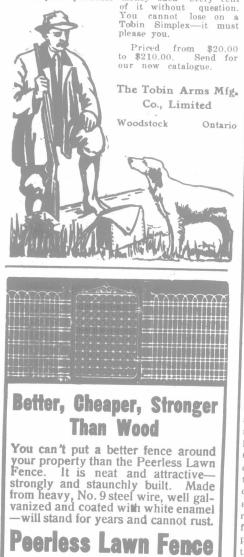
# 1332

## He's bought a Tobin Simplex

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# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. 1st .-- Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to "The Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free. 2nd.-Questions should be clearly stated and 2nd.-Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer. 3rd.-In Veterinary questions the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given. 4th.-When a reply by mail is required to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1.00 must be enclosed. be enclosed.

#### Miscellaneous.

#### CELLAR FLOOR.

Can you tell me if a cement floor is a good one to put into a cellar used for ceeping potatoes ? H. S. Ans.-Yes; probably the best and most

conomical that could be laid. BUCKWHEAT FOR HAY AND FODDER.

1. How would buckwheat do for green leed for cows?

2. How would buckwheat hay do for feed ?

3. How should the land, after buckwheat, be managed, so as not to have the buckwheat in the next year's crop? H. R. P.

Ans.-1. Some favorable reports have been made on buckwheat as a soiling crop, but its use for this purpose has not been sufficiently extended to establish its value. The stock is rather coarse and fibrous, but is relished by some cattle. 2. Buckwheat would make a very coarse and fibrous hay, difficult to cure, and of doubtful palatability and feeding value.

3. To keep the buckwheat from appearing in the next year's crop, it would be necessary to get it to sprout the fall beore by cultivation. This is difficult, owing to the late season in which the buckwheat is harvested. A hoed crop the next year would solve the difficulty. Some favorable reports of seeding clover with buckwheat have been received. This would likely be a solution of the trouble.

#### STOOK THRESHING.

A correspondent of "The Farmer's Advocate'' refers to "stook threshing.". The plan has not been in vogue in our district. Is it a good one?

MARITIME. Ans .-- Threshing grain from the stook is in favor in dry climates where labor is scarce, but is not regarded as a commendable practice in areas favored with humid climatic conditions like Eastern Canada, though it reduces the labor and dirt of threshing time. There is always the risk from showers once the grain is dry when waiting for the mill engaged at a neighbor's, and much grain has been rendered musty, and sometimes spoiled, from heating in the bins. If one has plenty of room, the safer plan is to store the grain for threshing later, which gives

#### INEXPERIENCED YOUTH ON FARM.

What should a young immigrant, 26 years old, weight 116 pounds, who has had no experience in farming, get for the first year, board and washing included? SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.-If his employer were an experienced farmer who took pains to give him instruction, he would probably be sufficiently repaid the first year with board and washing. In cases where such a young man proved himself to be exceptionally apt and willing, he might be worth as much as \$15 per month.

#### BEE QUERIES.

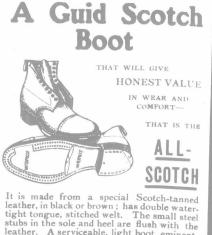
1. Would you kindly inform me, through your paper, how I could build a good hive for bees? I have a colony of bees, but haven't a hive to keep them in.

2. Could you describe the wintering of bees ? 3. Should the queen be clipped, and

how could she be told from the other bees ? J. B. Ans.-1. It would be better for the be-

ginner to buy a few good hives, which would serve as a pattern in case more were needed and he wished to make them or have them made. These first hives can be bought from a regular manufacturer of bee supplies, and for a beginner it might be advisable to have one of them made up at the factory so that he can see just how the parts go together. After the business is learned, if handy with the saw and plane, he may make the hives himself. The Langstroth hive is generally recognized as the standard, and is a safe hive for the beginner to adopt. There is no patent on this hive. 2. Bees are usually wintered in a cellar. The cellar should be dry. Place them in the cellar just after a day's flight at the opening of cold weather. Plenty of food must be present in each hive. Each hive should be weighed, and, if light, the bees should be fed either sugar or syrup, or have full combs added. Keep them in quietness and darkness, at a temperature of from 42 to 45 degrees. Bees wintered in cellars should be taken back to their former location in the spring.

3. Some beekeepers clip the wings of the queens as soon as they are found laying, while others do not favor the practice. If the hives are in a grass plot, there is some danger of the queens getting out and being lost in the grass through not being able to fly. Clipping is advisable in introducing queens into a new hive. It prevents their flying away. The queen is not so large as the drone, but her body is longer. She has a wasplike appearance, and is more tapering than a worker. Her wings are shorter in proportion than those of either drone or worker bees. Her body is darker on the upper part than other bees, while the under part is a golden color. She usual-



leather. A serviceable, light boot, eminent-ly suited for Canada, as numerous testi-monials can show.

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luring which the straw absorbs the moisture. Great care has to be taken to prevent the heating of stook-threshed grains in the granary. It is also advised that grain should be well ripened before being cut, and not threshed if wet.

it time to "sweat" or cure in the mow,

#### OAT AND SUGAR CANE HAY.

1. How much sugar cane seed is mixed with a bushel of oats when growing for summer feed ?

2. Can sugar cane and oats mixed be cured for winter feed, and, if so, how should it be cured? G. S.

Ans.-1. The usual amount of sugar cane used with oats and clover is 30 pounds per acre. The mixture is oats 51 pounds Early Amber sugar cane 30 pounds, and Common Red clover 7 pounds.

2. Sugar cane and oats are better used as an annual pasture crop than to be cured for winter feed. Oats alone can be very well cured by the same process as that for ordinary hay, if they are cut in the milk stage. A little more sun is necessary than for hay. The oats would be too far advanced for cutting for hay before the sugar cane would be ready to cut. The oats are rapid in growth, and come on early, while the sugar cane is later, and thrives best in the warm weather. Sugar cane would also make rather coarse dry fodder, and would need cutting for best results. Would advise sowing the oats alone if an annual crop for hay is needed.

requires experient to be able to detect the queen in a hive, but when once accustomed to it, it is quite an easy matter. Would suggest that you get a book on bees if you wish to make the production of honey a business. "A. B. C. of Bee Culture," and "Langstroth on the Honey Bee," are good books, and may be had through this

#### TRADE TOPIC.

H. Brown & Son, of Glasgow, Scotland, have an "All Scotch " boot advertised elsewhere in this issue. This boot is made from a special Scotch - tanned leather, with small steel stubs in the sole and heel, and is light and serviceable. Their fine Colonial catalogue may be had free on application.

#### GOSSIP.

B. H. Bull & Son, Brampton, Ont., last month shipped 75 head of Jersey cattle to the Canadian West, including a full car load previously sold to the Government Experimental Farm at Medicine Hat. The senior member of the firm has recently visited the Island of Jersey with a view to selecting a fresh importation.

A young theologian named Fiddle Refused to accept his degree, For he said, " 'Twas enough to be Fiddle. Without being Fiddle, D. D.'

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