

COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Farmer & Mechanic.

Sir:—Feeling, as I do, a considerable share of interest in the prosperity and advancement of the farming community of Canada, I was happy to see your prospectus for publishing the *Canadian Farmer*, which, if conducted with a moderate share of ability, I have no hesitation in saying will receive universal support, and, as I anticipate, be fully appreciated by the farmers, who, without doubt, will be gratified to see a production of that description emanate in their own country. But as a work of the kind, to be interesting, requires the correspondence of others, I shall set the example by contributing my mite, which I have no doubt will be followed by persons of talent and ability, which will raise the character of your paper and make it what it ought to be, a useful study for the Canadian Farmer.

As good fences are of paramount importance and advantage to the farmer, and contribute most essentially to the ornamental appearance of the country, I am induced to make a few remarks on the subject, and offer such suggestions as may tend to do away with the unsightly crooked stick fences of Canada, and substitute permanent and substantial ones in their place. There may be some excuse for the first pioneers who have made the forests recede from the view, but certainly none can be offered in cultivated portions of the country, where wood for fencing is now become scarce, and particularly when a large portion is occupied by British subjects. Any persons travelling through the British islands must behold with pleasure the neatness and regularity of the fences, which add much to the beauty of the scenery; but the crooked (angular) stick fences are not alone a harbor for every obnoxious weed, but a great impediment to the proper cultivation of the soil, and to the European present a most forbidding aspect, and also very much disfigure the appearance of the country. However, I must acknowledge a decided improvement has taken place by the introduction of post and board fences, which give no obstruction to the free passage of the plough and the proper cultivation of the soil. Fences of that description are peculiarly adapted for the introduction of quicks or white thorn, which would grow luxuriantly in this country, and be protected by a fence of that kind, (provided cattle were not allowed to damage them), and if properly attended to would form a good permanent fence in a few years time, and long before the boards would give way. A fence of this description can be created at a moderate expense, much less in my opinion than renewing a boarded one, and of course no comparison can be made in point of either utility or beauty. If the farmers were to procure the hawes from England and intermix them with the thorn berries of this country, and sow them in their garden, a good nursery would soon be created, and by leaving a small portion of the roots in ground fresh plants will spring up.

For making new fences the fields should be cultivated as well as possible when the quicks are to be planted, (which may be intermixed with sweetbriar, roses, or any shrub of that description), which fence will become strong after the third year. They will then require a little attention, such as clipping, and keeping them free from weeds, also protection from cattle. On old land, where the sward is strong, a good solid fence can be made corresponding with the English system, with some improvements. First place good posts at convenient distances, say from nine to twelve feet, between which build a solid sod bank with the grass side out, about three feet in height, say three feet at bottom, and one foot in thickness at top, on which plant your quicks six inches apart, intermixed as before stated with sweetbriar, roses,

&c., after which fasten a couple of narrow boards or light rails to the posts, over the bank, which will protect the quicks from damage until they get sufficiently strong. The bank is to be well packed and some good mould on top for the reception of the quicks. It is obvious that by this plan there is a great saving of rail timber, and by throwing a few loose rails behind the bank will protect the quicks from damage by cattle, if required to run in the field.

If this plan permanent fences will be established, and a general improvement in the appearance of the country will be effected.
A CORRESPONDENT.

A NEW INVENTION.—Six machines have lately been invented and thoroughly tested by successful operations, for making of ropes and Twine, though we believe it has not been generally introduced into use. It is described as a neat compact machine, for manufacturing by hand, the common Boat-cord, Seme-twine and chalk-lines. It occupies no more room than a twenty inch trunk, and by its aid, 2500 yards of fifteen threaded cords may be daily manufactured by a child 10 or 12 years old. The entire cost of the machine is only 20 dollars. The machine is so constructed, the operations so simple that a child can manage one, who could not perhaps employ their time so profitably any other way—Que. Would it not be well for the managers of our Penitentiary to buy one and make a trial of it? It would be a great saving of time and expense.

CONCRETIONS ON THE BOTTOMS OF STEAM BOILERS, &c.—A simple and efficacious method is now known of preventing the incrustations in question; it is to add from 26 lbs. to 33 lbs. of potatoes to the water in a boiler which consumes from 55 lbs. to 66 lbs. of coals per hour. The boiler may be then employed for twenty or thirty days without being cleaned, and without any fear of a calcareous deposit. After this the mud must be thrown away, and the same quantity of potatoes again be added. It appears that the fecula, by dissolving in the water, renders this sufficiently viscous to prevent the deposition of the calcareous matter. Flour would produce the same effect, and much less of it would be required. A few days after the steam-boiler intended to heat the Exchange in Paris was brought into use, it was perceived that there was a hole in the bottom. The fire was extinguished, and it was found, upon emptying the boiler, that the metal was burnt in a place where a rag (*chiffon*) had been deposited, which had been forgotten when the apparatus was set up.—*Foreign Quarterly Review.*

NEW EXPLOSIVE POWER.—The proprietor of the *Gazette of the Baton Rouge*, in Louisiana, has succeeded in propelling vessels without the agency of fire. A company which has obtained a knowledge of the method employed, is constructing a ship upon the principles discovered, as it is said, by Mons. L'eglume, but which proceed rather on the experiments of Tillorier and of Faraday, since the article used is carbonic acid gas, liquified without a machine of compression. All the invention consists in two large gas producers, the same as Tillorier's, which are supplied with bicarbonate of soda and sulphuric acid. Some drops of carbonic acid, produced and liquified by this mixture, fall alternately before and behind the pistons, and as this gas has a pressure of at least ninety-three atmospheres, it undergoes a considerable expansion, which gives impulsion to the machine. Instead of a cumbersome load of coals, a scorching fire, and ponderous machinery, a few tons of carbonate of soda and of acid will suffice to traverse the ocean and circumnavigate the globe in less than three months.

THE NEEDLE.

The gay belles of fashion may boast of excelling
In waltz or cotillon—at whist or quadrill:
And seek admiration by vacantly telling
Of drawing, and painting and musical skill;
But give me the fair one in country or city,
Whose home and its duties are dear to her heart,
Who cheerfully warbles some rustic ditty,
While plying the needle with exquisite art,
The bright little needle—the swift flying needle,
The needle directed by beauty and art.
If Love have a potent, a magical token,
A charmer ever resistless and true—
A charm that is never evaded or broken.
A witkey certain the heart to subdue—
'Tis this—and his armory never has furnished
So keen and unerring, or polish'd a dart;
Let beauty direct it, so pointed and burnish'd,
And 'tis it is certain of touching the heart.
Be wise then, ye maidens, nor seek admiration
By dressing, for conquest and flirting with all;
You never, whatever be your fortune or station,
Appear half so lovely at rout or at ball,
And gaily convened at a work covered table,
Each cheerfully active and playing her part,
Beguiling the task with a song or a fable,
And plying the needle with exquisite art.

KINGSTON MARKETS.

Beef, per cwt.	30	0	a	0	0
Mutton, per lb.	0	3	a	0	4
Veal, per lb.	0	3	a	0	4
Ham, per lb.	0	6	a	0	7½
Chickens, per pair,	1	1	a	0	0
Eggs, per doz.	0	9	a	0	10
Potatoes, per bushel,	2	0	a	0	0
Apples, per barrel,	5	0	a	7	6
Pears, per barrel,	25	0	a	0	0
Hay per ton,	70	0	a	80	6
Flour, fine,	30	0	a	32	0
Flour, superfine,	32	0	a	34	0
Oats, per bushel,	2	0	a	2	3

TORONTO MARKETS.

Fine Flour, per barrel,	1	10	0	a	1	12	6
Wheat, per bushel,	0	5	6	a	0	6	8
Barley, ditto,	0	1	8	a	0	2	0
Oats, ditto,	0	1	5	a	0	1	6
Pease, ditto,	0	2	0	a	0	2	6
Oatmeal, per barrel,	0	0	0	a	1	2	6
Beef, per 100 lbs,	1	2	6	a	1	5	0
Mutton, (qr.) per lb.	0	0	3½	a	0	0	4½
Veal, ditto,	0	0	3½	a	0	0	4½
Butter, (fresh) per lb.	0	0	7	a	0	0	9
Cheese, per lb.	0	0	4	a	0	0	6
Fowls, per pair,	0	1	3	a	0	1	8
Ducks, ditto,	0	1	8	a	0	2	0
Eggs, per dozen,	0	0	6	a	0	0	7½
Hay, per ton,	3	5	0	a	3	10	0
Straw, ditto,	1	10	0	a	1	15	0
Potatoes, per bushel,	0	1	1	a	0	1	3

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