

do not receive the Journals of agriculture in which they appeared.

If, Sir, you think fit to advise your people to read the articles in question, in the case that they have been sufferers from the drought of the spring, you will doubtless be rendering great service to the cause of agriculture.

I have the honour to be, Monsieur le curé,  
Your very obedient servant.

H. G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE.

(From the French).

For the Commissioner.

### FARMERS, ATTENTION.

The drought we have lately endured seems to have caused vast injury to certain parts of the province, (1) in which they say there will be a scarcity of hay and fodder for next winter, which will render necessary the slaughter of a part of the herds, in the autumn.

Farmers, you who are threatened with so great a loss, it is not too late, if you set about the work in earnest, to secure an abundant crop of excellent fodder for next winter.

Plough up one of your worst meadows, the earliest you have mown. Sow, at once, day by day immediately after the plough, so that the land shall have no time to dry, 3 bushels of oats and a bushel of pease, or of pease and vetches, to the *acre*: harrow thoroughly; water-furrow, &c., perfectly, roll down firmly, so that the turf may rot as soon as possible and afford plentiful nourishment to the plants. I have every reason to believe that every arpent thus treated will afford sufficient fodder to feed three cows during the winter months, if you mix with it dry straw from the grain-crop which, thank Heaven, has still time to improve by the rains we have lately received.

Your green-crop sown thus between the present date (July 16th) and the 1st August, but at once if possible, will give you a return in less than two months, for it must be out as soon as in ear and before it is laid. If the weather is fine, the fodder can be treated just like hay; but if otherwise, and you cannot dry it thoroughly, mix it in the bay with dry straw or old hay, say, 10 inches of straw and 3 inches of hay, 10 of straw, and so on. If you find you have not enough straw, you must make a silo and ensile the crop. In either case you will have secured plenty of excellent fodder for wintering your cattle.

As the remainder of the season promises to be rainy, you might profit by it by sowing down these same meadows with grass-seeds. But, if you do, you must cut the fodder-crop early and cart it off before it gets down.

At present, there are many meadows completely ruined by weeds. Any farmer who shall carefully plough these before the 1st August and sow them with good timothy and clover-seed, Alsike especially, and give them in the fall a moderate dressing of dung—if no more than 10 one-horse loads an arpent—will change these same now useless meadows into good ones for next spring.

For further information, address

(From the French.) ED. A. BARNARD.

Secretary of the Council of Agriculture  
and Director of the Journals of Agriculture.

I fear that as I did not receive the above article for translation until the 15th July it will not appear till too late to be of any practical utility. I saw, on the 14th July, at Sorel,

(1) Strange to say, the hay-crop on M. Séraphin Guévremont's farm at Sorel, 38 arpents, is about as fine a one as ever I saw: certainly, there are 280 bundles an arpent all over. His potatoes, sweet-corn, carrots and barley are superb.

A. R. J. F.

a crop of mixed oats, pease, and vetches, standing so thick on the ground that the piece cut for the evening meal of 7 head of cow-stock and 3 horses was the merest trifle.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST.

### Ensilage and Siloes.

The Dairy-business has increased so rapidly in the province during the last few years, that it has become, in many places, the principal resource of our farmers, and the little money that is now circulating in the country parts is derived almost exclusively from the sums paid by cheese- and butter-factories for our milk.

These factories increase in number so rapidly, that there are now few parishes that do not possess at least one; many possess two or three, and La Baie du Febvre has seven.

The attention of farmers is becoming daily more and more concentrated on the improvement of cattle with a view to the production of milk, and they naturally search for the best means of providing a plentiful and wholesome supply of food for this improved stock, especially during our long winters. It is thanks to ensilage that we are enabled to resolve this problem.

For some time, the government has been actively considering this question. An additional grant has been made to all the agricultural societies to enable them to offer prizes for the best silage and the best siloes, circulars have been sent about the country explaining in detail the construction of siloes, the cultivation of silage-crops, and the mode of preserving them. The department has had made small models of the silo, in wood, to serve as models in places where no siloes exist yet and where the way to build them is not understood. Any society that would like to have one has only to ask the department of agriculture to send them one. The model is made of a scale of one inch to the foot; by following it exactly no error is possible.

It is especially after a season of drought like this, when fodder is likely to be so scarce, that the real value of ensilage can be appreciated.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your devoted servant,

H. G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE.

(From the French.)

The following article from the pen of Mr. Shaw, of the College at Guelph, expresses the same ideas I have often developed in this publication, with this exception: I prefer feeding off the crops sown on the fallow with sheep to ploughing them in green. To summer-fallow light land is, of course, an absurdity and a waste of time and labour, but on heavy clays, like those of Chambly, St. Hyacinthe, &c., a summer-fallow, well worked with plough, harrow, and grubber, ought on the average of years to be clean by the end of July, and if rape and vetches, or rape alone, are sown at once, there will be a good bite for the sheep by the middle of September, and six weeks afterwards, the crop having been fed off, the land can be laid up in proper form for the winter.

A. R. J. F.

### THE SUMMER FALLOW:

PROF SHAW TELLS OF ITS ADVANTAGES AND HOW IT SHOULD BE CONDUCTED.

Mr. Thomas Shaw, of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, has made public the following letter:

In these days of small margins the farmer must economize