be can be left in suitable places, headed down, and protected from the brush fires. They will make a fine growth long before the stumps are rotted, the land drained, and young trees set out by hand. In such localities as the stretch of country from Paris southward, and Brantford westward, the eastern environs of London, &c. the "oak openings" formed splendid natural parks, and trees in groups or singly could have been selected, (some have been,) such as no artificial planting could surpass. In other places, evergreens in a state of nature well deserved preservation However thickly timbered land may be, what is to hinder clumps and belts of a few acres being left not far from the house and barn? Why is the reserve of wood-land to be kept in the most remote part of the farm? If left near the buildings, it would be at once a protection and an ornament, and as thinned out for purposes of fuel, might grow increasingly beautiful from year to year. We have a shrewd suspicion that "Uncle Toby" has a nephew or friend in the nursery business.

CANADA THISTLES AND PIGEON-WEED OR RED-ROOT.—R. B., of South Dumfries, makes sundry enquiries about these pests of the farm, which we will do our best to answer. He is alarmed, and not without reason, at the prevalence of Canada Thistles. Every farmer should enlist in a war of extermination against them. We know of no better mode of procedure than that recommended in our last. *Thoroughly kill the roots and the roots must die.* We doubt if cutting them at any particular time will "give them a dead blow," though cutting them shortly before they come into flower, inflicts a severe check upon them. But they are so tenacious of life that the process must be repeated. To mow them close to the ground just as the flower buds begin to show themselves, and follow it up with repeated ploughings, is a good plan.

Pigeon-Weed or Red-root is even more difficult to get rid of when once established in the soil. "R. B." is in no small tribulation about it. He says:—"I am afraid the red-root will outflank me!" Without good generalship there is much danger that it will do so. Its seeds are remarkable for retaining their vitality for years when deeply buried, or kept from warmth, air and moisture. This renders the pest very hard to eradicate. When the farmer flatters himself that it is utterly destroyed, a little deeper ploughing than usual brings up seeds that had long been dormant, and lo! a new crop shows itself. Some think careful and repeated hand-pulling the only remedy. Where, however, it has taken extensive hold, this is out of the question. The following plan has been tried with good results:—Plough the land very deep, at least eight inches, and sow wheat. The deep ploughing buries the red-root seed beyond the reach of vegetating influences, and secures almost entire deliverance for one season. Any plants that appear among the wheat should be pulled out by the hand. In the fall, plough to the depth of eight inches again. This will throw the buried seed to the surface. Harrow well and let the seed sprout and grow. Next spring, plough the weeds under, or cut them to pieces with a large steel cultivator, and sow oats, barley, or peas—the latter is the best rotation. Plough and harrow again in the fall to start another crop of weeds. The following spring, plant some hoed crop and keep it cleanly cultivated. The land may then be seeded down, and when wheat is again introduced, but few weeds will be found, which may be pulled out by hand. Red-root can undoubtedly be exterminated, but it is a work of time and patience.

WOOD ASHES INJURIOUS.—"A Farmer" writes from Woodhouse, County of Norfolk, as follows:—"I have a large heap of leached ashes which I fully intended to have applied to my land before this, but having occasion to visit a neighbour, I was taken by surprise when he told me that having fallen short of plaster of Paris, he sowed the last two lands of his meadow one with leached ashes and the other with unleached ashes, putting on about two bushels to the acre:—that where the ashes were sown the hay crop was very poor, looking yellow and weakly,—in fact not half a crop, while where the plaster was sown an excellent crop was produced. So great was the difference, that it could be easily seen at some distance. The next season he summer-fallowed the same field, and a like difference was plainly discernible in the succeeding wheat crop. Where the ashes had been sown, the wheat was almost worthless, and of a pale, sickly yellow colour, while on the other portions of the field he had a good crop. These facts were attested to me by his next neighbour as well, both of them being men of unimpeachable veracity. Now what was the cause of the ashes having this bad effect? The party thought where the unleached ashes were sown was the most injured by the application."

ANS.—It is certainly a novel idea that wood ashes, whether leached or unleached, are injurious. We have known instances in which their application has produced little or no *immediate* result; but a case like the above never came under our notice before. The small quantity mentioned, "two bushels to the acre," makes the matter still more strange. It was certainly a Homœopathic dose—one so small that if it did no good, it should at least have done no harm. Is there not a mistake about the quantity applied? Our correspondent also enquires for wheat soils and crops leached ashes are best suited, when and how they should be applied, what quantity per acre should be used, and whether they are most useful by themselves, or mixed with stable manure. They are best adapted to soils deficient in carbonates and phosphates, and to such crops as Indian corn, turnips, beets, and potatoes. From two to three hundred bushels per acre may be put on, scattered evenly with a shovel,—they may be used alone or mixed with other manure. They produce important effects in the compost heap.

The Canada Farmer.

TORONTO, UPPER CANADA, FEBRUARY 15, 1864

The American Reciprocity Treaty.

PREVIOUS to the year 1854, nearly all articles of Farm Produce sent into the United States from Canada were chargeable with 20 per cent. of duty at the American Custom House; and in like manner such articles entering Canada from the United States paid 20 per cent. duty at the Canadian Custom House. And very much the same state of things existed in the other British American Provinces.

In 1854, however, all this was changed. A treaty was concluded between Great Britain and the United States, by which it was agreed that all natural products of the soil, the forest, the mines, or the waters of the United States or of any British North American Province should enter the other country *free of duty*. It was also agreed that for this consideration the people of the United States should enjoy the use of the river St. Lawrence and the Canadian canals for their vessels, and also the right to fish on the shores of the St. Lawrence river. This treaty was made binding on the two nations for ten years from 1854; but at any time after September, 1864, either party was to have the power to terminate it on giving the other formal notice of one year.

Under this treaty, the commerce between the United States and the British American Provinces has been conducted for the last ten years, and a large and mutually profitable trade has grown up under it. But in September next the time arrives when either party may give notice of a desire to terminate the treaty; and from present appearances that notice will probably be given by the American Government. Should this prove to be the case, in September of next year (1865) the treaty will terminate, and high duties will once more be imposed on all farm produce sent from Canada into the United States. We need not say that this will have a very serious effect on farming operations in Canada—and that it will require all the wit and energy of our public men to meet the emergency, and devise new outlets for the surplus products of our country. We yet entertain some hope that the necessity may not arise, but if it does come—however much our commerce may be temporarily inconvenienced by it—there are assuredly ways in which the change may be met that will ultimately more than compensate to Canada all she can lose by the loss of American Reciprocity.

It is difficult to understand on what commercial principle any intelligent American can desire the abrogation of the Treaty. It has fulfilled, more than fulfilled, all the anticipations in regard to it entertained by either party at the time of its negotiation Previous to its passage, the whole traffic between Canada and the United States was as follows:—

Imported	From Canada into the U.S.	From the U. S into Canada.
1850	$ 4,225,470	$ 5,930,821
1851	4,071,544	8,365,764
1852	6,284,520	8,477,693
1853	8,936,380	11,782,144

But the very moment the Treaty became law the traffic between the countries sprang up into immense proportions, as will be seen by the following official returns:

Imported.	From Canada into the U.S.	From the U.S. into Canada
1851	$ 8,649,000	$15,533,096
1855	16,737,276	20,828,676
1856	17,979,752	22,704,598
1857	13,206,436	20,224,618
1858	11,930,094	15,635,565
1859	13,922,314	17,592,916
1860	18,427,968	17,273,029
1861	14,386,427	21,069,358
1862	16,960,810	25,173,157

Here we see an annual traffic of ten millions extended in ten years to the enormous amount of forty millions *per annum*. And this is only one portion of the traffic. The trade with the other B. N. A. Provinces has also largely increased—as the following return shows—

Imported	From B. N. A. Prov. into U.S.	From U. S into B. N. A. Prov
1850	$ 1,358,992	$ 3,618,211
1851	1,736,651	4,085,783
1852	1,520,330	3,791,956
1853	2,272,602	5,311,513
1854	2,206,021	7,256,154
1855	2,954,420	9,085,676
1856	3,822,224	8,146,108
1857	3,832,162	7,637,587
1858	4,224,948	6,622,173
1859	5,518,834	9,213,382

It thus appears that in the year 1862—the latest of which we have official returns—the British American Provinces purchased from the United States, to the value of $34,386,539, and that all the Americans took from us in return was but $22,499,611, We actually paid them a cash balance by Bills on London, of twelve millions of dollars,—and yet they are not satisfied! The trade is not sufficiently favourable to them! They are willing to throw it all up—give up the carrying trade of thirty millions of merchandize annually—give up the free use of the St. Lawrence—give up the Fisheries of the St. Lawrence—and go back to high duties and petty traffic! Well, there is no accounting for taste—but assuredly if they can stand it, we can.

Guelph Cattle Fair.

THE plan of holding a monthly fair for the sale of farm stock and fat cattle, has been for some time past in operation in some localities of Canada, and we believe with the most satisfactory results. Such fairs have many advantages, and we would like to see them established all over the country. They bring buyers and sellers together, and give each the opportunity of doing business under the fairest possible circumstances. Buyers are saved the time and trouble connected with picking up cattle here and there, and getting them to a place of rendezvous for shipment, and sellers are subject to no uncertainties as to the ruling market price. Facilities for weighing fat cattle are at hand, and both the local butcher and distant dealer, can at once take care of his purchases. Besides the especial business of the fair, a great many other matters can be attended to, nor is it the least advantage of such occasions that farmers, who as a class are greatly isolated, can compare notes, and talk over matters of common interest. Guelph being the centre of a fine stock-raising district, may be cited as an example of the successful working of these fairs. The one held on the 3rd inst. was well attended, and business was very brisk. Over 230 cattle were entered at the gate, and were bought up nearly as fast as they came on the ground. We note a few sales, for the account of which we are indebted to the *Guelph Mercury*:—

Mr. James Cowan, Paisley Block, sold to George Hood two oxen for $110; Mr. Wilson, of Eramosa