

machines and implements for farm use made by the various manufacturers of Ontario. Such an establishment is needed, not only in Toronto but in all our more important centres, and we feel persuaded that such a business rightly managed would confer important benefits both upon the makers and users of agricultural tools. Farmers have neither the time nor the means to travel here and there in quest of implements. What is likely to be needed by them should be brought, like their sugar and tea, to their doors. There are not a few improved implements that farmers would buy if they saw them, and many a time an awkward or worn-out thing would be exchanged for something better, if the better article were at hand to tempt purchase. We beg to suggest that samples of tools and implements made by manufacturers in the United States should also be kept on hand. Our neighbors across the lines are very skilful in getting up labour-saving contrivances, and whatever lessens hand-labour tends to make farming a better business. We wish Mr. Rennie success in the business he has undertaken, and hope his establishment, though the first of the kind in our Province, will not long be the only one.

IMPORTANT SEED SUIT.

We learn from our American exchanges that the well-known Philadelphia seedsman, Henry A. Dreer, was lately sued by a gardener of that city, on the alleged failure of a warranty of cabbage seed. It appears that though the seed germinated well, the cabbages failed to make good heads, and the purchaser concluded that it was not of the variety for which he bargained. Mr. Dreer proved the genuineness of the variety, and, also, that with other planters the cabbages from the same lot of seed had produced well. He also showed that the bad result in this case was due to early sowing and the highly stimulated condition of the soil. The jury decided in favor of Mr. Dreer and the proceedings cost the plaintiff some two hundred dollars. This case should teach market gardeners and others purchasing seeds, that many of their complaints about bad seed and dishonest dealers are not always just, but that failures are very apt to be due to bad management on doubt their own part. At the same time there are no cases in which from negligence or other causes, dealers in seeds involve their customers in great inconvenience and loss. An instance came to our knowledge last year, in which were seven acres of well prepared ground sown, as it was supposed, to turnips, but the crop turned out rape, involving a serious loss to the proprietor. The rape grew luxuriantly, but had to be

sold to a drover for fall feed. It was eaten off by a large flock of sheep before winter set in, but the amount obtained for the rape, some \$80 was a very poor compensation for the want of the turnips. Too much care cannot be exercised by seedsmen, but in cases like that of Mr. Dreer, the fault was in the culture and not in the seed, and we rather wonder, that under the circumstances the Philadelphia gardener should have laid action, when, one would have supposed a little consultation and advice would have sufficed to have cleared the seedsman of all blame.

AMERICAN STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE IN POULTRY.

Some months ago the New York Poultry Society essayed to set up a standard of excellence for the various breeds of fowls kept by fanciers in the United States. Being a local and not a national society, its efforts in this direction were not appreciated, and from various parts of the country complaints of their presumption in legislating for the whole Union, were heard. The effect of these complaints may be perceived in the following announcement:—

"We are receiving so many protests against adopting the 'Standard of Excellence' as revised by the Poultry Convention of February, last, on the ground of incorrectness in descriptions, the Committee appointed to revise and correct the same, have determined not to take the responsibility of putting it to press, and propose that the Convention meet again to take further action in the matter, and that a general invitation be issued to all societies and breeders throughout North America, and that Wednesday, May 10th, 9 o'clock A. M., at the rooms of the N. Y. S. P. S., 27 Chatham-street, New York, be the time and place of such meeting.—M. C. WELD, WM. SIMPSON, JR., A. M. HALSTEAD.

This is more like the right way to business. If the English Standard of excellence, which has thus far been made the test, is considered faulty in any respect, or our American neighbours feel a national pride in getting up a standard for themselves by all means let them do it, but it should be the work of the whole country, represented in some proper manner, and not the work of a mere section however important and influential it may deem itself to be.

BEEF SUGAR MAKING IN ILLINOIS.

For some time past we have noticed in our exchanges occasional references to the Beef Sugar-making establishments at Chatsworth, Illinois, which did not seem to indicate that it was turning out successful. This it appears has been partly owing to unfavourable circumstances of location &c. which are likely to be overcome. The last issue of the *Prairie Farmer* contains the following paragraph on the subject:—