. Some extremely valuable papers on various subjects connected with Agricultural improvement are read before the club, and the substance of their contents is afterwards disseminated through the medium of the Press, over the length and breadth of the land. We think this practice might be advantageously copied here, with such modifications as our different circumstances may render necessary. We will venture to suggest the outlines of a plan which it may perhaps be beneficial to adopt as a whole or in part. We do not claim originality for our plan, which is simply a copy. To appropriate it without acknowledgement would be one of those bare-faced pieces of plagiarism with which, ever and anon, honest men are sickened and disgusted. We may remark *en passant* that to appropriate to one's own use, and claim originality for, any practice which had previously been established in another country, is a species of mean and most reprehensible larceny.—Yet this is frequently done, and we shall lend our aid to bring about an honest practice and a purer tone of literary morality, by holding up the plagiarist to that public disapprobation which is his just punishment. But to our plan. Toronto occupies a central position, and is therefore a proper place in which to establish a *Farmer's Club*. If any of the machinery of the Provincial Association can be rendered available in forwarding the object, it would be well. Perhaps it might furnish as much material as would form the nucleus of the projected Club. Having determined upon the plan of organization, which, of course, would be quite simple and in accordance with the form and practice most approved in such cases, let it be determined at what intervals the Club should hold its meetings. Once a month would probably be sufficiently often to preserve as much interest as would have to be excited before life could be infused into the thing; and it is more than probable that it would be quite as

often as the public would care to direct even a momentary attention to the matter.

A competent Secretary should be appointed, one of whose duties it should be to read the Essays that might be presented to the Club. The adoption of this plan would be absolutely necessary, as Essays would, supposing a proper public interest to be taken in the matter, frequently be received from persons living many miles—in some cases hundreds—from the city whose attendance to read their own Essays would be impracticable. The Essays, or the substance of them, might afterwards be published by the agricultural Press, and thus the advantages—for none but those possessing real merit should be published—to be derived from their dissemination, be secured to the public. On subjects of great importance, with a view of bringing out the best available talent, it might not be out of place to set apart a fraction of the funds of the Provincial Association to be distributed in prizes to the successful competitors. Indeed we think it the bounden duty of the Provincial Association to adopt this course. We might assert, without the fear of successful denial, were we disposed to make awkward comparisons, that the carrying out of this plan would produce better results, than can flow from the prevalent practice of driving one animal all round the country to carry off the "first best" prizes at five or six different places.

We submit these suggestions for public consideration, feeling confident of the good effects of which their practical adoption would be productive.

**THE HESIAN FLY.**—We see numerous complaints in the American journals, of the operations of this insect. The weather this fall has been peculiarly favorable for the Fly, and we should not be at all surprised if it extended itself over the whole Province, destroying next year an incalculable amount of Wheat. Our readers would do well to examine their fields and ascertain to what extent eggs are deposited on the young plants. We should be glad to hear the results of such examinations. The following is one of the statements we find in a Western paper.

**THE FLY IN WHEAT.**—We hear very general complaints from farmers residing in the adjoining counties in Indiana of the re-appearing of the fly in their wheat fields. Many have already ploughed up and re-sown their fields in consequence. They have proved very destructive in Laporte and St. Joseph counties particularly.—[Chicago Journal.]

**Blenheim and Wilmot—Mr. Master's barn—Hogsville and Hamburg—Easthope—Potatoe disease—Winter-killed Wheat, &c., &c.**

Stratford, Huron District, Oct. 23, 1847  
 DEAR SIRS.—I deem it unnecessary to make an apology for the liberty I take of once more trying to give you some idea of the different sections of the country, through which I have, since my last, had the pleasure of travelling. Leaving the village of Ayr, in the north western part of the township of Dumfries, I proceeded to the north for a distance of two miles, or a little more, then turning to the west, into the township of Blenheim, I came into quite a large settlement of English Scotch, Dutch, Canadians, &c. You know Canada is settled by people from all parts of the world, and I believe they try the experiment of getting as closely together as possible back here, in the north-eastern part of Blenheim. This is rather a newly settled part of the country, although you will here find some well cultivated farms, good barns and houses, and also some very good orchards, and many other things which assure the traveller that the spirit of emulation is either a native of, or an emigrant to, the newly settled townships, as well as those which have been settled for a great number of years. The soil of Blenheim appears to be most excellent, and well adapted to growing every description of grain, roots, and also a great variety of fruits. The people in this section of the country, also, have not been entirely unmindful of Him who sends the early and the latter rain, and who gives fruitful seasons, and abundant harvests; but have here erected a house wherein they can meet and praise Him for all his benefits. Proceeding to the north from this place I came to the line between *Blenheim and Wilmot*, then turning to the west, took the road leading to the Huron District. The different sections which I visited in Wilmot, although they are new, have a pleasant appearance, and without doubt, will, one day, not far dis-

tant, be one of the best sections of our beautiful and beloved country. Here are some farmers whose attention to improving their farms, stock, &c., is worthy of much praise. And now let me remark, that one of the best barns in Canada West is to be found in the southern part of Wilmot. It is the property of a Mr. Masters, D. C., who very kindly took me through the different apartments. I do not intend to impose on your patience by telling how many cranks, studs, braces, rafters, &c., there are in it, for if you should ever want one, I rather think that some, perhaps all, of your gentlemen carpenters would be able to tell, even without any advice from those who, at most, know very little about it. I will just say that the barn is a *bank barn*, and is three stories high. On the ground floor are his stables for both horses and horned cattle, with an *entry* or *hall* between the horse stable, and the stables for his horned cattle. On this floor also are *rooms* for storing his root crops, &c. In the second story are his granaries and other apartments for storage; and in the third story you find his threshing floor occupying the centre, and on each side his *mows* for grain, hay, &c. In this upper floor are several holes, with I believe, *pipes* or *spouts*, to conduct the *cleaned* wheat, oats, barley, and all other kinds of grain to their respective *bins*, thus saving a great amount of labour; for when you clean your grain, i. e., separate it from the chaff, you have but to place the front part of your fanning mill to any one of these holes, and your grain, (like the prices which our merchants pay for it,) will fall; and be conducted to whatever *bin* you choose. Let us now leave this place and pursue our road to Hogsville, a small village, very pleasantly situated in the southern part of Wilmot, containing three or four stores, several shops of different tradesmen, and many other buildings, as the *criers* generally say, "too numerous to mention." Proceeding to the north-west from this village, three or four miles will bring you to Hamburg, another small village. Here let me remark that on "Smith's Travelling Map" Hogsville is represented as situated where Hamburg is, and Hamburg as situated where Hogsville is, or rather the names are improperly placed.

Leaving these places you proceed to the West, and 6 or eight miles will bring you to the line between Wilmot in the south western part of Wellington District, and Easthope in the south eastern part of the Huron District. I cannot say much in favour of the township of Easthope, if the land on each side of the road leading to the village of Stratford, may be considered as a *specimen*. However, I was told that this was the poorest part of the township, Stratford in the Western part of this township is a village of some considerable importance containing some very good buildings, and exhibits much enterprise and good taste. I will finish my letter by saying that many, very many complaints of the Potatoe disease, and many, of the wheat being *winter-killed*, although the *berry* is very good. Wishing you, Gentlemen, success in disseminating useful knowledge and in publishing a paper destined to be the most extensively circulated, as it is the most valuable and useful, at present published in Canada, I, with pleasure, subscribe myself.

Your Obed't Serv't,  
 THE FARMER'S SON.

**GENTLEMEN.**—I send you the following recipes, which I have seen tried with success. Others may find them useful. W.

**CURE FOR SPAVIN.**—Take a quart bottle, into this put a quantity of strong beer, then put in 2 oz. of alcohol, 2 oz. of spirits of turpentine, and 2 oz. of aquafortis, then fill up the bottle with beer. *Application.*—Rub on with the hand about half a table-spoonful, continue to rub until a *smoke* arises from the part anointed. If the horse be used and there be danger of his getting wet, the part anointed should be rubbed with *fish worm* oil about 2 or three hours after the application of the liquid, otherwise the hair will be likely to come off.

If to the above composition you add one oz. of Camphure gum, you will have a certain cure for that painful complaint—Rheumatism—the part or parts affected to be thoroughly bathed with the preparation—this has been known to cure, in a short time, persons unable to rise from their bed.

**SIMPLE AND CERTAIN CURE FOR HOOF-BOUNDS.**—Take an equal quantity of *tar* and *whale oil*, and half the quantity of spirits of Turpentine. Heat the *tar* boiling hot, then stir in the oil, take off the vessel from the fire and stir in the turpentine. Apply three

times a day until the hoof becomes soft—the shoes must be spread and set frequently.

Foreign Agricultural News.

We have determined to select hereafter from our foreign exchanges a *Summary of Foreign Agricultural News*. We shall, if possible, give some extracts of this kind in every number, as we feel assured they will be generally acceptable to our readers, while they will add to the interest and increase the value of our Journal. We shall endeavour to give a sort of daguerreotype picture of the advancing state of agriculture in Europe; thus combining News and amusement with solid instruction:

**Importation of Cattle into England.**—An Account of the cattle, sheep, and swine imported into Great Britain from Ireland, from the 5th day of April to the 5th day of July, 1847, has just been published by order of the House of Commons.—Of oxen, bulls, and cows, the number during the quarter was 31,917; of calves, 4423; of sheep, and lambs, 83,178; and of swine, 14,750.

Efforts are being made in New South Wales, to establish mulberry grounds and breed silkworms.

**The Fruit Crop on the Rhine.**—"In the memory of man," says a letter, dated Wiesbaden, the 23rd inst., "the crops were never so abundant as this year in our country. All the trees are over-loaded with fruit, and we cannot procure a sufficient quantity of stakes to support the branches. The Government has ordered the administration of the forests to provide a supply for the farmers and horticulturists, and no less than £0,000 have been already demanded. Apples are particularly abundant. The English have purchased an enormous quantity of that fruit, which is to be embarked in steamers for London."

The Potatoe crop turns out so exceedingly productive around Salisbury this season, that one grower has realised £32 per acre for his crop, although he had sold at moderate prices.—[Salisbury Journal.]

There is now to be seen growing in the gardens at Bouthly Hall, near Grantham, the residence of John Litchford, Esq., under the management of Mr. Clarke, a gigantic Scotch thistle, of the following dimensions:—Height of the leading stems, 7 feet 7 inches; length of some of the principle branches, 11 feet 4 inches; round the stem, 9 inches. When it was in full blow, it had a most splendid appearance, having upwards of 209 flowers upon it, of a bright purple colour.

The *Gardener's Chronicle* says that, in the South of England, turnips sown with super phosphate of lime as manure, are never troubled with the fly.

A *Spansul* of scraped horse-radish, put into a pail of milk, will keep it sweet for many days longer than the ordinary period.

From the last parliamentary return, the number of licensed public brewers was about 2600, and the quantity of malt used by them upon the average amounted to 17,933,684 bushels annually.—The number of licensed victuallers who brew their own beer is estimated at about 27,000 and the quantity of malt consumed nearly eight millions of bushels; about three millions more were brewed by beer-sellers for consumption on the premises.—[English Paper.]

**Rural Education.**—The arrangements which for some time past have been in progress at the royal schools in Windsor Forest, with a view to the introduction to a course of instruction in gardening and in cottage economy, are now nearly completed. Several acres of garden ground are in full cultivation by the boys. Part of the ground is divided into allotments, which are cultivated for the benefit of the parents of each scholar; the rest of the garden is worked in common by all the boys. A spacious kitchen, &c., wash-house, store rooms and dining hall, have recently been added to the school buildings. The garden furnishes part of the provisions of a dinner which is daily cooked by the girls for 120 scholars. Her Majesty has provided a neat dress for the girls, which they have made up, and the clothes of all the scholars are to be washed at the school by the girls. The royal bounty has thus gracefully assisted the families resident in the Forest by such means as cannot fail to have a permanently beneficial influence. Four pupil teachers have been apprenticed in the royal schools. It is understood that they are the first apprentices under the recent minutes of the Committee of Privy Council.—[English Paper.]

**Hints to Farmers & Gardeners.**—Small farmers and cottagers will find it will well repay them now to sow cabbage-seed upon the land where they are getting their potatoes; as an ounce of seed will produce about 6000 plants at the least. Supposing the seed to cost 8d. per ounce, strong early plants in the spring readily fetch 2d. per score; so that 6000 plants would amount to £2 10s., a fair return for so small an outlay. The plants would be removed in time for the resetting of potatoes in the spring.

**Use of Green Elder.**—An individual of much practical experience informs us that green elder, deposited in and about the mows of hay and grain, will prove an effective preventive against the depredations of mice and rats.—[Yorkshireman.]

**Sleighing and Green Corn.**—A private letter from Chicago, Ill., dated the 14th inst. says: "We had a heavy fall of snow last night and this morning. Sleighing bells were heard in the streets at the same time that we were cutting green corn for dinner; something unparalleled in the history of the weather."