

ted of his using the latest machinery, and whose education, and reading the latest works on Agriculture, enabled him to avail himself of the latest discoveries of science, would certainly be better suited to farm to advantage than if he simply followed the old rule of thumb of those who did good service in their day as pioneers by going into the woods and raising crops amongst the stumps, but who certainly relied on perseverance and hard work rather than on skill to produce crops from that great manufactory, the earth.

But supposing that the love of wandering is too deeply engrained in our own people, and that they cannot be kept at home—the same applies to the Eastern States of the neighbouring Union; they do not, however, sit still and howl at some particular politician for connecting them with the Western States, or in an Assembly brought together at the cost of, and for the good of the country, content themselves with declamations that the country is ruined, and that the inhabitants must leave it to obtain a living. Would indeed that some of those who thus talk would set the example, their acts unfortunately do not bear out their arguments; like sign-posts they say, "Do as I tell you and not as I do." The practical New Englander, if he must lose his own population, knows that without a constant supply of labour, no country can go ahead, so he has sought the thickly-peopled regions of the old world, and by circulating information and affording every facility, has turned a stream of immigration to his shores. We have all the machinery for this purpose. I believe that Nova Scotia rejoices in two Immigration Agents; what their duties are, or how they are performed, I am at a loss to know. But to obtain a supply of labour there is no need of any expensive machinery. Every fortnight the Inman steamer comes alongside Messrs. Seeton's wharf with something like 1000 people on board in search of employment and bent on carving out a new career for themselves. Has any attempt been made to tap this stream and divert a portion into this Province? Would it be asking too much that the gentlemen who are salaried agents of the two Governments for Immigration purposes should either singly or jointly make an effort to this end? I would suggest an office being established on the steamer-wharf, at which a registry could be kept, and employers in want of labour invited to record their wants; notice could be sent on board each steamer on its arrival that any persons desiring employment could hear of a situation by calling at the above-named office; this is only a crude suggestion, and the experiment might be tried and worked out in detail by the heads of the department; if it failed it

would not cost much; if it succeeded we should then be able to avail ourselves, on any sudden demand arising, of this supply of labour. Some of them may not be desirable settlers, many of them may filter away gradually to the United States; but at any rate we should get them when we want them; some of them—perhaps many—would stay amongst us, and after all it is, and was, out of such material that the old thirteen revolted colonies have built up one of the mightiest States of the civilized world. We cannot build up our country by sitting still.

Yours obediently,

J. W. L.

HEIFER CALVES.

"Rusticus," a correspondent who dates from Oxbow Farm, April 4th, has directed a straight shot into the camp of another correspondent who wrote on the getting of Heifer Calves last year. The theory, Rusticus says, is completely exploded by his careful experiments during the past and present season at Oxbow. So far, well; but having, as he thinks, routed the enemy, he follows up with so many military commands to the scattered forces, rallying the loyal Militia of Stewiacke to his aid, that if we were to print his communication some of our readers might think he was fighting like the Frenchmen for mere fighting's sake. It is well to know when one is beaten, and well also to know when one beats, and to stop there. Our correspondent says that he is more accustomed to the manure fork than the pen, but we think he can handle both pretty well. We think also that a good deal of the writing in the daily prints must be done by the pitch fork, otherwise it must leave a nasty smell on the fingers of the men who write. The pen is mightier than the sword, but the pitch fork is more useful than either to a peaceful farmer, and a far uglier weapon in guerilla warfare.

REMARKS ON THE CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS.

Annual flowers are among the most beautiful ornaments of the garden; their richness of colouring, the graceful beauty of form, and the delicate fragrance of many of them, their great variety, the long time they remain in bloom, together with their comparative inexpensiveness, render them worthy of cultivation in every flower garden.

The term "annual" is applied to plants which are sown in spring, flower the same year, (some Perennials flower the same year that they are sown, and are treated as Annuals), mature their seeds, and then perish. Annuals are divided according to their hardiness into

three classes, viz.: Hardy, Half-hardy, and Tender. Hardy Annuals may be sown in the open air during the month of May, or occasionally in the fall, as they will bear considerable frost. Half-hardy Annuals may also be sown in May or early in June. Tender Annuals require to be sown and brought forward in a hot-bed. As our summers are so short, almost all annuals that will bear transplanting are better started in a gentle hot-bed; but, as many of the most showy and beautiful, such as *Argemone Mexicana*, *Bartonia aurea*, *Calandrina grandiflora*, the different varieties of Candy-tuft, *Convolvulus minor* and major, *Escholtzia*, varieties of Larkspurs, *Lupinus*, *Mignonette*, Sweet Peas, Poppies, &c., are impatient of removal, they should be sown where they are to remain; and some that require rather a long season for their full development, may be sown in pots, two or three seeds in each, as they may be turned out of the pots without checking their growth.

When a hot-bed cannot conveniently be had to sow the seeds in, a nursery bed may be prepared in the open air. For this purpose choose a dry sheltered spot, facing the south, or east, mark out the ground required, and dig into it some good, old, well-rotted manure, mixing it thoroughly with the soil, rake the surface perfectly smooth, and sow the seed in rows, placing a label at the end of each row, bearing the name of the flower and the date of sowing. Immediately after sowing, if the ground is dry, the bed should be gently watered. As soon as the plants are large enough to handle, they should be thinned out, as, if allowed to grow too thickly, they become spindly and weak, and will not bear transplanting.

Biennials flower the second, and sometimes the first year, from seed, and then perish, consequently they should be sown every year to keep up a succession of bloom.

Perennials generally flower the second year from the time of sowing, remain in the ground and continue to flower for several years.

Biennials and Perennials should be sown in the open ground in a nursery bed, in May or June, and transplanted to the place where they are to remain early in the fall, so that they may be fully established before the winter sets in.

The time of sowing flower seeds is of the greatest importance, as if they are sown too early, or when the ground is cold and wet, they are apt to perish, so that it would be better to wait till all danger of frost is past and the weather mild. Then choose a dry day for sowing.

The mode of sowing is also of importance, as many people sow their seeds too deep, and in ill-prepared soil. The depth