

heavy rains of last December left a coating of ice round the foot of the trees.

The trees growing where fences or hedges arrested the snow and caused it to remain on the ground, escaped, without one single exception, though many were just as much exposed to the force of the wind as those that were killed, as they stood on the same side of the hedge, but where the ground was covered with snow. The snow

#### PROTECTED THE ROOTS FROM THE FROST.

and prevented the formation of ice round the foot of the trees. Three different plantations, widely apart from one another, and on different soils, gave the same results.

It is easy to cause the snow to remain where it is wanted, especially with willow hedges; they cost next to nothing, just the trouble of sticking the cuttings into the ground, at the proper season, and never fail. Those hedges are as useful in summer as they are in winter. A knowledge of the direction of the prevailing wind will help to place them where they can be most effective in collecting the snow, which I consider as the really protector of young trees against the severity of our winters. It is not too late to try the remedy even now; fence, rails, branches, stones, any temporary obstacle that will arrest the snow would answer the purpose, until the permanent hedges are ready.

We know very little of forest-tree culture here.

We can learn a great deal from the scientific foresters of France and Germany, but we must not lose sight of the difference of climate, laws, and customs between them and us, which will make it necessary for us to modify their system in many instances.

For the present we must look to experience as our teacher; its lessons are useful but somewhat expensive. We can lessen the cost for one another by contributing our little share of experience to the common stock, with the generous help of the press, which has never been refused to the cause of forestry.

H. G. JOLY.

Point Platon, P. Q. Nov. 10.

#### The Late Leicester, Eng., Cheese Fair.

The pitch was the largest which has been witnessed for the last 15 years; but a more disappointing trade has rarely, if ever, been done. The condition of the cheese, generally speaking, was very unsatisfactory, and the attendance of buyers unusually limited. To the immensity of the pitch, and the small number of buyers present, may partially be ascribed the low rates which prevailed. Early in the morning a choice dairy of Leicestershire cheese was sold by Mr. Harding of Atterton, at 80s. per cwt., to Mr. King of Nottingham; and this is believed to be the highest price realised in the fair. In 1876 the top price reached were 98s. to 100 s. per cwt. Since that time low-priced American cheese has found its way into many households. Most of the choice lots on offer soon found purchasers from 70s. to 71s. 6d., while several other dairies changed hands at 70s. As the day wore on, dairies were disposed of, as quotations fell, from 60s. to 55s. and 50s. per cwt. In the afternoon, prices went for inferior sorts lower still, a few lots going at prices ranging from 35s. to 40s. per cwt. Beyond this, dairymen could no further go; the result being that a larger quantity of cheese has been conveyed home than has been known in recent years, in the hope that higher prices may be obtainable ere long. (1)

(1) Leicester cheese is very superior in quality; in fact, most of it is known as *Stilton*.

A. R. J. F.

#### Young Beef.

Mr. T. Carrington Smith said as to the question of early maturity, that was one which dovetailed itself into the question of high feeding, and he wished to point out that the price just now of young animals in the market was actually less than that of mature animals—the price of veal and lamb being less per lb. than beef and mutton. He was sure that was nothing more than a free criticism of what Mr. Cheate had said, because Mr. Cheate had been distinctly right in asking them to go in for early maturity, inasmuch as small beef and mutton were at the present worth considerably more than large beef and mutton. He met with a large Shropshire feeder at Preston and asked him how he was getting on with beef-grazing. He said he was doing fairly well by getting his beasts out at two years old. And he (Mr. Smith) had observed that at Birmingham market nice bullocks under two years old and about seven score, a-piece, sold at fully 8d. per lb., while grand fellows of 10 and 11 scores sold in the same market at something like 1½d. a pound less. Then Mr. Cheate had alluded to the question of the value of silage. He thought he might be allowed to correct Mr. Cheate slightly with respect to the statement that Sir John Lawes believed that it was not a wholesome food. He believed that Sir John Lawes had now come to the conclusion that it was a wholesome food, but at the same time he had given expression to a very strong opinion that a great many silos had been made this year at very considerable expense that would never be filled this year. One reason which he gave for this was that it had been so easy to get good hay this season, and another, which was not so gratifying, that we had no clover aftermath in consequence of the dry weather. It seemed to him that it was not at all wise or advisable either for landlords or tenants to lay themselves under a large expenditure on account of silos. He thought that silos were as yet on their trial, so far he had no prejudice either for or against them, but his opinion was that in a season like this the system was of no value at all to us in England.

LIST OF PATENTS relating to Agriculture &c., reported for the *Illustrated Journal of Agriculture*, by *Whitlessy & Wright*, Patent Attorneys, 62½ F. st., Washington, D. C.

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 1886.

Beehive, No. 334,914—M. N. Ward, Violesbury, Mich.  
Butter, Making, No. 335,684.—W. A. Murray, Covington, Ky.  
Checkrower and Cornplanter, No. 334,846.—J. W. Buffington, Goodnight, Mo. &c., &c.

#### A NEW FEED GRINDER.

The readers of the "Ill. Journal of Agriculture" will notice in the advertising pages, the cut of a grinding machine, manufactured by Messrs. Jno. A. McMartin & Co. of Montreal. This grinder of a very simple construction, offers many important advantages to the farmers. 1st It grinds every any sort of grain without heating, 2nd It has a regulating attachment, 3rd It never heats the grain, 4th The grinding disks are made to work on both sides, and thus each of the said disks has twice the value and will last double the time of any other disk of other machines. It is claimed to be an article far superior to any of the kind in the market, Messrs. Maitland brothers, the extensive breeders of Kilmarnock, Ont., plainly say that the grinder manufactured by MM. McMartin & Co. is better, more complete, and more economical than any american or canadian grinder they have used before.

S. C.