to the ground after mowing, than I could produce in any other way; and surely a heavy crop of wheat cannot be grown at less cost and time. I think it well to state that the system of farming which I followed was that known as the "four field," the clover down early one year—never sowing less than fifteen to eighteen pounds of clover seed to the acre, neither Timothy nor any other grass seeds being sown. And no system of farming, in my humble opinion, will pay like it, provided the soil (gravel or sandy loam) be suitable. Fallow for turnips, afterwards barley or spring wheat; then clover, and winter or spring wheat to follow. The clover root buried deep, but with one ploughing for the wheat. With this system your land shall always be clean, and in good heart, and every crop a good one.

As the Pea crop is of so much importance in this country to some farmers, the "five-field" system might perhaps be carried out with advantage, without impairing the condition of the soil. Peas after wheat, and then fallow again.

There is another matter which should also be taken into account when sowing any kind of grass seeds. Many seeds get under clots of earth and stones, and consequently never see daylight; many others, when germinating, are eaten off by insects; and then the birds, too, when any seeds are left uncovered, must have a share; but worse than all, in this variable and treacherous climate, how many plants, when just above ground, are cut off or killed outright by frost, when we have thought all safe from that fell destroyer—so that where five pounds only of seed are sown to the acre, how greatly the crop you expect is diminished from these causes, over which you have no control.

Again, how often, in this climate, do we see one-half, aye, sometimes two-thirds of a field of clover destroyed when the plant is just nicely up, by a scorching hot sun, for days and weeks in succession! Surely, therefore, there must be a *better chance* for a heavy crop of clover from a thick sowing of seed, than from a thin one. Every man who can reason on any subject must surely see it as clearly as I have found it to be so. At a future time, Mr. Editor, if it be your wish, I may again take up my pen to say a few words on the advantage of clover hay over Timothy, and the best mode of curing that crop for fattening cattle, as also on the great advantage of a liberal use of plaster for small crops, where the soil needs it.

Truly yours,
LEICESTERENSIS.

Guelph Township, April 10th, 1868.

NOTE BY ED. C. F.—We regret that the foregoing communication was not in time for our last issue. Though late in the season, it may still be useful, and at any rate will induce observation and comparison of the effects of thick and thin seeding. We need hardly say that we shall be most happy to receive the additional communications kindly promised at the close of the above letter. Our correspondent is a gentleman of intelligence and experience, whose views are entitled to have much weight with our readers.

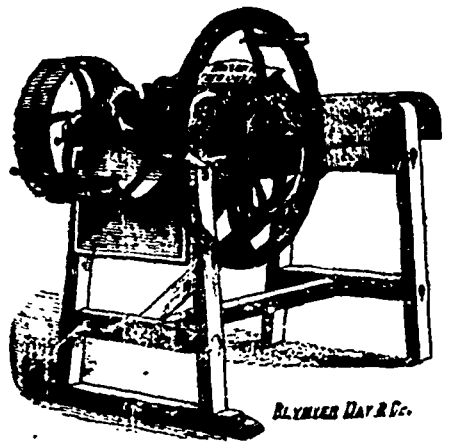
Should Potatoes be Planted Whole?

IN order to solve this question, a gentleman in Baltimore, Md., tried four experiments in planting potatoes—either whole, or cut in halves, or into eyes—with the following results:

No 1.—Potato, weighing 12 ounces, cut up in pieces of one and two eyes each, produced 6 pounds
No. 2.—Potato, cut in halves, weighing 12 ounces, produced 5¼ pounds.
No. 3.—A whole potato, weighing 9 ounces, produced 1 pound 2 ounces.
No. 4.—The sprouts of one potato, weighing 8 ounces, produced 1 pound 2 ounces.

Width apart, No. 1, 10 inches; No. 2, 18 inches; No. 3, 24 inches; No 4, 8 inches.

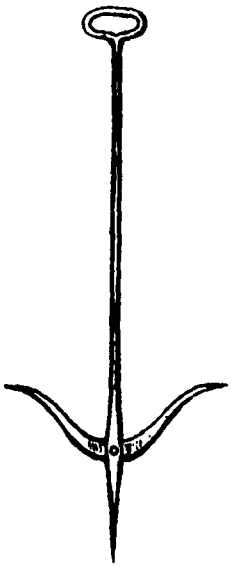
The object in trying the experiment was to ascertain if planting whole potatoes possessed any advantage over the old plan of cutting the potatoes in small pieces. The above results appeared to be conclusive in favour of cutting into eyes or halves. The best cultivators now grow no longer in hills, but in rows 3 or 3½ feet apart, with pieces dropped in the rows at distances of 12 or 15 inches apart. This method has always proved satisfactory, giving a much larger return per acre, a greater proportion of large potatoes, and a greater freedom from rot or disease than the hill system.—*N. Y. Ind.*



Eureka Cutting Box.

THE above cut represents a hay and straw cutter, sold in several sizes, by Messrs. A. T. Bates & Co., 195 Washington Street, Chicago. Having had an opportunity of inspecting the operation of this machine, we can speak of it in confident terms of eulogy. It works with great steadiness, ease and rapidity. The self-feeding arrangement is effective. It does not clog or choke up. The knives work without jerking or unsteadiness, and are so enclosed that it is impossible for any accident to occur. There is, so far as we know, no better machine of the kind before the agricultural public. Four sizes are manufactured, the smallest at $20 and the largest (for horse power) at $64 American currency.

Ruettel's Patent Hay Puller.



THE accompanying illustration represents a useful implement for pulling hay or straw from the stack or mow for feeding and other purposes. It consists, as shown in the cut, of a strong shaft of iron, provided with a loop handle at one end, and a sharp point at the other For a short distance from the point, the shaft is gradually thickened, and opened out so as to admit of the insertion of two prongs, one on each side. These prongs may be of any desired length, and are kept in place by a pin, on which they move freely as on a hinge. When the instrument is inserted into a body of hay or straw, the prongs are laid flat against the shaft, and offer no impediment to the passage of the implement; but on attempting to withdraw it, they necessarily spread out and bring a quantity of hay, or whatever the material may be, along with them.

By this contrivance, it is stated, hay or straw can be expeditiously and readily withdrawn from the stack without the necessity of removing the covering, and so exposing any fresh portion to the weather. Much of the seed and dust in hay is, at the same time, shaken out in the process, and it is thus fed to the animals in the best possible condition. For particulars of price, &c., we refer to the proprietor's advertisement in the present issue.

Another Farm Balance Sheet.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

SIR,—I have read in your paper a statement of farming accounts by "Ulmus." His account is certainly very discouraging; but lest beginners should suppose that farming in Canada is utterly unprofitable, I send you a statement of my account for 1866-67. My account for the year 1867 shows, at 31st Dec., a balance to Credit of $1315.62. The account I send, from 1st July, 1866, to 1st July, 1867, is, however, a fairer statement, as it can include no more than one year's crop.

My farm is 150 acres, 130 of which are under cultivation. I have cleared it myself except a few acres, and have learned anything I know about farming from hard experience, as when I began I hardly knew wheat from oats. I pursue the mixed system of farming, and keep a good deal of stock, but not so much as to have to pay $300 a year for feed. I raise about 800 bushels of wheat a year—average 20 bushels per acre. My item for feed and seed bought will appear large, $215.60. The reason is, that in that year I changed my wheat, both Spring and Fall, and had a large quantity of Clover and Timothy seed to buy. I do not value my stock in the account, as any increase in value was caused by the temporary high price of cattle.

CALDER.

1866-67.	Dr.	
July.	To Wages	$518 50
	" Blacksmith	12 75
	" Cattle bought	194 00
	" Threshing	18 00
	" Feed and Seed bought	213 60
	" Saddlery and Hardware	88 28
	" Plaster	20 56
	" Implements, Lumber, &c	126 80
	" Taxes, Insurance and Sundries	66 47
July.	" Balance	1005 26
		$2214 22

	Cr.	
July.	By Wheat sold or used in house	1194 91
	" Cattle sold	336 50
	" Feed sold	116 08
	" Beef, Pork and Mutton sold and used, and Dairy Produce	439 94
	" Seed sold	38 71
	" Wool	69 88
	" Sundries	18 20
		$2214 22
1867.		
July 1st.	By Balance	$1005 26

☞ THE following rule for ascertaining the number of bushels of apples, etc., in bins and boxes is recommended as simple and accurate: For the number of "even" bushels, multiply the number of cubic feet in the bin by eight and point off one decimal. For "heaped bushels," multiply by eight twice, and point off two.

SHARPE'S IMPROVED TURNIP.—We can confidently recommend this turnip to intending cultivators as one of the best Swedes ever introduced into this country. It has won golden opinions and first prizes in all directions. For sale by Messrs. Sharpe, Seedsmen, Guelph.

WHAT RABBITS COST ENGLISH FARMERS.—At a recent meeting of the Staindrop Farmers' Club, a paper was read on the comparative appetites of sheep and rabbits. Two hogget sheep and twelve full-grown rabbits had been put up, and fed for six weeks on oats, cut clover, and bran. At the end of that time it was found that nine rabbits in captivity ate as much as two sheep, and, of course, when free, they destroy much more than they consume. Some estimate may thus be formed of the injury done to tenant-farmers by rabbits. A farm on which 900 rabbits are shot yearly, is taxed far more heavily than if its tenant had to maintain a flock of 200 of his landlord's sheep. The sheep, too, would be useful in fertilising the land, whilst rabbits are of no use at all in that capacity.