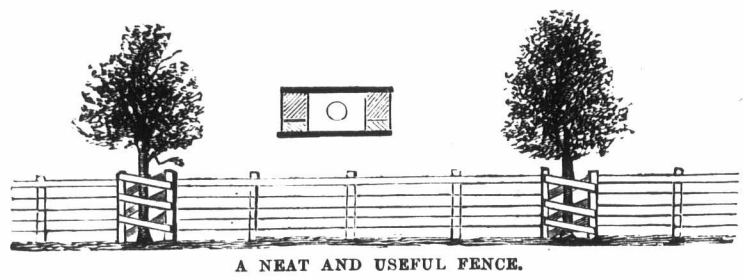
Mr. Green, of Oakville, Ont., has favored us with a sketch of a neat and useful fence, which we have much pleasure in giving our friends in this month's ADVOCATE. It is so constructed that it enables a person dividing his fields to plant trees, which, while protected from damage by cattle, takes up no land available for grain growing or grass. It adds a trifle more in expense than an ordinary fence, as it requires one extra post at every 32 feet where a tree is to be planted. We all know how necessary shelter is to our land which has been ruthlessly stripped of its fine useful timber, and every succeeding year the noise of the air tells us our country is becoming more and more denuded. If we want our friends of England to settle among us we must make our country attractive, and more like the land of their nativity; an Englishman has always been used to timber and shelter and very naturally looks for it. Now if we plant our fence-rows we at once improve the appearance of our holdings, making these more valuable as a sale article, and at the same time protect our crops and cattle from being scorched by the sun and dried up by winds. This mode of fence suggested by Mr. Green seems to us the very thing that will enable us to improve the face of our country. We give you a description of this fence as supplied us; first of all the land is laid out by fixing pegs in a straight line across a field proposed to be fenced in at equal distances of 32 feet, at which place a tree is intended to be planted; then measure eighteen inches on each side of these pegs and place another peg; when this is done bore or dig the holes where the latter pegs are placed and fit your posts, then bore and fit posts at every 8 or 16 feet, according to fancy, across your field, and properly rammed in; take 16 ft. scantling 4 x 2 in. and nail them firmly near or on top of the uprights, leaving the space of three feet where the tree is to be planted, plant your tree where the first peg is placed and nail a piece of four foot scantling on each side of the upright by tree, to which nail a board strip five inches wide, either straight across or slantwise as shown in the sketch; when this is done commence straining 4 rows of barbed wire in the intermediate spaces throughout the line fence; your fence is then complete, and trees well protected, no land wasted, and producing an extremely neat appearance. If preferred, a board 8 or 9 inches wide may be nailed on posts 6 inches above ground, doing away with one wire; the space given for the tree is 3 ft. x 1 ft.; this gives plenty of room for the tree to expand for twenty years at least. The advantage of having good sized posts on each side of the tree is, that when requiring to be removed you merely have to draw out the decaying post and place in a new one and the roots of the tree remain uninjured. I put posts 8 inches wide on each side of the tree; this, with the scantling as before mentioned nailed at sides, gives 12 inches for tree trunk; the rails by trees also form a useful style to pass from one field to the other, but in this case they should be a foot or two longer; the wire fence is then more free from injury, as there is no occasion to pass between or over it.



A NEAT AND USEFUL FENCE.

SIR,—My butter is not very good, being strong in flavor; I keep my cream dishes as clean as can be, yet the strong flavor keeps to my butter. I notice that the cream often has what I should call little pimples on it. Can you tell me what is the matter?

M. H., Wallace Township.

[Butter is one of the most complicated products; its quality depends upon a great variety of conditions—the cow, the food, the air of the stable, the water, the milk pails, pans, and the place where the milk is set, besides many other things. When cream becomes covered with a sort of pimples all over the surface, with here and there yellowish or reddish dots or spots upon it, it is attacked by a species of mildew or fungus which very soon spreads all through it. This spoils the flavor of the butter, and is caused by too much dampness in the milk-room or cellar and the presence of germs of mildew. The first can be corrected by putting some fresh lime in the milk-room, which absorbs the excess of moisture, and by burning sulphur in it to disinfect it and destroy the mildew germs. By burning sulphur, sulphurous acid is produced, and this is a very active antiseptic and destructive of all kinds of molds, mildews, and ferments. Probably the trouble will disappear as the summer arrives. It would also be well to look closely to the water drank by the cows.]

SIR,—Wishing to ask for some information, I thought I would try my hand canvassing for new subscribers, and, by the way, would it not be a good plan for all those asking for information through the ADVOCATE to send you the name of a new subscriber and one dollar? If a cow does not do well after calving what would you advise me to give her?

A. M. B.

[Give her food that is nutritive and slightly laxative—linseed is the best; to this may be added bran mashes and cooked grain. Keep her warm and clean and well littered.]

SIR,—It is high time to make preparations to meet our enemy, the potato bug. We have been tolerably successful in contending with these insect pests by using Paris green, but it is expensive, and worse still, there is danger in using. London purple is said to be as effectual a remedy as Paris green, and at one-fourth of the cost. I would feel very thankful if you give us your opinion on the matter in your valuable paper.

X. X., Kingsville P. O.

[We have carefully inquired into the matter, and find that, even at ten cents a pound, while Paris green cannot be purchased pure under four times that price, the low priced remedy is not the cheapest. Mr. Evans, of Montreal, a well-known seed merchant, says the Paris green is the most effectual, and every way preferable to the other. Mr. Saunders, of this city, druggist and editor of the *Canadian Entomologist*, says the London purple is quite an inferior article as an insecticide. M—, medical doctor, says that not only is the Paris green more effectual than the London Purple, but that it is really cheaper; a given quantity of the former being of more intrinsic value than four times the same quantity of the latter.]

SIR,—Early this spring I planted some apple trees; they were planted very carefully, the earth being pressed down among the roots. At the time of writing they do not seem inclined to do well, the buds being weak and the leaves coming out very slowly. I should like to hear through the columns of your valuable paper what treatment to give them.

B L, Sarnia, P. O.

[Newly *transplanted trees* that are not starting properly should receive attention. The first suggestion is always to pour water on the surface. But little if any of this moisture ever reaches the roots, where it could be beneficial. Experience of late years has taught our tree-planters that when the soil is firmly pressed, so as to come into immediate contact with the roots, and of course stop all air passages among them, but little water after planting is needed. During an excessively dry spell, however, several deep holes may be made in the soil by means of an iron bar, and water poured in several times; but in ordinary seasons a liberal mulch over the surface will answer. The best restorative for a weakly tree after transplanting is to shade the bark, and this may be done by wrapping the body loosely with newspapers, allowing them to extend even to the main branches, if large. Moisture over the tops is quite as helpful as at the roots, so that a thorough syringing among the branches every evening until active growth sets in will answer an excellent purpose.]

BARB WIRE FENCE.

SIR,—Do you think it advisable to put up barb wire fences? Would like to see an article in ADVOCATE on the subject, comparative cost, &c., &c.

E. B., Mildmay, Ont.

[We leave it to the judgment of our subscribers to choose whether it is advisable to put up barb wire fences; however, those who have erected them claim the following advantages: It is the cheapest fence in the world. It is the most durable fence in the world; fire will not burn it nor wind blow it down. It takes less posts than other fences. Stock will not rub it down; it protects itself; it acts on the defensive. It takes but little room; you can cultivate close to it, and weeds can be kept out of it. It requires but little labor to put it up. You can draw enough at one load to fence a farm. You can fence a good farm in a single day. It is the greatest practical invention of the age. It is bound to be the farm and railroad fence of the country. The Glidden two-pointed galvanized barb fencing wire, manufactured by the Washburn & Moen Manufacturing Co., Montreal, in our opinion is the best and cheapest fence for our farmers, as it makes a steel thorn hedge, as it were. It never rusts, is unaffected by fire, wind or flood, and is an impassible barrier to man or beast. The bill which was brought up at the last session of the Ontario Legislature, making it compulsory to have a scantling at the top of barb wired fences, was withdrawn, although we notice the G. T. R. on all their fences provide a top-piece, which adds to the appearance of the fence, and is commendable more ways than one. The average cost per rod will vary, according to the number of wires you have, the number of posts you put in, and also price you pay for wire. A three-wire fence, a post for every rod, and wire at 8½ cents, a rod of fence will cost 36½ cents; a four-wire fence the same will cost 45 cents a rod, and a five-wire fence 54 cents a rod. No labor, of course, is taken into account in this calculation. We refer our readers to the usual advertising columns of this paper.]

BLACK LEG IN CATTLE.

S. H. W. writes that he has cured this disease by inoculation for the past 26 years without a single failure. He should describe his method or else advertise in our columns.

SIR,—Please inform me through the FARMER'S ADVOCATE if a two-year-old heifer having raised a calf, will have to compete at the Provincial Exhibition with the two-year-old that has none, and if a three-year-old heifer having raised two calves will have to compete with them that have none. I think these cattle should be classed separately, or a special prize to the best heifers with their calves by their side, so that we can see the best breeders as well as the best feeders.

W. D., Collinsbay, Ont.

[Perhaps the Secretary of the Association will answer this.]

FALL WHEAT ON SOD.

SIR,—I would feel obliged for the advice of the ADVOCATE as to the best means of preparing a twelve-acre field for fall wheat. The field has been in grass for six years. It is a loamy clay soil with a clay subsoil, and is somewhat wet; I intend to take from it a hay crop, in time for plowing before the first of July. Is it better to apply farm-yard manure to it before plowing it, or to apply it after plowing? It would be applied with more ease before the land is plowed.

H. T., Thamesford P. O.

[First drain the land. This is the first movement in all good farming when the land is at all wet. The depth and distance apart of the drains is governed by circumstances. We would then apply the manure as a top dressing; then plow a shallow furrow, two or three inches in depth; a month afterwards we would cross-plow somewhat deeper; we would cultivate frequently before sowing the wheat. This we would do early in September; the cultivation would amalgamate the manure with the soil, and the roughness of the land at the time of sowing would be a means of preventing the heaving of the wheat plants by the winter frost. There is after all no definite rule by which which we can secure a good return, as very much at all times depends upon circumstances, over which the farmer has no control, and the mode of culture which would be a means of producing a good crop one season might not be successful with different climatic influences, or on soil of a different kind and degree of fertility.]

"Yes," said the farmer, "barbed wire fences is expensive, but the hired man doesn't stop and rest for five minutes on the top of it every time he has to climb it."—[Boston Post.