

pieces of five acres for corn, potatoes, &c., you have not settled in your mind how you will divide it—in putting down the labor you will say *ploughing such a piece*. You finally plant three acres with corn, one with potatoes, and sow one with oats—then in posting you will carry three fifths of the labour to the account of corn, which will be three days, provided you ploughed just an acre a day. I have never thought it necessary to notice smaller portions of time than one fourth of a day—but it that should be thought not sufficiently accurate, when there are frequent changes of work, hours might be introduced. The Ledger may be of almost any form or size, and in posting when there are several successive days at one kind of work, they may be all posted together. There must be an account opened on the ledger, not only for each different crop, but for each kind of work done, viz: One for improvements which may include clearing up land, ditching, making and mending fence, &c. And also one for chores to take up the odds and ends—and this account if not narrowly watched, will swell to a pretty large one.—But I am aware, there is one serious objection which may be urged to this whole business of keeping a labour book. There might perhaps be one rather disagreeable evening's work towards the close of the year, and a man might probably feel more like going about it some evening when his wife is away from home. I mean the reckoning up his own labor to sit down and add up the number of days he has actually worked in each month during the season. There is a bare possibility that this might exhibit a result which even he himself might think contained more truth than poetry. But I hope that every one who should have a had case of this kind, will reflect that the most effective medicines go down hard—and be not discouraged but go ahead—and try and keep in mind hereafter that a labor book has a wonderful memory. When a man employs several hands I see not how a book of this kind can be well dispensed with—merely for keeping the time accurately. The amount of each man's labor can be ascertained in a moment, and beyond all manner of dispute.

Perhaps many men somewhat advanced in life and unaccustomed to keeping accounts of any kind, feel unwilling to undertake a thing of this kind; in such a case I would say—if you have a boy that can write a readable hand, set him at it; it will be a valuable exercise for him—aside from the utility of the thing itself.

LABOR BOOK.

Jan. 1842.	EDWARD EVERGREEN.
1	1 Making compost heap, with team
2	1 do do
3	½ Ploughing corn, ½ went to Usica
4	0 Unwell, [P. M.]
6	1 Hoing corn
7	1 do ½ chores, ½ rainy P. M.
	4½ days
	26 " in May.
	25½ " in April.
	56 days—2 months, 4 days—

@ \$10 21 54

LEDGER.

1842.	Corn.	(2 acres)	
A 10	2 days ploughing, self and team,	10s.	2 50
M 12	1½ " do Edward & team,	5s.	1 68
" 15	2 " planting, Edward	5s.	1 25
" "	2 " do self.	5s.	1 25

From the above examples, I presume the method of keeping the accounts will be readily understood. And the 1st of April is precisely the time for commencing a Labor Book.

P. S. When your crop is harvested and measured, foot up the account—and enter underneath the number of bushels (or pounds) and the cost per bushel—there to stand as a record of the cost of the cost of raising corn, potatoes or whatever crop it may be, for that year.

CYRUS INGALLS.

Blaikie's Portable Threshing Machine.

Worked with two, three, or four horses at pleasure.

THE SUBSCRIBER begs to intimate to the Agricultural community throughout Nova Scotia, and the adjoining Colonies, that he is prepared to receive orders for making *Threshing Machines*, either portable or stationary. He believes that he is justified in stating that his machines are equal in speed, if not superior to any now in use in the Colonies, or in the United States. With two horses, his machine will thresh 25 bushels of wheat per hour, and a fourth more for every additional horse, when the machine is in fair working condition. With two horses it will thresh 10 bushels of oats per hour, and a fourth more for every additional horse. The horses move in a circle of 25 feet in diameter, at the rate of 2½ to 3 miles per hour, and can work during the full day without fatigue. The portable machines can be removed from one barn to another with ease,—are easily erected and put in operation, and are rarely subject to get out of order. From the low price at which they are made, and the rapid sale they have already received, wherever they have been tried, he has reason to believe that they only require to be known to come into extensive use.

Letters addressed (post paid or free) to the manufacturer, or the editor of the *Mechanic & Farmer*, will receive every attention.

THOMAS BLAIKIE.

Green Hill, West River, February 1.

CERTIFICATES.

This is to certify that in December, 1841, I purchased one of Mr. Thomas Blaikie's *Stationary Threshing Machines*, and since that time by the great saving of time and labour resulting from the use of it, it has amply repaid me for the use of it. I therefore confidently recommend these machines to every farmer who may require such an article, and will venture to assure a person that if they purchase one they will never have reason to regret it, as an unprofitable investment of capital.

GEORGE McDONALD.

West River, January, 1843.

Having worked for some time with one of Mr Blaikie's *Threshing Machines*, with moving horse power, would recommend it as a superior article, and are certain, that no farmer could make a better investment than to supply himself with a machine of this kind.

SAMUEL FRASER,  
JOHN FRASER.

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

I have had Messrs. Frasers' *Threshing Machine*, made by Mr. Thomas Blaikie, threshing for me two or three days, and found to surpass my expectations. It does the work well, and threshes clean; and I would recommend it as a very superior article, as regards saving of labour and grain.

B. L. KIRKPATRICK.

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

Having witnessed the *Threshing Apparatus*, made by Mr. Thomas Blaikie, in full operation, I give it as my decided opinion that it far exceeds, in usefulness, and saving of labour, any other of a similar nature which has come under my observation, and it is preferable to any other kind used in the Province.

JAMES CARMICHAEL.

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

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