

going forward during the winter months. But the export trade for the season has commenced and sales of pickled eggs have been made recently for next fall shipment at one cent and one and one-quarter cents per dozen more than was paid last year at this time. It is not expected, however, that many fresh eggs will go forward from Canada to the English market before the middle of July. Many English houses are asking for quotations for fresh stock for shipment about that time. The outlook, therefore, is somewhat encouraging.

The importation of eggs by Great Britain is on a very large scale, and there is plenty of room for large quantities of Canadian fresh eggs. In 1897 Great Britain imported from France eggs to the value of \$5,114,345; from Germany eggs to the value of \$4,065,110; from Belgium eggs to the value of \$3,840,385; from Denmark eggs to the value of \$2,281,410, and from Russia eggs to the value of \$4,061,435. As compared with the values of the egg importations from Canada for the same time these figures are enormous. But the Canadian trade is growing, and now that we have got a fairly good start it should expand very rapidly. There is nothing to prevent the Canadian poultrymen from capturing a large share of Britain's egg trade if the business is only handled in the proper way. A regular system must be adopted for gathering the eggs when fresh and preserving them in good condition till they reach the English consumer. There should be no great difficulty in doing this now that we have a complete cold storage system on board the cars and ocean steamships. What is required is more practical information in regard to the best methods of packing the eggs for shipment, and we would like to hear from some of our poultry experts on this matter.

Nearly all authorities agree that eggs should be sold by weight only. It is the fair way and gives every one his just due. A dozen large eggs are worth more than a dozen small ones. A Glasgow merchant in writing to the *Montreal Trade Bulletin* on this subject points out that what is of consequence to the producer is not what standard of weight should be adopted but that the heavier the eggs the higher the relative price. To illustrate this he states that supposing eggs weighing 15 lbs. are worth five shillings per 120, equal to 4d. per pound, eggs weighing 18 pounds will be worth about 6s. 6d. or nearly 4½c. per pound. If this contention is correct the larger eggs, aside from the extra weight they have, are worth more per pound than the smaller eggs. This writer also points out that every shipper should have some fixed weight per 120 (the English long hundred), and stick to it whether that might be 12 pounds or 30 pounds. Eggs of both these weights are shipped from the continent to Great Britain throughout the season. In Denmark the rule is for packers to buy by weight from the farmer. This induces the production of a better quality of eggs and is the fairest way of dealing. We would like to see the same plan adopted in this country. It would do more than anything else to encourage the production of larger eggs. If a producer of small eggs can get as much per dozen for them as his neighbor can get for large eggs, he is not going to trouble himself about improving his product. The point raised by the writer referred to above in regard to the larger eggs being of better quality than the smaller ones is an important one. We would like to hear from our poultry experts on this point also.

### He Knows a Good Thing.

Hastings, Ont., 28th April, 1898.

The Bryant Press, Toronto.

DEAR SIRS,—Please find enclosed \$1 for FARMING to be addressed to Mr. George Campbell, Roseneath, Ont. I hope to send you a number of subscriptions this season, for I feel you deserve every encouragement in prosecuting such a journal.

Yours,

J. H. SCRIVER.

The annual meeting of the West Peterboro' Farmers' Institute will be held in the Council Chambers, Peterboro', on June 6th, at 2 p.m.

### The Provincial Experimental Farm.

A week ago we had the privilege of a drive over the Experimental Farm at Guelph with that practical farmer Mr. Wm. Rennie, the farm superintendent. We must say that we never saw the farm in better shape. The ground was being prepared for corn and roots. In preparing all land for grain and roots, Mr. Rennie follows shallow cultivation and a four years' rotation of crops: For two years, grass, meadow and pasture 180 acres; third year, corn, roots and peas, 90 acres; fourth year, grain and seeded down, 90 acres. The corn and root ground this season was meadow and pasture last year. The sod was plowed in the fall three inches deep and harrowed. This caused the vegetable matter to rot very soon, because it was near the surface. During the fall the manure was put on and merely covered by plowing. The land was worked thoroughly on top in the spring, and is being put in splendid condition for the seed.

Without exception, we saw on the farm the best field of fall wheat we have seen for years. There was not a blade winter-killed, and it was as even on top as a freshly-cut lawn. Mr. Rennie believes that his success in fall wheat growing is due to the shallow cultivation of the soil and conserving the fertility on the surface and not burying it beyond the reach of the roots of the plant. The results this year certainly prove that Mr. Rennie's theories regarding the cultivation of the soil are correct. In other respects the farm looks well, and it would pay any farmer many times over to visit it and see for himself what can be done by improved methods of farming.

### The Cheese and Butter Outlook.

Mr. R. M. Ballantyne, one of the leading cheese-buyers of Western Ontario, has recently returned from a business trip to Great Britain. He believes that we are not likely to see as high prices this season as last for cheese. The English dealers bought up largely of last year's make at high prices, and after keeping it during the winter were forced to sell at a great sacrifice this spring. Such losses always tend to put a damper upon business the following season, and the English dealer is not likely to be caught again for a while. He will be more wary this season about paying high prices and is not as likely to launch out as freely for a time. The situation has, however, improved with the opening up of spring, and though prices may not be as high as last season, they are likely to be sufficiently high to enable dairymen to make a good profit out of the business.

Mr. Ballantyne reports a change of sentiment in England in regard to Canadian butter, which now compares favorably with the Danish. The outlook is quite encouraging, and if the right kind of quality is sent forward it will command a ready sale at current prices. Last winter Canadian butter brought higher prices than ever before in the British market.

### Agricultural Teaching in Nova Scotia.

A movement is now on foot for the establishment of an Agricultural College and Provincial Experimental Farm at Wolfville, N.S., in connection with the Nova Scotia School of Horticulture. The recent destruction by fire of the Agricultural College at Truro has brought the matter up, and an effort will now be made to induce the Provincial Government to move the college to Wolfville and amalgamate it with the School of Horticulture already established there.

As far as we are able to judge from this distance, we would say that the move is a good one, and deserving of careful consideration on the part of the Nova Scotia authorities. It is a source of weakness, especially where the efforts are small, to divide interests too much. The College of Agriculture at Truro has never been a brilliant success, and something should be done to put it on a good working basis. The proposal, we think, would be a step in that direction, and we wish its

promoters every success. In unity there is strength, and, if the different branches of the various agricultural institutions in the province by the sea can be combined into one substantial institution, it would be a forward movement in the progress of agriculture in that portion of the Dominion.

### Tobacco Culture.

Of late considerable interest has been evinced in many parts of Ontario in regard to the growing of tobacco. It has been demonstrated that tobacco can be grown successfully in Canada, and, if so, why should not our farmers obtain the benefit to be derived from its cultivation? In this issue we begin the publication of a bulletin on this subject by Dr. Saunders, director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, and which will be continued in succeeding issues till finished. Dr. Saunders' treatment of the subject is very exhaustive, and we are sure will be of great value to those contemplating the growing of tobacco. It treats of the cultivation of the soil and its preparation for the growing of the plant; the planting, harvesting, and disposal of the crop at the end of the season; the methods of drying and preparing it for manufacture, and the varieties to grow. Before commencing the cultivation of the plant every farmer should take the trouble to post himself as to the kind of soil required, and the preparation necessary to growing it successfully.

### Mr. A. M. Smith.

The portrait on the front cover of this week's FARMING is no doubt familiar to fruit-growers generally. Mr. A. M. Smith, of St. Catharines, Ont., whom it represents, has for many years been closely associated with everything that is progressive in the way of fruit-culture. His natural inclination in this direction combined with his characteristic foresight and unceasing energy have not only made his services of great value in developing the fruit industry of this province, but have brought him a large measure of success as a producer of high-class nursery stock.

Mr. Smith was born amid the beauties of the Green Mountains in the State of New York, and in his early years learned the nursery business at Lockport, New York state. As early as 1856 he visited the Niagara peninsula and was so much impressed with the surpassing beauty of the country around Grimsby that he decided to locate there. This he accordingly did and entered into partnership with Mr. C. E. Woolverton in the fruit-growing and nursery business. This partnership lasted for fifteen years, after which he continued the business in his own name. Branches of the business were afterwards established at Lockport, Drummondville, and St. Catharines, to which last named place he removed in 1880, where he now resides.

Mr. Smith has always been closely identified with every movement that has had for its object the advancement of the fruit industry of his adopted country. He is one of the charter members of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association which was organized in 1859. He has served many years on the directorate and was president of the association in 1889. His services have been much in demand at Farmers' Institute meetings for addresses on fruit culture, and he is at present a member of the Board of Control of the Fruit Experiment Stations of Ontario.

### Our Clubbing List.

|                                     | Regular price. | With FARMING. |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Canadian Magazine.....              | \$2.50         | \$2.50        |
| Toronto Weekly Globe.....           | 1.00           | 1.50          |
| Toronto Weekly Mail and Empire..... | 1.00           | 1.40          |
| Farm and Fireside.....              | 1.00           | 1.40          |
| Montreal Daily Witness.....         | 3.00           | 3.00          |
| Toronto Morning World.....          | 3.00           | 3.00          |
| Montreal Weekly Witness.....        | 1.00           | 1.60          |
| Family Herald and Weekly Star.....  | 1.00           | 1.75          |
| London Weekly Free Press.....       | 1.00           | 1.75          |
| London Weekly Advertiser.....       | 1.00           | 1.40          |
| Ottawa Semi-Weekly Free Press.....  | 1.00           | 1.60          |
| Howard's Dairyman.....              | 1.00           | 1.75          |
| Rural New Yorker.....               | 1.00           | 1.85          |