

make upon the farmer's crops are repaid an hundred-fold by the protection they afford against a thousand destroyers. These birds, if not frightened, will become so tame as to perch on the hand, or light on the plough as it turns over the furrow. No good farmer should fail to teach his boys to spare and cherish these harmless and often tuneful visitants to his fields and orchards. The crows, too, Nature's living mouse-traps, instead of being a tame, almost domestic bird, as in some other countries, where farmers have been taught their value by experience, have been frightened into mean pilferers of unweeded cornhills! A good crow is worth a bushel of wheat or other grain to the acre, sometimes ten. A knowledge of ornithology, and not penal law, is what our farmers and their sons need to induce them to regard their true interests in this matter.—*Connecticut Courant*.

[We recommend the above article to the attention of the doughty sportsmen of Montreal, who so often devote the Lord's day to shooting small birds on the mountain.—Ed. C. T. A.]

We have heard with much pleasure, that some of the leading agriculturalists in our District, have at length determined on making a vigorous effort this spring, to establish an Agricultural Society for this County. In carrying out a measure of this kind, as far as we can perceive, they can have no difficulties to contend with, and all that is required on their part is a little exertion. We most heartily wish them success, as we feel convinced that the establishment of a Society of this description, must be attended with the most beneficial effects to the District generally; holding, as we do, with the opinion of the celebrated Dr. Johnson, that "Agriculture not only gives riches to a nation, but the only riches she can call her own," we cannot but feel deeply interested in the success of any measure calculated to advance this science.—*Norfolk U. C. Observer*.

Almost any person can obtain a few slips or branches of woodbine or honey-suckle, and set them in the earth near their dwellings, and in a few years will be a thousand times repaid for their trouble, while at the same time the eyes of all beholders will be gratified.—*Bangor Whig*.

SOWING GRASS SEEDS.—If there is one point of husbandry more than another in which farmers are generally defective, it is the niggardly way in which they use grass in their tillage. If any seeds are sown, not more than half the quantity required is often used, the fields are left bare, and the unoccupied ground becomes a fit place for the vile weeds that are ever ready to spring up, where the husbandman does not anticipate them, by giving the earth something more valuable.—*Albany Cultivator*.

HORNED CATTLE.—*Important to Farmers.*—Mr. Summer, surgeon, of Formby, in England, has communicated to the Agricultural Society the following remedy for that disastrous complaint to which horned cattle are so frequently subject—the bloat, or swelling from over feeding of turnips, &c. Mr. S. says, the affection of "the stomach in animals, called over-feeding, bloat, or fog sickness, sometimes causes the stomach to burst from over-distention. Numerous remedies have been advised, but have, in general, failed to evacuate the air; tapping, or stabbing, is then resorted to, which, from the unskilful manner in which it is performed, often proves a dangerous remedy. The remedy which I have frequently used has never yet failed to cure the animal immediately—and that is, two ounces of sub-carbonate of ammonia (commonly called carbonate of ammonia or smelling salts,) in a quart of rain water—its effects are wonderful.

SORE THROAT IN SWINE.—Turn animals so affected into an open pasture, where there is fresh food and ground to root. It is a disease resulting generally from confinement. Pounded charcoal mixed with food, where pure cannot be had; or room for exercise, is one of the best palliatives of disease in swine.

ROOT CULTURE enables the farmer to keep more stock, and keep it in better condition, than he could otherwise do. It gives the most food for animals with the least labour: it is, under good management, the most certain in its results; it gives the most manure, improves the soil by deep and thorough cultivation, and fits it for dry or white crops. The average produce of the different kind of roots per acre in good husbandry, such as will produce 40 bushels of corn, is 700 bushels of roots.—*American Paper*.

EDUCATION.

We find in the May number of the *Monthly Review* published in Toronto, an able article on Education, in which is included the substance of a report made by the Commissioners on Education, appointed by Sir, George Arthur, namely, Dr. McCaul, Rev. H. J. Grasset, and Hon. S. B. Harrison. As the recommendations of this report may be made the basis of legislative action, we deem it our duty to lay them before our readers.

After enumerating the feeble and inadequate legislative attempts, that have hitherto been made to establish a national system of education, and giving a statistical statement of the present defective state of education in the country, the report treats of Colleges, Schools of Divinity and Medicine, and Grammar Schools, and then proceeds as follows:—

Your Committee beg leave now to offer a few remarks on the present state of Common Schools, as prefatory to the plan which they have the honour of recommending for their improvement.

The first step, they conceive, towards their amelioration, is to ameliorate the condition of the master. At present they have reason to believe that but too many teachers, receiving the allowance, are to be found unfit for this responsible station from their want of literary or moral qualifications.

The cause of this, your Committee believe to be, the inadequate remuneration which is held out to those who would embrace this occupation. In this country, the wages of the working classes are so high, that few undertake the office of schoolmaster, except those who are unable to do anything else; and hence the important duties of education are often entrusted to incompetent and improper persons. The income of the schoolmaster should at least be equal to that of a common labourer. Until some provision of this nature is made, your Committee fear that it will be in vain to expect a sufficient supply of competent teachers.

Another serious defect in the present system is the want of a training school for teachers. The advantages resulting from the establishment of such institutions are attested by experience, wherever they have been in operation. Your Committee are naturally led to observe next, the evils arising from the want of an uniform system of instruction. They consider the introduction of uniformity (both as to system adopted and books used) to be of the utmost importance.

They now beg leave to submit the outlines of a plan for the improvement of these schools. 1. In every township a model school should be established. The school house might be built (and the future repairs provided for) by a joint stock association, who should receive interest for the capital expended. To the school house should be attached a small portion of land (say two acres) for the use of the school master. The school house should contain at least five rooms; two school rooms; one for the boys, another for the girls; a sitting and bed room for the master, and kitchen.

For each of these schools there should be a male and female teacher. It would be desirable if married persons could be found, willing to undertake, and competent to discharge these duties. The income of the teacher should arise from a fixed allowance, and also from the fees for tuition; the allowance should not be less than £15 per year for the male teacher, and £10 for the female. In addition to the teachers who should have the charge of the model school, there should be one or more licensed to itinerate through the township beyond the sphere of the permanent school; say at any place more than two miles distant from it—these should be promoted as vacancies occur, to the charge of the model schools. Thus provision is made for one permanent and four occasional schools in each township; whilst the completion of the system contemplates the future elevation of the latter to permanent establishments on the same footing as the model.

Experience proves the advantages of having some charge, however small, for the education of even the humblest classes of society. Perhaps two dollars per quarter might be fixed as a sum, which is within the reach of almost all who could pay anything, and to meet the case of those who could not afford even this, a certain number should be entitled to free education, say one in five.