e Reform party are entitled to at least the urtesy of criticism in the columns of the ief organ. It is no reason that because Mr. ackenzie has been unhorsed by Mr. Blake should be trampled on by the *Globe*.

Petrolia rejoices because the Petrolia Oil ompany have received their charter of inorporation from the Dominion Government. he Petrolia *Advertiser* considers the formaion of this company the prelude to the inauguration of a new system of carrying on he oil business by handling refined oil in ulk, and that it will be a great boon to the conumers of oil throughout the country, as it ill tend to lessen the price, and will also aterially keep in check the monopolies and l rings heretofore in existence.

The lumbering business in the Ottawa disrict will be extensive this season. A. Caldell & Son cut 100,000 feet in the township Canonto, Frontenac county, to be sent own the Madawaska. They did not cut last eason. Hillard & Dickson, of the same ocality, will take out about the same amount. Caldwell & Son will cut 400,000 feet of quare timber on the Madawaska—about onble their produce of the two previous seaons. On the Mississippi, Peter McLaren will have from 300,000 to 400,000 feet, against 50,000 feet last season. The yield of sawn imber on the Mississippi will be from twenty o twenty-five million feet. On the Clyde, in evant township, county of Lanark, A. Caldwell & Son will also cut about 200,000 feet of quare timber.

On Friday afternoon a compositor in the St ohn *Telegraph* office discovered a young ewsboy named Arthur French stealing letters out of the "drop" on the outside of the ost-office. The youngster had a wire with a ook on it, by which he pulled the basket in which the letters dropped up to the newspaper slide, which is larger than the letter lide, and was thus enabled to grab the letters. He was caught and taken before the postmaster, and five letters were found in his possession, opened. He tried to put the crime off on another newsboy, but that "wouldn't o down." The officials gathered from his tatements that that sort of business had been carried on for some time, and on one occasion he had got money from a letter. On account of his tender years he was let go unpunished.

At Mr. R. White's shanty on Chalk river, says the Pembroke *Observer*, a teamster on going out in the morning was attacked by a large owl, which succeeded in fastening one of its claws in the man's head immediately behind the ear, causing blood to flow quite freely. Going into the shanty he related what happened, which only produced laughter amongst the other men. In a short time afterwards the foreman, Mr. John S. Poupore, had occasion to go out and was also attacked; this time the owl, after a few rapid passes, succeeded in carrying off Mr. Poupore's cap. A few minutes afterwards the bird again swooped down, carrying away another man's hat. The bird is a very large one, and defies all the means used to capture him. It is needless to say that during his hat and cap raid the greatest possible excitement prevailed.

Another staunch supporter of the Ontario Government, the Galt *Reformer*, has taken umbrage at the market fees measure, which it considers "manifestly unjust," and regards as involving a breach of faith with those municipalities which have gone to the expense of establishing markets and erecting market buildings upon the implied understanding that revenue therefrom would never be confiscated by the Government. The *Reformer* denounces the third section of the bill as "as expedient to make the robbery of the town appear interfaced," affording as it does merely "partial compensation to a few towns as toll-gates have already disappeared over most of the province." Our Galt contemporary further speaks irreverently of the Government's measure as "this feeble and unjust bill." It is plain that during the current session of the Legislature Mr. Mowat and his colleagues have succeeded in creating considerable dissatisfaction amongst their supporters throughout the province.

The St. Croix, N.B., *Courier* says:—A little girl, 3 years and 8 months old, the daughter of Mr. F. Dwyer, school-teacher at Letete, is a remarkable example of precocity. Her power of memory is developed to a wonderful extent. After hearing a passage of prose or of poetry read over two or three times it becomes her own, and she is able to repeat it word for word. In this way she has committed to memory over one thousand lines of poetry. Our informant heard her recite "Hiawatha's Childhood," which consists of more than two hundred lines, without any apparent effort and without a mistake. Her enunciation was distinct, her expression natural, and she entered into the spirit of the extract with as much appreciation as would one who had made a study of it. She has become familiar with the pictures in Webster's Dictionary and on being requested to point out anything represented there, will immediately turn to the illustration. As another example of her power we may relate that on the occasion of a public entertainment, her father undertook to recite "Hiawatha's Friends," but forgot a portion of it and was unable to proceed. The little Miss, who was present, supplied him with the forgotten line and he was enabled to finish the recitation. She is a bright, lively child, and does not appear to be affected in any way by her intellectual abnormity.

The letters concerning early editions of the Bible and other works which have appeared in the columns of THE MAIL have attracted widespread attention. A friend in Galt sends us an extract from the London *Times* which states that recently "Messrs. Sotherby & Co. sold, by auction, at their rooms in Wellington street, the earliest printed Bible known to be in existence, and believed to be also the first book ever printed from movable types. It was described in the catalogue as '*Biblia Sancta Latina (testamentum vetus) e versione cum prefatione sancti Hieronymi.* No name of place or date, but known to have been printed at Metz by John Guttenburg about A.D. 1452, folio. In the original pig skin binding on oak boards restored by Bedford.' This copy contains the Old Testament only, and from the fact of its being bound originally in one volume it has been suggested that some copies were thus issued for the special use of the Israelitish community. The volume is quite complete down to the end of the Book of Maccabees with folio 486 and a portion of folio 506 in perfect *fac simile*. It has a few worm holes but the volume is in excellent condition, and measures 14½ inches in height. A copy sold a few years ago at the sale of Mr. Perkins' library fetched £2,690. The existence of this copy, it may be added, was altogether unknown until it was accidentally discovered in the sacristy of a village church in Bavaria where it was purchased by its late owner, a foreign gentleman. After a spirited competition the book was knocked down by Messrs Sotherby at the sum of £760."

A Good Housewife.

The good housewife, when she is giving her house its spring renovating, should bear in mind that the dear inmates of her house are more precious than many houses, and that their systems need cleansing by purifying the blood, regulating the stomach and bowels to prevent and cure the diseases arising from spring malaria and miasma, and she must know that there is nothing that will do it so perfectly and surely as Hop Bitters, the purest and best medicines.—*Concord, N. H. Patriot.*

VEGETINE.—The great success of VEGETINE as a cleanser and purifier of the blood is shown beyond a doubt by the great numbers who have taken it, and received immediate relief with such remarkable cures.

The spring show of goods by the wholesale houses in the city are now in full swing, and country buyers should not fail to make a call before leaving town at 82 King street west and see the new Wanzer "C" Sewing Machine. Mothers, wives, and daughters will be expecting some souvenir from Toronto and a "Wanzer," with new gothic cover and nickeled in all bright parts, and with all recent improvements known to the trade, cannot fail to gratify them.

AGRICULTURAL.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE live-stock trade in all its branches is reported particularly brisk. It is to be hoped our farmers will not deplete their own stocks in order to make sales.

MR. MUNDELLA, vice-president of the Board of Trade, reiterated his statements in the British House of Commons on Tuesday night, to the effect that the Imperial Government had no intention of prohibiting the importation of American swine.

French-Canadian farmers have been selling frozen milk in Montreal during the winter at two cents per pound, to the great detriment of the regular dealers in liquid "navy blue." The ordinary milk of city commerce would, if frozen, make a capital pavement for skating rinks, and might be cut up in pieces to use on the blackboards of our schools.

IT is denied that the Imperial Government have had under consideration the question of prohibiting the importation into England of American pork. Efforts have been made to influence the Government to take such action, by means of forged letters and telegrams and the circulation of unfounded stories of trichinosis having been discovered in several shipments.

France is determined, if heavy duties will do it, to keep her live stock market to herself. In the tariff bill recently passed it is proposed that the duties on oxen shall be raised thirty francs per head, on cows twenty francs, and on sheep three francs. Add the duty to the cost of shipping, at least from America, and the French duty becomes almost prohibitory.

The Bobcaygeon *Independent* says that the abolition of market fees is "a step in the direction of free trade." This is curious when it is a step away from the underlying theory of free-traders, who hold that all duties and fees levied upon products are paid by the consumer, while this measure is evidently in the interest of the producers. Our free-trade friends are frequently impelled by the logic of facts to deviate in practice from that theory, because it is not a sound one.

The agitation for the sale of eggs by the pound has been revived. Some eggs weigh more to the dozen than others, yet they all bring the same price. This is not fair to the hens which produce the heavier and larger eggs, and which should be encouraged in their good work. No hen can feel that she is appreciated at her proper worth when she finds that her fine fruit brings no more in the market than the dwarfed products of some lazy neighbour. The eggs which are picked up in the fields during the hot weather ought to be sold as chickens, by the pair.

Some idea of the vast dimensions to which the cattle export trade of this continent has grown is gathered from the statement of shipments to Great Britain during the single month of January. To London no less than 41,532 head crossed the Atlantic, of which 1,076 were lost, or about one in every forty. The shipments to Liverpool comprised 4,342 cattle, 1,038 sheep, and 208 pigs, and of these 656 cattle, 181 sheep, and 59 pigs were lost. The shipments to Glasgow were 1,108 cattle, of which 299 were lost. The exportation of forty-eight thousand head of cattle in a single month—and a winter month at that—is a big drain even upon such countries as the United States and Canada.

Large quantities of oleomargarine and other concoctions have been shipped abroad from the United States, labelled butter. Great injury to the dairy interests has resulted, and more is feared. To counteract this the New York Produce Exchange has appealed to the collector at the port to insist upon correct clearances being given, in order that the consignee at least may know the true nature of the article he is importing. To facilitate matters, the Exchange offered to appoint inspectors that would be at the service of the Collector, but the latter replied declining to make the necessary examination unless given special instructions from Washington. Appeal will probably be made to the Secretary of the Treasury in the premises, but if the New York Exchange wish to take the most practical way to check dishonesty in their shippers, their wisest plan would be to make reference to the Governments of the importing countries.

A writer in *Chambers' Journal* has been adding to the British public's already sufficiently large stock of ignorance concerning Canada and Canadians. He tells of the ravages of the "poisonous tomato bug," the acquaintance of which we have yet to make, and comments upon the hardships entailed upon those who pursue the industry of hunting potato bugs through the long summer days, from early dawn to dewy eve. He should have added that it is often found necessary to call out the volunteers in order to check the advance of those ferocious monsters. Our "home life," according to this veracious deponent, is rendered "unsettled and precarious" by mosquitos and caterpillars, the latter of which are represented as eating up the foliage of a fruit tree in a single day, which says much for the appetizing qualities of the Canadian atmospheres. The writer thinks little of our woodland warblers, but he has a kind word for "the bullfrogs and the musquitoes," whose renderings of their native airs he considers not unpleasant. Maple sugar, of course, receives that attention without which no writer on Canada considers his picture complete. An alarmed public are assured that although wolves are plentiful, even in the vicinity of Guelph, they are not dangerous to properly organized sleighing parties, from which the intelligent Briton will infer that Canadians find it prudent to travel in caravans, after the manner of the travelers of the Sahara. The whole production, which has evidently been compiled from some old history of our early settlements, is a sample of the sort of trash which intending emigrants are told about us and our country. The writer says that he has lived ten years in Canada, but we do not accept his statement. He ought to come here, however, and let the country grow up with him. He might find excellent sport in hunting bears in the vicinity of Hamilton, while the sharks in Toronto bay would afford him no end of excitement every time he went bathing.

A twenty per cent. loss on a single year's transactions, or on anything, is a very serious matter when one has to make a living out of his business. That is, however, what the farmers of Montana have to endure and surmount if they wish to continue on their homesteads. From no part of Canada has such serious news reached us, and yet there are people who would prefer United States territory to the Dominion. In commercial pursuits success is more or less a lottery. If a man has brains, energy, and prudence he is bound to get on. In agricultural matters it is different, for while those qualities will help towards success they cannot always make a barren soil fertile. To a farmer everything depends upon the nature of his land and the surroundings. Although the winter has been comparatively severe in some parts of our country, from no section have come wailings of great suffering or loss. From Kansas, Montana, Dakota, Minnesota, and many other parts of our neighbour's wide domain we have had all sorts of stories of a disastrous season. In Montana, it is stated, at the present time, hay, the most necessary of all articles during the winter siege, is not obtainable except at an extraordinary price in the sections off the main lines of travel, and the deep snow has made transportation and browsing alike impossible. Hay at $45 per ton, in a country where fodder does not usually enter into the expense account of stock-raising, will soon make it cheaper to kill the cattle than to save them. In Dakota, as was mentioned the other day, a fuel famine attests the severity of the winter, and telegraph poles and railway ties are burned to keep the frost king at bay. Like reports have been published from time from other sections of the Northern and North-western States, all showing that Canada has equal advantages with any part of North America, and that Britishers with whom Sir Walter Scott's sentiment of "Breathes there a soul," etc., finds any reflection should give our land the preference over that of a stranger.

FARM NOTES.

The estimated loss of cattle around Denver this winter is said to be exaggerated. 22,000, or 2½ per cent., of the cattle in this State perished.

The horse buyers who have been operating for some time past around Knapp's hotel, London, left on Monday night for the Eastern States, taking with them a large number of horses.

A very virulent type of measles is prevalent in some of the northern counties of Ontario. At the village of Dunre four deaths have occurred. The Pembroke hospital is full of sick people, mostly afflicted with measles.

Horse-buyers are active in Listowel. Average-sized, well-matched spans with good muscle and action have brought nearly $400, and from $100 to $150 has been quite a common figure for a single animal of any merit.

John Morden, a farmer's boy living on the 5th concession of London township, is a self-taught taxidermist, and has a collection of 1,800 specimens. A very large proportion of these are native birds, which he captured and set up during leisure moments after his regular farm work was done.

A Washington despatch says that the State Department has investigated and demonstrated the falsity of the report of the British Consul at Philadelphia to the Home Government, announcing the prevalence of hog cholera in this country. Similar reports have been circulated throughout other foreign countries. The department instructed American representatives abroad to protest against such assertions. The department also requested the British legation to deny the report sent by the British Consul to England.

Iroquois *Times*:—On Wednesday we were surprised to hear of the sudden death of Mr. Nicholas Serviss, of the 2nd concession of Matilda. He, in company with his son and another gentleman, started to draw a load of hay, and stopped in the bush to get a binding pole. Mr. Serviss got off the sleigh to cut it when he was heard to call for help, and upon his friends going to him, he was found sitting on a log holding some snow to his forehead, and said that he felt better. He took a few steps and dropped down dead. Heart disease is supposed to be the cause.

The West Farnham Beet Sugar Manufacturing Co. has increased the capacity of its mill from 100 to 200 tons of beets per day. The machinery has been purchased in Germany for $60,000, and will be here early in spring. Contracts with farmers in the neighbourhood have been made for growing 1,500 acres of roots, and arrangements are now making for 500 acres more, which the tillers of the soil are willing to produce. It is to be hoped that this promising industry will not be ruined at the outset, as it has been in the United States, by bad and ignorant management.

The Arthur *Enterprise* says:—"R. D. Kirk & Co. have shipped to Philadelphia, *via* the Toronto, Grey, and Bruce railroad, about 200 tons of hay. They have still about 300 tons to press and ship. R. B. Graham, of Luther, has also shipped to New York about 170 tons. Mr. Graham's hay was shipped over the Western, it having cost one dollar a ton to draw it to Goldstone. This entailed a direct loss of $1 per ton to the producers of Mr. Graham's hay. The Toronto, Grey, and Bruce railway charged five cents per hundred more than the Western, therefore either Mr. Kirk or the producers of the hay lost $500 by not having railway competition here. Farmers in this vicinity who have refused slight assistance to procure competition in railways will learn by expensive experience what it costs them to be without it."

If the farmer should bless the man who shows him how to make two blades of grass grow where only one grew before, the farmer's wife should be somewhat beholden to the person who suggests a new and agreeable article of food wherewith she may replenish the larder. A man runs risks in trespassing upon the housewife's domain, but he may legitimately ask for his cake. The value of oatmeal as food is beginning to be appreciated, and any new (although they may really be old) methods of preparing it may be useful. Perhaps the best preparation of oatmeal is the oat-cake, so well known all over England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. When visiting Europe in my youth I became well acquainted with oat-cakes of different kinds, but the English and Scotch pleased me best. Their memory is still sweet, and I might say they left an aching void I found it hard to fill, until I learned to make them here. An English paper gives a very good account of them as follows:—

"A good oat-cake cannot be made with cold water. The meal is put in a medium-size wooden dish—a crockery one will do as well—then it is mixed with water as hot as the hand can bear without discomfort, and a little salt is added, and the whole is mixed into a thick paste; no more water should be used than will thoroughly bring it into this state, and care must be taken not to work it through the fingers too much, or the cakes will be tough; then sufficient of the paste is made into the shape of a cone with the hands, and then pressed down into a round shape on a clean table or pastboard, that will make a cake of from 10 to 14 inches in diameter, and then it is rolled into a round cake with the rolling-pin. If it is to be very thin, say one-eighth of an inch or less, it is generally made of the smaller size, being easier to handle; if thick, the larger size. A number of cakes is thus made and put on the top of each other, with a little oat-meal scattered between them, and after a lot is ready, a good fire—but not too brisk—has been prepared, on which is placed a girdle sixteen or seventeen inches across, and the cake, after brushing off with a wing the loose oatmeal, is placed on it to bake. After one side is done, the upper side is turned downward, and when sufficiently done the cakes are placed before the fire and left there for some time. And the thin ones, if artistically made, will bend round until the edges overlap each other. This is considered the climax of a professed oat-cake maker. To a novice it appears the easiest thing possible to do, but only a practised hand can do it well. After having been taken from before the fire, they are placed on their edges to cool, and then put away in a dry place—generally in the oatmeal barrel, where they will keep five or six weeks, and will then be as fresh and good as when first made. It is the rule to make sufficient in one day to last the family for a month or more."

This is an excellent method, and any housewife who has a knack with pancakes, waffles, and such can soon become an edept with the oatcake. I need not say how welcome would be a fragrant, crisp, sweet oatcake to the farmer or his boy who runs in from the plough, while the horses "blow off," to dull the keen edge of his appetite with a snack between meals. A whole barrel of cakes would hardly last him a month if kept all for himself. But the youngsters, too, would explore that barrel, and if driven off would "cut and come again."

EFFECTS OF THE COLD SPELL.

On every hand one hears of frozen potatoes, fruit, turnips, and onions. The root-pits have been frozen; frost has invaded the cellar, and the losses have been very great. Why do not farmers think of the advantages of artificial warmth to meet such a danger? Why should a cellar, of all parts of the house, be left without means of warmth? The ordinary cellar is a pest-house which causes more disease and death than one would suppose. It is cold, damp, and full of mould germs, which, it is very certain, have an intimate relation to disease germs. The cellar is the winter dairy, and the milk and cream are kept too cold for good or profitable butter-making, and the average winter butter compares unfavourably with the much-abused oleomargarine. As a butter-maker, I would rather make it in the winter than the summer, because I can control the temperature with the greatest ease, and with a dry, light, airy cellar, that can be warmed and kept at a regular temperature, I feel perfectly independent and comfortable in regard to my milk, cream, and butter. In the summer, on the other hand, one has to use ice and slop with cold water, and a very hot day will sometimes play the mischief with the cows, unless they are kept in-doors or in a shaded yard and fed on soiling crops. Now, a cheap cast-iron stove can be bought for $3. Some odds and ends of wood will serve as fuel, and the cost of warming the cellar, so that it could be saved from frost, would be too small to be worth considering. With such a stove, one need never have to complain of frost in the cellar nor of cream that will not churn. In time, too, we shall learn that it will pay to have stoves in the poultry-houses, pig-pens, and cow-stables.

AS TO CLOVER.

A great deal of trouble is borrowed with regard to how clover gets its nitrogen. We know it gets a good deal somewhere; some think from the atmosphere; but we have no reason to entertain that idea, because there is plenty of proof to the contrary. Where then does it get its nitrogen? From the soil, where else? Then it must exhaust the soil. By no means. The soil is inexhaustible in the way in which clover gets its nitrogen. It takes it from sources where no other plant could reach it, and where it lies in a nascent and inert state. The fact is, the soil is a vast manufactory of nitrates, when it is supplied with organic matter as a raw material, and nitrogen in some form is always accumulating in it. Then clover is able to get hold of this nitrogen better than any other crop, perhaps assisted by the lime of the plaster which is so helpful for clover. We are gradually getting more light on many heretofore dark matters, and this is one of them.

THE COMING SHEEP.

We are threatened with a new "boom" in regard to sheep. Booms are dangerous things. Sometimes a man is knocked overboard and lost by the swinging of a reckless boom. This habit of the common boom of swinging back and forth violently may have suggested the name for this now common popular excitement, which is very irregular, swift, and forcible while it lasts, and which brings many men to grief. Sheep are always booming back and forth. Within a few years we have had a merino boom; then came the Cotswold and Leicester; then the Lincoln; then surged up the Oxford Downs and the Shropshires, and now the Hampshires are the coming sheep. These booms are devices of the speculators and dealers who are "on the make," as one might say. Farmers who are doing well should let well enough alone. Sheep are profitable stock when well kept. They will pay 50 per cent. per annum, and this should satisfy their owner. But there are modern Jasons who are in search of a golden fleece, and some of them in the end come to grief, as old Jason did, although they might happen to find the object of their search. But most of the modern searchers fail to find what they are looking for. The old fable of the dog who lost his bone by grabbing after its shadow in the water may well apply to this business of continually changing sheep.

FARM STEAM ENGINES.

"It is a great comfort," remarked a farmer who had recently procured a 5-horse power engine. "It gets ready when it is working, and then the cheapest kind of food. It never balks or sulks or is sick, and I don't see how I got along without it." This is the usual experience of those who keep steam engines. The only drawbacks are risks of fire and danger of explosion from bad management. But these need not stand in the way. The boiler may be kept in a shed 150 ft. from the barn, and outside of the usual fire insurance limits, and the steam conveyed in a covered pipe to the engine, where it can be turned on and off. By attention to a very few details and with some knowledge of the construction and management of a boiler and engine, a boy could run the whole with perfect safety. A knowledge of steam engines should be a part of every young farmer's education, although he may never own or work one. But there are few farms upon which it would not pay to keep a steam engine for cutting fodder, grinding feed, threshing, and various other work about the barn, and there are many small but excellent manuals which would give all the information required as to management.

MUSKOKA.

The Soil, Climate, and Products of Humphrey Township.

Humphrey township is situated at the head of Lakes Rosseau and St. Joseph. It is the head of navigation for the Muskoka lakes line of steamers, and also one of the great summer resorts for tourists from all parts of Canada and the United States. The township is famous for its great productiveness, salubrious climate, and health-giving atmosphere. The township is what is known as "heavy timbered" land. There is pine enough for building purposes for the next fifty years. The other timber is maple, black and yellow birch, ash, elm, basswood, white oak, and hemlock, the principal being maple and black birch, the latter attaining to a very large size. The soil is a loam, and exceedingly fertile. The crops grown are wheat, oats, peas, clover, and timothy, potatoes, turnips, and other root crops, all of which yield abundantly. Three hundred bushels of turnips have been raised to the acre. Forty bushels of wheat and eighty bushels of oats have been grown to the acre. The common yield of wheat is from fifteen to twenty bushels, oats thirty to forty bushels, potatoes from one hundred to two hundred and fifty bushels, and hay from one to two tons per acre. Some fine specimens of fruit (apple) have been grown in the township, showing that fruit culture requires only to be studied to make it a fruit-growing country. The climate is one of the most delightful. Snow generally falls to a depth of from one to three feet, remaining during the winter months. Spring work commences in good earnest on or about the 1st of April. During the summer cool nights prevail, always requiring some covering while sleeping. General health prevails at all seasons. There are no malarious diseases, no fever, no ague, and those who come suffering from that disease become speedily cured. In fact doctors do not thrive, and they are about the only class of people we could not conscientiously recommend the country to, unless they desire to seek other means of livelihood. There are plenty of cheap lands, farms with good buildings and improvements. The best of the Government land in the township has been located, but there still remains plenty of free grant land in every way suitable for stock raising and grazing purposes, which, with the contemplated Ontario and Pacific, Grand Trunk, and Midland railway facilities, coupled with the present steamboat accommodation, will eventually make this one of the first townships in the Free Grant districts.

We must not omit to mention that the entire township is well watered by streams originating from springs of clear and cold water. The streams swarm with speckled trout, which afford the most delicious food and rare sport for the leisure hours. It is not an uncommon thing to catch these beautiful fish weighing from one to three pounds each. There are also numerous small lakes, clear and deep, fringed with dense foliage, romantic, chasing away the monotony of the forest, and concealing within their waters an abundance of pickerel, bass, salmon trout, and other kinds of fish. Honesty, industry, and a little money are sufficient capital to lay the foundation to a competency. The township is not, nor has it ever been, burdened with debt, in fact the taxes are remarkably low.

Rosseau, at the head of the lake of that name, has been surveyed and laid out into town lots by the Government, and at present contains two large hotels, one of which, the Rosseau house, is capable of accommodating five hundred guests. The other, the Monteith house, can accommodate one hundred, and the proprietor has now commenced to prepare room for two hundred additional guests, thus making our hotel accommodation unsurpassed north of Toronto. It also contains a telegraph office, post-office, Anglican and Presbyterian churches, four stores, blacksmith's shop, saw mill, and boot and shoe shop. It is also the northern head office of the celebrated Harvie's stage line. The fleet of pleasure boats owned by Messrs. Ditchburn are second to none in the Dominion. The main Government road from Gravenhurst to Parry Sound and Nipissing runs through the centre of Rosseau.

Ashdown, one and a half miles from Rosseau, is situated at the junction of the Parry Sound and Nipissing roads, and consists of one large hotel, one store and post-office, blacksmith's and waggon-maker's shops, Orange hall, Methodist church, and several houses.

Port Cockburn is at the head of Lake St. Joseph, and contains one hotel, telegraph office, general store, and a number of houses. This is also a favourite resort for tourists. There are also three schools in the township. The principal business at present is lumbering, which is carried on extensively. There are splendid openings in the township for any enterprising persons, who wish to invest a little capital in either a tannery, for which we have an almost unlimited supply of hemlock bark (and we have no doubt that eventually the hemlock trees will be converted into lumber), creameries or cheese factories, for which, although small at present, in one year the number of cows would be sufficient to guarantee a supply of milk of a quality second to none in Ontario; a woollen factory, a good number of our farmers in this and adjacent townships having entered largely into sheep-raising, or a turning factory, for which we have an unlimited supply of hard and soft woods. The nearest manufactories are either Bracebridge, 28 miles, or Parry Sound, 24 miles from Rosseau. We have good farms in the township, farmers raising from one hundred to one thousand bushels of grain, and potatoes sufficient to enable them to feed that root to the milch cows.

ORNAMENTAL TREES.

Where to Plant Them—Easy Method for Rendering Homes Attractive.

BY R. H. HAINES.

Much of the beauty of the home surroundings may often depend upon the position or suitableness of, perhaps, only one or two trees. What an appearance of comfort and repose does a single gracefully drooping elm or maple sometimes impart to a home! What an air of protection and friendliness such a tree will give, as it towers above a cottage or house! How it turns into a pleasing picture what would without it be merely a house with bold, rectangular outlines! Then at other times we see a pretty house, with graceful vines or climbing roses overspreading its piazza trellises, whose harmony of surroundings, or beauty, is broken or disfigured by some intervening, uncouth, or inappropriate trees. When planting trees, it is well to remember that they are often likely to be lifelong friends; that where we place them there they will probably remain through many a coming year. Persons should not overlook this in planting trees, but should make due allowance for future growth. Ordinarily trees look well, perhaps, when first transplanted, but if inappropriate places are chosen for them, or unsuitable varieties selected, then their future growth will render them unsuited to their surroundings, or is the location in which they are placed. From this it will be seen that this subject of planting ornamental trees is worthy of much consideration, and that it should not be passed lightly over. Perhaps I can give a few suggestions that will assist some one, some time, in beautifying his or her home. It may be that the reader may not have occasion to put them into practice for years, but even at such a time in the future some of the hints given may yet be of some value.

It is by no means necessary to obtain costly trees in order to secure the best effect. Fine feathers and costly silks or sealskin sacques may at times be necessary to bring out the full beauty of some of the lithesome birds of paradise that are seen gaily tripping along the promenades of our principal cities, but some of the commonest American trees, to be obtained at the expense of a few shillings, will, with their graceful branches, render a place as picturesque and beautiful as would some trees costing five times that amount. Then, again, there are few ways in which owners of houses or real estate can invest a few dollars at a greater profit, or at a more rapid increase of interest, than by setting out a few trees. A dollar or two judiciously expended in this way would many a time in ten or twenty years, or perhaps even in five, add as many hundreds to the selling value of a house or lot as there had been single dollars invested in the beginning. At least such has been the pleasing experience in thousands of cases in the past, and no doubt it will be true in many more in the future.

Maples, of nearly all varieties, are excellent for planting out as ornamental trees. Sugar, or Rock maples, have the advantage of affording amusement to children, or their elders, in gathering maple sap from the larger trees in the early spring; while Silver maples, with their spreading branches and rapid growth, are also favourites with others. For planting along the roadside, or near the house, maples are sometimes preferred to elms on account of their being nearly entirely free from the attacks of caterpillars or insects. If planting shade trees of the larger habits of growth near a house, then a suitable distance is usually from 15 to 20 feet out. The south and west sides, but especially the south-west side of a house, should usually be protected in this way, so as to shield the house from the summer's sun during the early afternoon.

To protect the rooms on the west side from the heat and glare of the late afternoon sun, trees with branches coming nearer the earth, such as the lindens, or cherry trees of the Heart or Bigarreau varieties, might be chosen. All of the above trees, dropping their leaves in the fall, will allow the sun to shine through their branches in winter when needed. Trees should seldom be thickly planted close to a house on the east side, as the sun, shining in around the house in the mornings, is thought to add greatly to the healthfulness of the habitation.

Norway Spruce, a beautiful, conical-shaped evergreen, or White or Austrian Pine trees, might be planted on the north or north-west of a house, or of a garden or orchard, so as to give protection from winds in winter. Or these or other evergreens might be planted singly or in groups around the lawn, but in such a way as not to interfere with any pretty view when the trees are larger. Irish Juniper, a pretty, little, steeple-shaped evergreen, makes a desirable acquisition; while for hedges or single trees, the Arbor Vitæ, Hemlocks, and Spruces are all suitable. Weeping Kilmarnock Willows, or Weeping Mountain Ashes, growing only from 6 to 10 feet high, make handsome ornamental trees to place near a gateway or upon a lawn. A stiff or rectangular arrangement should be avoided in planting ornamental trees; nor should they be so placed directly in front of a house as to destroy its architectural beauty.

If a climbing Honeysuckle, Chinese Wistaria, Clematis Jackmanni, or Queen of the Prairie Rose be trained over the piazza trellis, then Cupid, no doubt, would gladly become a frequent visitor, and would happily linger for many an hour behind the friendly screens.

HOW TO TELL GENUINE FLORIDA WATER.—The true Florida Water always comes with a little pamphlet wrapped around each bottle, and in the paper of this pamphlet are the words "Lanman & Kemp, New York," water-marked, or stamped in pale, transparent letters. Hold a leaf up to the light, and if genuine, you will see the above words. Do not buy if the words are not there, because it is not the real article. The water-marked letters may be very pale, but by looking closely against the light, you cannot fail to see them.

AN INFECTED CATTLE CARGO.

The Case of the Steamship City of London's Live Stock—Excitement Among Nova Scotia Shippers.

HALIFAX, N.S., March 8.—The statement made by Sir Alexander Campbell in the Senate yesterday regarding the cargo of cattle shipped from this port in the City of London by Messrs. McLellan & Fader has created considerable excitement among our cattle-shippers. The ship sailed on the 19th of February with 317 head of Nova Scotia cattle and a number of sheep. On the previous voyage she carried a cargo of American cattle from New York which had the foot and mouth disease, but she had complied with the necessary regulations; the 30 days had elapsed, the ship had been well cleaned and white-washed, and the cattle were embarked, Mr. McLellan going across with them. They must have experienced rough weather, for 30 cattle and 150 sheep were lost overboard. Mr. McLellan cabled their safe arrival, but said nothing about the disease. Nova Scotia cattle never had the foot and mouth disease. Mr. Fader does not believe they contracted that disease during the voyage, but thinks that they may have contracted some disease, and that Sir A. T. Galt has been misinformed on the subject, as if they had the foot and mouth disease Mr. McLellan would certainly have said so. Another cargo of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick cattle will be shipped on the American cattle steamship Thanemore on Thursday.

PORK INTERESTS ROUSED.

Indignation Meeting by the Western Boards of Trade over Representations by the British Consul at Philadelphia.

CINCINNATI, March 5.—The president of the Chamber of Commerce received a telegram from New York to-day stating that a complete stagnation in hog products exists in Liverpool, on account of a report by the British consul at Philadelphia that seven hundred thousand hogs have died of cholera in Ohio. The Chamber of Commerce adopted resolutions stating that hogs during the past year have been singularly free from diseases of all kinds. The resolutions will be sent to the British Minister, Sir William Thornton, and to Senators Pendleton and Sherman. The British consul here also sent a despatch to the British consul at Philadelphia stating that his information shows that hogs in Ohio were never more healthy than in the past two years.

CHICAGO, March 5.—In view of the recent allegations concerning American pork, which have had the effect of largely restricting foreign demand for this product, the Chicago Board of Trade to-day passed resolutions emphatically denying the existence of any disease in American hogs, and asserting that never in the history of American trade was the product of our meat-packing establishments of so high or healthful a character as at present.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 5.—The Board of Trade to-day passed similar resolutions to those passed in Chicago.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., March 7.—The acting British Consul at this port in December to-day told a committee of the New York Produce Exchange that his despatch to England relative to hog cholera referred exclusively to Illinois. He obtained his information direct from Illinois, where, as reported to him, the mortality among hogs last year was 700,000. Should his figures prove erroneous, the present consul will send a correction to England.

Clean Food.

Farmers who are at all interested in the dairy will acknowledge that the flavour of the milk from cows who have good, clean water, plenty of shade, and good pasture is very different from that found in milk from cattle that are obliged to drink slough water and graze on pasture land where there is any amount of wild onions growing in the grass. The same thing is noticed in eggs. There is a vast difference in the flavour of eggs from hens fed on clean, sound grain and kept on a clean grass run and eggs from hens that have access to stable and manure heaps and eat all kinds of filthy food.

Lighting Stables.

Very little thought is usually given to the proper position of windows in horse stables; and yet a strong light which shines directly into the faces of horses has a tendency to weaken their sight. A common point for a window is in front of horses, and considerably higher than their heads. Numerous instances can be had of the injurious effects of such windows, among which is that of an officer in the British army, who had purchased a horse from a gentleman whose stable received all its light from windows situated at the rear of the stalls. The horse was sound, and the officer was perfectly satisfied with his bargain; but at the end of three months the animal became suddenly "ground shy." An examination of her eyes showed that they were directed upward, an explanation of which was had by the fact that the windows of her new owner's stable were above the head of the stall. A removal to a stable which admitted light on all sides removed this difficulty. Another proof of our assertion is given in the case of a farmer who had some fine horses which he kept in a stable lighted only by a small window in one side. The stable was so imperfectly lighted by this window that the door was kept open nearly all the time when work was being done. The consequence was that nearly all of his horses had eyes of unequal strength; and two of them became blind on the side which was toward the window.—*American Stockman.*

A Strange Horse Disease.

A disease, which has been termed cerebro-spinal meningitis, has, within the past two weeks, broken out among the horses in this city. It has not been confined to any particular locality, but has appeared in horse railroad stables, private and livery stables in various parts of the city. The disease was first noticed in this country ten years ago, when it spread to an alarming extent, attacking thousands of horses. Most of those that were attacked, but not killed by it, never recovered their former strength. Veterinary surgeons and stable keepers have been unable to agree as to the causes of, or the remedies for, this disease, but nearly all say that meningitis has broken out in a more or less violent form every spring since 1871. Some attribute the disease to the severity of the weather and the filthy streets; others, to the great strain to which horses were subjected in drawing heavy loads through the snow, and in starting heavily laden trucks and cars on the slippery streets, and others to the fact that many horses were kept indoors for a long time during the extreme cold weather, and then, as soon as a thaw set in, taken out and over-driven. Still others are of opinion that it is caused by feeding horses on corn.—*New York Times.*

More Uses for Carbolic Acid.

According to the London *Lancet*, the use of carbolic acid has been found specially effective in all that class of local festering, pustulating diseases of the skin which are at once so common and so difficult to cure; they include all kind of pustules, boils and carbuncles, sycosis, pustularance, and festering ringworm; such sanious sores, especially of the neck, as come under the care of the physician; also phthisis in its second and third stages, and cases of bronchitis accompanied with more or less purulent expectoration. It is found, however, that in order to be efficacious, the carbolic acid must be brought into contact with the part to be acted on, and the *Lancet* says that in many cases where the acid has been found ineffective, the failure has been due to a neglect to insure this contact.

Headache.

Why become a suffering martyr to Headache, when BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS will surely cure the cause of all varieties of either Sick or Nervous Headache, cleanse the System, regulate the Secretions, relieve Constipation of the Bowels, purify the Blood, renovate the Liver, and tone up the Nervous System, and distressing headache will be unknown? Sample bottles 10 cents, large bottles $1.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

CANADIAN.

Twenty applications for position of public school inspector, most of them from this province, were received by the Winnipeg School Board before they made the recent appointment.

The Mechanics' Institute, St. Thomas, continues to extend rapidly in score, and the membership now embraces 540, while the library includes some four hundred volumes, and others are constantly being added.

We understand that the scholars of Victoria College, Cobourg, have raised quite a sum of money for a gymnasium; University College, Toronto, has also made some feeble efforts in that direction, but hitherto without success. The students should not be behind "Old Vic." in their liberality.

At the request of a large number of ladies and gentlemen of the city of London, a special entertainment was given by the students of Dufferin College, in the Recreation hall, on Saturday evening last. The proceeds from this entertainment are to go towards the purchase of instruments for the college band.

University journalism is becoming quite the thing now in Ontario, though it has long been an accomplished fact in the universities of the United States. The *Acta Victoriana* is the name of the one edited by the Victoria College students; *The Varsity*