



To the Editor of The British American Cultivator.

SIR,

In reply to the inquiry made by your Correspondent, Edmund Deedes, Esqr., of Woodstock, respecting spring wheat, I conceive he must allude to two kinds which have attracted much notice in our neighbourhood—the Siberian and the Italian. Two of my friends cultivated these sorts last year, and the results were highly satisfactory, considering the very unfavourable state of all wheat crops. The Siberian yielded, for four bushels sown, sixty-four bushels and a half, and weighed 61 lbs. The Italian gave eighteen bushels and a half to the acre, besides tailings, and weighed 62 lbs. to the bushel. Both samples are very fine, and are scarcely to be distinguished from fall wheat—the Siberian rather a brighter colour. James Pringle, Esqr., grew the first, and Thomas Page, Esq., the latter. These gentlemen have farms near Cobourg, and I believe have some seed to spare, price one dollar per bushel. I intend to sow both these sorts next spring, and shall have much pleasure in communicating to you the results.

As I am addressing you, permit me to say, that I quite approve of your determination to exclude from your columns, "all incredible reports of produce obtained from agriculture." I have known instances where the best part of a field has been selected, and reported upon, as the produce of the whole. To say the least of it, this is child's play. There is only one honest way of ascertaining this point. Take a field, say ten acres of wheat, thrash it out, and fan it up, fit for market. Then, whatever that gives, at sixty pounds to the bushel, is the honest produce of the field. Other plans may do very well to catch newly arrived emigrants with, but there is deceit and dishonesty at the bottom of them. I have now been ten years in Canada, and have cultivated wheat to a considerable extent, say from forty-five to fifty acres per annum. My own experience gives eighteen bushels to the acre as an average crop. Last year I had fifty acres, producing only twelve bushels, but the spring wheat kept its weight of sixty pounds.

In reference to Berkshire pigs, allow me to ask your Correspondent, J. W. Rose, Esqr., of Williamsburgh, whether he has ever raised a large number of them, as a farmer would, to sell to the store-keepers, say 25 to 30 at a time. I am very incredulous as to the weight of pigs, fatted and killed at nine or ten months old. The heaviest pigs I have known, have been those kept by farm labourers, who have been "allowed to keep a pig." These are petted animals, attended to by the wife and child-

ren, at all hours of the day, and thus they become extra fat. But will Mr. Rose be kind enough to give his opinion, whether the Berkshire or any other breed of pigs that he knows of, if littered early in April, can be made to weigh from 150 lbs. to 170 lbs. by the following November, if raised in numbers, as a matter of business. And if so, are they to be kept up and fed all the time, and what sort of food, and in what quantity?

Will you be so good as to say, whether you consider leached ashes preferable for grass lands to those which are not so.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

CHAS. BUTLER.

VALE FARM, NEAR COBOURG, }
14th March, 1843. }

To the Editor of The British American Cultivator.

SIR,

A subscriber to your paper, and one who is much gratified at the course you have followed since you commenced your advocacy of the rights of the farmer, I beg to convey to you my thanks for your past exertions, and to take this means of cheering you on to renewed exertions in the future. Your paper may not as yet have a very general circulation in this country, but depend on it that it soon will have, were it for nothing else but that you so staunchly maintain the necessity of imposing a duty on produce from the States. I see a communication in your last number, signed *A Farmer*, of which I much approve. I must certainly concur with him in his remarks, that it is the exorbitance of the labouring classes in demanding such high wages from the farmer, that renders them often miserable, and that also injure the farmer. It were better for an emigrant newly arrived in this country, to accept twelve pounds a year for the first year, till he got used to the country and all the peculiar features of our mode of labour, than to be one-half his time idle looking for work, the other half employed at public works, learning much vice and idleness, and by no means acquiring a knowledge of farming, which is likely in the end to become his calling. Your correspondent, "*A Farmer*," requests you to give him information as to what food you would recommend for the labouring classes in this country: would you allow me to give you a hint ere you answer him, and do not forget the phrase, "*chacun un a son gout*." The same food you can very consistently set before the Irish or Scotch labourer, you could not very well offer a real Yankee; but since we have but few of the latter, and many of the former, as labourers, let us consider what they have been accustomed to in their infancy and manhood in their native land, and follow up that with such additions and improvements as we can afford. 1st. Porridge and milk to breakfast, always laying bread on the table, to be taken after. 2nd. Broth, made of beef or mutton, with pot barley or

groats in it, also onions, a few peas, &c., with such seasoning as you can. The meat boiled therein, potatoes and bread. 3rd. If you dine at noon, when at very constant and trying labour, a lunch at half-past four, with a drink of cider, if you have it, if not, good butter milk, skim milk, or, in the absence of all these, good water, with a handful of oatmeal on it. 4th. To supper, sowins and milk, porridge and milk, or pounded potatoes and milk, with bread on the table. That, Mr. Editor, is about the practice in Holland and Ireland. If you are English, and have English labourers, they would, probably, some of them prefer home-made small beer to any other drink which the English understand better how to make than the Scotch and Irish. Above all things, Mr. Editor, eschew ardent spirits and tea, both are too expensive for farmers, and, as neither can be raised by us, avoid them, they are not for men who have to live by their industry. They have a tendency to corrupt and effeminate, as well as to impoverish all their votaries. Let the mistress of the house, if you will have a respectable stock of good tea in her possession, to be administered only as a medicine to those of the household, and used at her table when she pleases; but abolish the practice of giving it to labourers always twice, and frequently three times a day. I would not have troubled you, Mr. Editor, with this communication, were I not in doubt as to what countryman you are, and, if Yankee, you would surely use and recommend tea, tarts, pumpkin pies, &c., with lots of vinegar to gnaw out our teeth; and were you English, you would be apt to forget that the English were long extravagant in their food, until they felt the recent hardship of the times. Prescribe from the practice of Scotland and Ireland if you know it: if it be considered too plain, recollect that many would be glad to have it, and those who despise it may possibly have cause to repent. Do not give the sanction of your high authority to any extravagance; prescribe for food what we grow, and you shall be friend of many.

A FARMER.

For the British American Cultivator.

"To hurt any one order of citizens, for no other purpose but to promote that of some other, is evidently contrary to that justice and equality of treatment which the Sovereign owes to all the different orders of his subjects.—*Smith's Wealth of Nations*, by McCulloch.

All classes in Canada are protected in their callings except the agricultural class. The lawyer is protected, the medical man is protected, the ship owner is protected, the mechanic is protected, yet these and all other inhabitants of cities, towns and villages unite in one voice against protection to the industry of the farmer. If we impose a duty, as we do, on such imports from foreign countries as is required for the farmer's use and consumption, we have a right also to enforce a duty on such imports as rival and come into competition with his industry and production.

Perhaps the greatest effort ever made in the cause of a "*Free Trade*," was the