

*Coal-oil.*—The price of the best petroleum used in England; the Bear Creek; is 12 cts. a gallon. We are paying here, in Montreal, 30 cts. Why? We do not know.

*Price of lime.*—Lime ought not to be so dear as it seems to be from the complaints we hear. Plenty of coal-slack or coke can be had near our large towns, and not very dear either, though probably in the country parts, rough wood, stumps, etc., would be cheaper still. In England, we always used to calculate that 5 tons of limestone would make 3 tons of lime-shells.

*Cider*—In our younger days, there was hardly any cider made, in England, outside the counties of Devon, Somerset, Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester, though, here and there, in a very plentiful crop-year, a few barrels might be made in Kent, Surrey, etc., but this was only poor, thin stuff, and quite unsaleable, being consumed by the laborers at haying and harvest.

But, now, things have greatly changed. Norfolk and Kent have sent buyers into the regular cider-counties, and bought up the fruit, paying as high as £4 a ton for it, equal to about 40 cents a bushel, averaging 45 lbs. in weight. Of course, every one knows that cider-apples of the best kinds are too harsh for the table. Could not we send some samples of cider over to England?

*A great yield of oats.*—*Farming* prints the following in a late issue:

#### A BIG YIELD OF OATS.

Mr. John Kenward, of Oxford county, writes as follows, and his statement is vouched for by Messrs. John S. Pearce & Co., of London, Ont.:

"I sowed 20 bushels of Danish Island oats by weight on 12 acres on April 20th, 1898, and cut them July 25th and 26th, and threshed 900 bushels, or 75 bushels per acre, or 75 bushels for every 56½ lbs. of seed sown. The land was not very rich, as it has been cropped for over fifty years, and there was no fertilizer of any kind used on the land."

When our dear old farm tutor, Wm. Rigden, of Hove, near Brighton, England, grew his celebrated crop of 140 bushels of white-tartars to the acre, he sowed 3½ bushels of seed to the acre. Mr. Kenward's seeding was only at the rate of 6½ pecks to the acre, which would be thin sowing for fall-

wheat. As a rule, people do not sow enough seed here. There is hardly any time for the plants to tiller, but they have to throw up their seed-culms pretty nearly all of a sudden. In Scotland, the oat-country, 4 and 4½ bushels to the acre are common seeding.

*Canadian cheese.*—Dealers say that there are a good many complaints about the quality of our cheese: not so good as it was. On the other hand, Mr. Derbyshire, President of the Eastern Ontario Butter and Cheese Association, who ought to know, writes to *Farming* as follows:

"I think that quite a lot of things have been said about Canadian cheese, in order to scare our people into making a point that we must have better curing rooms, better factories, better makers, everything must be improved. But I am perfectly satisfied that our cheese last year was finer than ever before, and the only trouble has been, that there have been a few English cheeses made, this last year, a little better than formerly, so that this showed a little difference in quality. Another thing, some of our cheese became heated on the way, this last year, a few in July and August. This we must remedy this coming season, but you can depend upon the Canadian maker waking right up and putting his factory in better condition, and taking more care in the manufacturing of his goods, and we are going to walk right up to the front, with all our competitors in 1899 without any doubt."

Hardly a discreet tone to take, since at the date the above was written, the following were the quotations of English and Canadian Cheddars in London: "Cheddar has been placed at 68s. to 72s.; finest and fine at 60s. to 66s., and useful at 46s. to 52s. Canadian steady at 49s. to 50s. (London, February 17th, 1899)."

*Bacon and hams.*—There seems to be, in the English market, an unaccountable difference between the price of Canadian and Irish bacon, and the price of Canadian and Irish hams. Best Irish bacon, in January, was selling for 54s. a cwt.; best Canadian, for 44s. At the same date, best Canadian hams were fetching 56s. a cwt., while best, small Irish hams were worth for 94s. to 104s. Logically, if Irish hams can be made to be worth nearly twice as much as Irish bacon, it is clear that a little more care in the preparation would make Canadian hams worth more than one-