

is a great improvement to them, so as those that wish to save one of the best winter fodders for their cattle the coming season, can resort to my simple and cheap mode. I might comment more largely on the nutritious qualities of the corn tops, but I leave it, Mr. Editor, to those that wish to give it a fair trial to test its qualities, the exact time and cost I give you as follows:—

To Cutting, Curing, and Saving 1000 Sheaves last Fall, viz :

For Cutting,	s. d.
To 2 Men, 1 day each, at 2s.....	4 0
To 2 Women, 1 day each, at 1s. 3d.....	2 6
For Collecting, Binding, and Stooking,	
To 2 Men, each $\frac{3}{4}$ day, at 2s.....	3 0
To 2 Women, do. at 1s. 3d.....	1 11
To 1 Girl, do. at 1s.....	0 9

Amount of cost in full,..... 12 2

Trusting, Mr. Editor, that the above cheap and simple way of curing the corn tops may encourage every reader of this, who may have a field of corn hereafter, not to lose the opportunity of giving it a fair trial, I shall conclude.

Yours most obedient,

CHARLES HUGHES.

P. S.—I come forward boldly in my right name, not as heretofore, in my correspondence with you as a Lover of Agriculture, for I shall be ever ready to prove the fact to any of the readers of the above who may wish to give me a call and see the before mentioned corn saved and judge for themselves.

Nichollet, 10th January, 1852.

To the Editor of the Agricultural Journal.

SIR,—The letter of "A Manufacturer," published in the *Montreal Herald* of the 24th ult., stating the necessity of establishing Farmers, Manufacturers, and Mechanics Banks, has created a desire amongst the people of this part of the country to be better informed regarding the new law, and as there is no subject of more importance to Canada than that of banking, perhaps you will oblige us by inserting in your Journal the Act to which he refers. It is evident that if our present institutions render little or no assistance to this the most useful and responsible classes, they must establish Banks of their own. On reference to a paper published on this subject, I find that in the State of New York there are 336 Banks, in Massachusetts 188,

and in Main 83, whose notes are in circulation, while in Eastern and Western Canada there are nine banks, whose aggregated capital amounts to only £3,415,000, including the whole of that of the bank of British North America, which is not employed in this Province; while that of the nine principal institutions in the city of New York amounts to £4,839,600; this system of banking would then appear in a great measure to account for the prosperity and advancement of the United States, and the want of it for the backward condition of our own country.

A FARMER.

Dec. 29, 1851.

SOIL FOR SHEEP.—The soil most suitable for sheep is a dry one. It should have in its composition a due proportion of clay, in order that security be afforded against a burnt up pasturage during the heats of summer, a thing that cannot be provided against in porous sands.

Every man of intelligence and common sense is a subscriber to a newspaper, and if he is honest, he pays his subscription punctually, as a matter of course.

LONG BREAKFAST.—A farmer observing his servant a long time at breakfast, said, "John, you make a long breakfast." "Master," answered John, "a cheese of this size is not so soon eaten as you would think of."

GREAT NEWS FOR GARDENERS.—*How to kill Slugs.*—Take a quantity of cabbage-leaves, and either put them into a warm oven, or hold them before a fire till they get quite soft; then rub them with unsalted butter, or any kind of fresh dripping, and lay them in the places infested with slugs. In a few hours the leaves will be found covered with snails and slugs, which may then be destroyed in any way the gardener may think fit.

ON THE PROGRESS OF AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE DURING THE LAST EIGHT YEARS.

FLAX.

Its value, as now grown in Ireland, is rated by Mr. MacAdam at £19; the outgoings at £9; the clear profit at ten pounds per acre. His prize report, published by our society, being most complete, and of the highest authority, must be consulted by those who would embark in this branch of husbandry. The obstacle to the wider growth of flax has hitherto been the number of new processes which its preparation involves. The cultivation, indeed, is somewhat peculiar, as in Belgium one may see it weeded by women creeping on their hands and knees; but the fitting it for market requires many unwonted and delicate modes of handling, as rip-