

cipality in a county has then availed itself of the offer made to each county, the Department will place at the disposal of the same county a bonus of \$100.00 and two of \$75.00.

Moreover, in order to encourage the stoning of roads, the Department has decided to grant each county municipality, aid towards the purchase of stone-breakers, with engine, roller and sorter, provided that the total cost of such machines do not exceed \$2,400.00 per county. An amendment to the Municipal Code passed during the last session of the Legislature, authorizes county councils to make arrangements with each parish, village or town municipality of the same electoral division, for repairing the roads in those various municipalities. The general act respecting town corporations has likewise been amended in the same sense.

Municipal councils of parishes or of counties desiring to avail themselves of the above advantages must draw up their application in the form of a resolution, a copy whereof must be sent to the Department of Agriculture. The premium to which they shall be entitled shall be paid to them after at least two miles of earth road shall have been repaired and after a certificate to that effect shall have been forwarded to the Department with a copy of the invoice from the company that sold them the machine.

In the case of the purchase of the stone-breaker, half a mile of macadamised road must have been completed and accepted by an officer of the Department of Agriculture, before the government contribution shall be paid.

Machines for repairing earth roads that are brought by the municipalities with the help of the government shall remain the property of such municipalities for at least three years, and the county councils that purchase stone-breakers cannot sell such machines before they have been at least five years in use in the same county.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. M. G. DECHENE,

Commissioner of Agriculture.

Notes by the Way.

Wheat yield in the Province of Quebec.—At pages 34, 35 of the first vol. of the Journal of Agriculture (1879) will be found, in an article by Mr. Ed. Barnard, a statement of the yield of wheat per acre in the different provinces of the Dominion, as compared with the yield of the same cereal in England.

By this table, we find that, though the yield in England was, on the average of ten years, 29 bushels an acre, the yield in this our province was only 8½! To put it more forcibly, our wheat crop was less than one-third of the crop grown in England.

As there has been of late a great deal done by the Government, as well as by public spirited individuals; by practical demonstrations, as well as by public lecture; to advance the cause of agriculture, we were naturally inclined to hope that not only had the dairy-industry profited by these advantages, but that the production of grain had moved *pari passu* in the improvement so clearly visible in the production of butter and cheese.

Alas! we were too sanguine. The yield of wheat has by no means increased, even if it has not diminished. In the Government returns for the years 1880, 1890, we find the following figures:

(We leave out the yield in Manitoba, as that province being new land cannot, with any degree of fairness, be brought into comparison with the old farm lands of the more eastern provinces.)