

grain-crops, and a good plan it is as it affords quantities of vegetables and pasture, without the expense of hoeing, and supplies the young cattle, sheep, and pigs with cheap food. (1)

Cows giving milk, however, ought never to have turnips, in spite of what some people say. (2)

**Meadows.**—Many farmers have learnt how to patch up their meadows (injured by the frost?) in early spring, (by harrowing in grass-seed?) and thus to repair the injury done to them in bad years.

**Pastures**, too, are improved in the same way.

**Green-fodder.**—Every one has a field of green-fodder; some as much as 15 arpents.

**Orchards.**—On every side there appears to be some desire to plant orchards, but it seems to us that, on this point, instruction is needed. Hardly any one seems to consider the probability of there being a good deal of improvement in our export trade.

**Gardens.**—We saw, in this years' tour, many fine, well managed gardens.

**Domestic Manufactures.**—We saw, with much pleasure, that the home-manufacture of articles in wool and flax was emerging once more from the desuetude in which it had so long lain idle; and we cannot too warmly congratulate people on this revival. We were obliged to add a column to the table for an illustration of this, on account of the vast number of competitors who were proud of an opportunity of displaying the useful and pleasing work done by their wives and daughters.

**Ploughing.**—One, and a last, word on ploughing. We are grieved to say that, throughout the 12 counties we visited, we never saw one solitary instance of first-rate ploughing. There may be such a thing, but we never met with it. (3)

We advise, that at all ploughing matches, the judges be selected from among men who have a reputation to lose.

(1) Sorry to differ from the judges; but, in our opinion, this is anything but an "excellente habitude." Ed.

(2) Sorry to differ again. We have made exquisite butter, Devonshire fashion, from the milk of cows eating half a bushel of turnips a day a piece. Ed.

(3) In 1886, at Sorel, we had the greatest difficulty in making the ploughmen of the M.M. Guévremont see that it made any difference whether one furrow was three or four inches wider or deeper than another, its neighbour! Ed.

So great is the value of *good* ploughing, that it would be an immense step in advance to encourage the best ploughmen in some way or another, and this might be worthy of our consideration now that most other questions are being studied.

We close our present report by affirming that the competition of Agricultural Merit is, in itself, a full course of study for our farmers; and the proof of this is, that those who formerly competed seemed proud of showing that their work during the intervening five years had been done with greater precision. Their hearty welcome, too, testified to their gratitude.

In it there is a means for the public to study and improve their practice. The farms of the successful competitors serve as examples of successful cultivation, and useful lessons may be drawn from the harmony of the ideas that govern the whole competition.

Honour, then, to all those who are working for the benefit of their families and for the prosperity of the province of Quebec.

The whole respectfully submitted.

Judges of Agricultural Merit { THOMAS DRYSDALE,  
JOSEPH DELAND,  
ARSÈNE DENIS.

(From the French).

## The Orchard and Garden.

(CONDUCTED BY MR GEO. MOORE.)

### PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF FRUIT TREES IN THE ORCHARD.

BY THE REVD. FATHERS TRAPPISTES DE NOTRE DAME DU LAC, OKA, P.Q.

(From the French)

The Revd Fathers Trappists, of Oka, in this Province, have long been known for their practical achievements in fruit culture, and the essay they have written is so plain and useful that the merest tyro, if he would study and adopt the rules it contains, faithfully, could scarcely fail of success: I therefore take pleasure in translating, and reprinting it for the benefit of my English readers.

#### Practical advice etc.

- 1st Provide good, healthy and vigorous plants.
- 2nd Prepare the soil properly.
- 3rd Plant with great care.