

was thirty years ago, discontinuing the cultivation of fall wheat for a year or two would probably be the best means of checking its increase. In many places a good crop of barley, rye or peas would pay better than a bad crop of fall wheat.

SARAWAK.

Royal Agricultural Society of England

SIR,—This Society does not receive any subsidy or grant from the Government, but a local committee is formed in each town in which the annual exhibition is held, and by that committee subscriptions are raised for the purpose of defraying the cost of providing the Society with a show yard, properly drained, supplied with water, &c. The local committee also subscribes £2,000 towards the other expenses of the show, and they devote any additional subscriptions they may receive to giving prizes for matters of local interest in addition to those of general interest which are offered by the Society itself. The Society's *Journal* is published by Mr. Murray, 50 Albemarle St.—price 6d. each part, and in the first number for the present year you will find a complete statement of the receipts and expenditures at the Birmingham meeting of last year.

I may add that the Society's expenditure on the Annual Country Meeting is, on the average, between £15,000 and £16,000. The expenditure of the local committee ranges between £5,000 and £8,000.

H. M. JENKINS, Sec.

12 Hanover Square, London W., Dec. 5, 1877.

[Thanks to Mr. J. for his prompt reply to our enquiries. It would be well for other officials to be as prompt and courteous as the Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.]

SIR,—I have often thought I would like to know which paid the farmer the best, selling his pork on foot by live weight, or selling them dressed. Accordingly, we weighed our hogs which we fattened for sale, alive immediately before slaughtering them, and then sold them dressed at \$5 per cwt. We could have sold them on foot for \$4 per cwt, that being the very highest price paid at the time for shipping purposes. The smallest hog, No. 6, would not sell alive, being too light, and we only send his weights to show the difference in the shrinkage in proportion to the size.

The following are the different weights:—

	Alive.	Dressed.	Shrinkage.
No. 1.—	535	467	68
" 2.—	461	390	71
" 3.—	281	231	50
" 4.—	272	224	48
" 5.—	250	222	48
" 6.—	162	125	37
	1,981	1,659	322

Total live weight, leaving out No. 6, 1,819 lbs., at \$4 per cwt., equals \$72.76. Total dressed weight, leaving out No. 6, 1,534 lbs., at \$5 per cwt., equals \$76.70. Difference, \$3.94 in favor of the farmer selling his hogs dressed.

The hogs were Berkshires (nearly pure), and well fattened. It will be noticed that the hogs shrank nearly one-sixteenth of the entire live weight, and also that the heavier hogs shrank less, in proportion, than the lighter ones. For instance, No. 1 would bring \$1.95 more dressed than alive. We had lard enough to pay for the trouble in slaughtering.

In conclusion, we might say, if farmers have heavy, well-fattened hogs, that it will pay better, in our opinion, to sell them dressed.

If you deem this communication worthy, give it a place in the *ADVOCATE*, and oblige,

W. L., Springfield P. O.

SIR,—Many thanks for your article on the Hessian Fly in the August number of your valuable paper. I took your advice, sowed my wheat late—between the middle of September and the middle of October. It is looking well now, and is free from fly, while many of my neighbors who do not take the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE*, unfortunately for themselves, sowed their wheat the latter part of August and the beginning of September, will lose their crop.

Last winter I top-dressed about two acres of wheat with barn-yard manure. The latter part of March I seeded with clover. At harvest I had a fine crop of wheat, and the last week in October I cut four loads of clover full of good ripe seed.

J. J., Napperton.

SIR,—In travelling through this Province I am happy to see so many of your valuable papers circulated here. The farmers of Nova Scotia are progressing well. They move with the age, taking hold with the determination to succeed, living up to your motto, "Persevere and Succeed," and, no doubt, they will. Their stock is coming along very well. I have seen some of Canada's finest production this season in the way of horses. "Young Phenomenon" and "Anglo Saxon," horses that have gained themselves fame in Canada, have been purchased here, and soon they will leave their mark, which will be a credit for the country in horse flesh. "Young Phenomenon" carried off the first prize at the Provincial Exhibition here, and very worthy he was of it. I see you got wrong information on the subject, stating A. Dayes Konx's horse took first. He took third, and if the people know the value of the first-mentioned horses they will breed from no other class.

VERITAS, Nova Scotia.

Recipe for Bots in Horses.

SIR,—I send the following recipe for bots in horses:—Take some Elecampane roots and boil them with some oats or tailings, not making it too strong at first, as they are very bitter and will not be eaten by the horse; but after using for a time, he will prefer them to oats. I have used this remedy for 25 years, and never knew it to fail in dislodging the bots.

W. A. M., Yorkville.

SIR,—I have been well pleased with the *ADVOCATE* for the past year; it should be in the hands of every farmer. I would be lost if I were deprived of the perusal of its valuable contents; send it along for another year.

Please give me the names and P. O. address of the manufacturers of the Self-Binding Reapers that were exhibited at the Michigan State Fair, six in number, one with cord and the others with wire, which were mentioned in the October number of the *ADVOCATE*. Any information concerning the machines mentioned would be thankfully received.

O. F., Mallorytown.

[The Self-Binding Reaper has not as yet been manufactured in Canada, nor do we think it has been sufficiently perfected yet. As soon as it is our manufacturers will no doubt introduce it to Canadian farmers.]

SIR,—I want to know through your paper if rye is sown in the fall and cut about the 1st of June, the feed will be as good for cows as hay is. Please give a clear definition on the subject, as it is very important to farmers. I think it would be very beneficial to farmers to sow rye in the fall, getting the benefit of the crops and cleaning the land; but to know the value of it is the main point. Send all the particulars in your next paper and you will oblige.

J. C., Duncreeff.

[Rye will be good hay if cut when the grain is well formed and not ripe or ripening. The oat plant is even better, more nourishing and strengthening. Rye is sown in August for pasture in the early winter months. It is sown in September and as late as October for early summer soiling, and may be cut and saved as hay. Whether sown for pasture, soiling or hay, it may be considered as "a stolen crop," succeeding the regular crop of one season and preceding the crop of the following season. It is very profitable, giving a heavy crop of valuable food for stock when most needed. In Europe rye forms no inconsiderable part of the breadstuffs of the northern nations. When mixed with wheat, it makes good bread, wholesome, highly nutritious and strengthenin, especially for hard working men.]

Muskoka and its Free Grant Lands.

SIR,—It gave me very much pleasure to read in this month's number of the *ADVOCATE* the remarks of Mr. Traxler on Muskoka, and particularly this section of the district. Mr. Traxler is one of the many who were led to make inquiries about the Free Grant Lands of Ontario through reading my short and somewhat imperfect description of "Muskoka and its Free Grant Lands" in the numbers of the *ADVOCATE* for February and April last.

As evidence of the very wide circulation enjoyed by your paper, I may state that I have received scores of letters from persons seeking information about Muskoka—not only from persons in Canada, but from persons residing in the United States and Great Britain. It is gratifying to be

able to state that many of these persons have settled here, and without exception they are well satisfied with the choice they have made. Although the work of replying to so many inquiries takes up much of my leisure time, I am encouraged to distribute information respecting Muskoka and give to correspondents the benefit of my five years' experience here when I read such favorable accounts of the experience of others who have followed my example in settling here. I shall at all times be pleased to reply to inquiries addressed to me by any of your readers, if they enclose stamps for reply. I trust that during the coming year the *ADVOCATE* will increase its circulation and meet with that warm support at the hands of agriculturists and all who take an interest in farming matters which it so certainly merits.

JAMES ASPDIN, Aspdin, Muskoka, Ont.

SIR,—Please answer the following questions in your January number of 1878.

Is corn fed in the ear good for horses when they are working on the farm—if so, how much would it be advisable to feed at a time?

J. S. MELLOR, Springfield P. O.

[Corn is sometimes fed to horses in the Western States, where it is of so little value, owing to the remoteness from good markets, that it has been used as fuel. Farming there, in all its branches, stock feeding included, is such that we cannot hold it up as a pattern to our farmers. Good shelled corn is good food for horses; it serves to lay on flesh and fat, but to promote the high spirit and vigor of the horse is inferior to oats.]

SIR,—Can you inform me through the columns of your valuable paper how to take warts off a cow's leg?

S. L., Milverton.

[Tie a horse's hair round each wart tight. It will cut through in a short time.]

SIR,—In your September number I see your quotations of exporting sheep, &c. from Montreal to Liverpool. Will you please, through the medium of your paper, inform me of the cost of importing sheep per head from Liverpool to Montreal.

J. C., Paris.

[The cost of importing sheep from Liverpool to Montreal will not, we believe, be greater than that of exporting from Montreal to Liverpool. If shipped in large quantities the cost is less. Many of the homeward bound Canadian vessels come with light cargoes.]

SIR,—I would like to ask, through the columns of your excellent journal, about preparing land for onions. What kind of soil is most suitable, and what preparation is needed to ensure a good crop? Would hen manure be good, and would it be best to plough the land in the fall, putting on the manure after it is ploughed, and let it remain until spring? By answering these questions, you will confer a favor on a reader of your journal.

Aronport, King's Co., N. S. W. F. H.

[The ground is dug or ploughed early in the spring, and well pulverized and levelled with rake or harrow; then open shallow drills about nine inches apart, not deeper than one inch and a-half deep, having alleys about four feet apart. It is well to smooth the ground after sowing, with a light garden roller. This prevents the too great evaporation from the soil, and so preserves the required moisture for germination of the seed. Hoe frequently during the summer, to prevent the growth of weeds, and keep the soil in fine tilth. When preparing for the crop bear in mind that the soil can hardly be made too rich. The manure applied must have well composted and rotted. It should be kept near the surface of these roots of the onions. Do not strike down deep into the soil, but gathers its food from the entire surface by its wide-spreading fibrous roots. A soil rather light is most suitable for the onion crop, but other soil can, by good tillage, be made to bear good crops.]

Manure for a Turnip Crop.

Please inform me through the *ADVOCATE* what is the best manure for turnip crop and cabbage.

Brownsburg, P. Q.

A. McG.

[The best manure for a turnip crop is well-prepared farm-yard manure. Some prefer ploughing it into the soil, others applying in the drill just before the sowing. In addition to the farm-yard manure, we would give a light application of some stimulant, such as guano, to force quick germination of the seed, and hastening the growth of the young plant to escape the ravages of the fly.]