

Agricultural.

CULTIVATION OF FLAX.

Some of our early issues will contain pictorial illustrations of the flax plant, and of all the other fibrous substances used in the manufacture of cloth.

The newspapers quoted are two of the best in the Province, the Perth Standard, and Brockville Recorder.

As the high price given for flax in the English markets (£60 to £75 str. per ton,) and as the climate and soil of Central and Eastern Canada are favorable to its growth, it is probable that, in the course of time, it will become one of the staple productions of the country.

Wheat at 90c or \$1.00 per bushel, is not a very profitable crop; and out of that sum cost of carriage, tolls, etc., have to be deducted.

In the Brockville Recorder the following queries were propounded by 'A Farmer,' the replies were furnished by a friend of the Editor:

- 1. In Flax culture, is clay or loam soil best?—Dark loam; slats if possible.
2. Does it require manure?—If rich loam, it will not require much.
3. Spring or fall ploughing, or both?—Both if possible, but thorough spring ploughing will do.
4. Is it best to seed down clover with it?—No.
5. How much seed per acre?—If for flaxing, 1 bushel and three-quarters per acre; if merely for seed half a bushel will do.
6. When to sow it—early or late?—At the usual seeding-time.
7. The best time to harvest it?—For flax—harvest before it is fully ripe; for seed—when fully ripe.
8. Can the seed be obtained by threshing it?—By flail-threshing if you please.
9. Can the Society furnish farmers with seed?—No, Mr. Colton will do so.
10. Is it best to rot it in the dew or in water?—Depends on the state of the atmosphere, and as this is the most important process, it requires great skill and care.

We also learn from the Recorder that at a meeting of the Directors of the Brockville and Elizabethtown Electoral Division Agricultural Society, held on the 17th day of April, 1863, it was

Resolved, That, owing to the present high prices of Cotton, there is likely to be a great demand for Flax, for some time to come, and as the wheat crop in this part of the country is not to be depended upon, it is expedient that the Farmers should turn their attention to the growing of Flax, and the Directors highly approve of the terms upon which Mr. R. P. Colton proposes to furnish Flax Seed to those desirous of cultivating the same, and also of the measures he proposes to take for the purpose of ascertaining how many Farmers in the neighborhood will undertake to grow Flax this season.

Resolved, That should a sufficient number of Farmers agree to grow Flax this season, say on the whole to the amount of one hundred acres, the Society will award the following liberal premiums on the growing crops, viz:

- On the largest and best crop of three acres and over, 1st prize \$10, 2d prize \$8, 3d prize \$6.
On the best crop of two acres and under, 1st prize \$8, 2d prize \$6, 3d prize \$4.
On the best crop of one acre, 1st prize \$6, 2d prize \$4, 3d prize \$2.
On the best crop of one-half acre, 1st prize \$4, 2d prize \$3, 3d prize \$2.

Commercial.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Traffic for week ending 29th May, 1863, \$49,958 45. Corresponding week last year, 41,883 88 1/2. Increase, \$8,074 56 1/2.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Traffic for week ending May 23, 1863, \$80,631 09. Corresponding week, 1862, 70,616 80. Increase, \$10,014 29.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, May 30, 1863.

The street market this morning was hardly so well supplied with grain, and the feeling was rather easier, though without decided change in prices.

WHEAT—Fall wheat in moderate supply, about 1,500 bushels being offered, and selling readily at 90 to 95c per bushel.

RYE—Nominal, at 56 to 60c per bushel, or about 1c per pound.

BARLEY—Very dull, without demand, and selling at 60 to 65c per bushel.

OATS—Oats rather dull, at 40 to 45c per bushel.

PEAS—Are worth 50 to 56c per bushel on the street, and 56 to 58c per bushel by the car load.

POTATOES—In large supply, principally from the stores, selling at 25 to 40c per bushel retail, and 15 to 30c per bushel at wholesale.

APPLES—Apples sell readily at \$1.50 to \$2.50 per barrel.

BUTTER—Fresh butter 15 to 17c per pound. Good dairy packed butter draws 15c per pound.

EGGS—Sell at 7 to 12c per dozen.

CHICKENS—Sold at 50c per pair.

DUCKS—Scarce at 60c per pair.

HAY AND STRAW—Hay \$19.50 per ton.—Straw \$12 per ton for the best.

HIDES—Per cwt., \$5. Calfskins, 8 to 9c per pound. Sheepskins, at \$1.50 to \$2.00 each.

WOOL—Was but sparingly supplied to-day and prices we presume remain without material change at 31 to 32c per pound. Pelts 15c each. Lambskins 20c each.

FLOUR—Dull and unchanged; superfine, \$3.85 to \$3.95; fancy, none offering; extra at \$4.25 to \$4.30; double extra, at \$4.75 per barrel.

C. FREELAND'S MONTREAL MARKET REPORT.

Montreal, May 30, 1863.

The market for everything continues very dull, and the quotations, particularly for flour and wheat, must be taken as extreme.

FLOUR—Firm; U. C. Spring wheat \$4.03 to \$4.10; Western wheat \$4.20 to \$4.30.—U. S. Spring wheat, unquestionably sound, 94 cents.

PORK—Mess, new, \$11 to \$12; Prime and Prime mess \$9 to \$10.

BUTTER—Steady; old neglected, and held in demand; the range is from 10 to 15c per pound.

CUT-MEATS—Very dull, and hardly quotable.

ASHER—Pots \$5.90; pearls \$6.35.

NEW YORK MARKET.

New York, May 30, 1863.

FLOUR—Receipts 19,138 barrels; market quite firm, with fair demand; sales 11,000 barrels at \$5.25 to \$5.35 for superfine State; \$5.85 to \$6.05 for extra State; \$6.10 to \$6.25 for choice State; \$5.30 to \$5.40 for superfine Western; \$5.00 to \$6.20 for common to medium extra Western; \$6.25 to \$6.35 for common to good shipping brands extra Round Hoop Ohio. Canadian flour a shade firmer; sales 500 barrels at \$5.90 to \$6.20 for common; \$6.25 to \$7.90 for good to choice extra. Rye flour steady, at \$1.00 to \$5.25.

WHEAT—Receipts of wheat 113,275 bushels; market 1/2 to 1c better; sales 65,000 bushels at \$1.20 to \$1.11 for choice Spring; \$1.28 to \$1.41 for Milwaukee club; \$1.41 to \$1.45 for amber Iowa; \$1.46 to \$1.51 for red Western; \$1.52 to \$1.56 for amber Michigan; \$1.55 for amber Jersey.

RYE—Quiet at \$.60 to \$1.01.

BARLEY—Nominal.

CORN—Receipts 140,008 bushels; market 1/2 to 1c better; sales 90,000 bushels at 76c to 77c for shipping mixed Western; 71c to 76c for new.

THE RISING GENERATION.

Is the rising generation of Canada undergoing a useful, healthful process of school education, to fit it for the performance of social duties, and the endurance of hard toil in the struggles of active life? Or is the system of school education stretched and enforced to an intensity that promises to fill early graves and lunatic asylums?

Terrible though this question may be, there is cause for writing of it plainly, and reason to fear that, though early graves and lunatic asylums may not receive any large number of the youthful martyrs to an immoderate mental training and torture, the coming men and women of the Upper Province of Canada are likely to be the fathers and mothers of an intellectually and physically impaired race; and their enfeebled offspring, to be in turn the parents of imbecility, unless a very marked relaxation is at once effected in the system.

School trustees require too much of teachers, and teachers exact from children a continuous mental tension incompatible, with play out of doors, or of repose and peace at home with their parents. Parents are worried by demands from teachers to be rigorous with their children. The young things feel the giddiness of brain, the disorder of body, the distemper of mind, but they have none to complain to, who understands the malady, or dares presume to call in question the wisdom of teachers and school trustees.

IMPORTANT TO TEACHERS.—A very remarkable pamphlet has recently made its appearance in England, containing statements of facts that ought to command the attention of the civilized world.

The subject of this pamphlet is Education, and it is devoted to the discussion of three matters—the organization of schools, the hours of study, and physical training. Our attention has been arrested by Mr. Chadwick's statement of facts in connection with the second of these three subjects—the hours of study. Struck by the frightful disproportion between the powers of childish attention and the length of school hours, he has directed questions to many distinguished teachers. Mr. Donaldson, head master of the Training College of Glasgow, states that the limits of voluntary and intelligent attention are, with children from 5 to 8 years of age, about 15 minutes; from 8 to 10 years of age, about 20 minutes; from 10 to 12 years of age, about 55 minutes; from 12 to 16 or 18 years of age, about 80 minutes; and continues: "I have repeatedly obtained a bright, voluntary attention from each of these classes for 10 or 15 minutes more, but I observed it was at the expense of the succeeding lesson."

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AMERICAN HOTEL. The subscriber, in returning thanks to his numerous guests for past patronage, would take this opportunity of informing the travelling community that the above House has been refitted this Spring with entire new furniture, in addition to former attractions. He would further state that the LIVELY BUSINESS recently carried on under the style and firm of RICHARDSON & BRATT, will in future be carried on by the subscriber. Parties wishing Horses and Carriages to hire will please call at the American Hotel, King street west. W.M. RICHARDSON, Proprietor. Hamilton, April, 1863.

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