

Miscellaneous.

The Road to Poor Farming.

As the road to poor farming is not generally understood, though it is crowded with travellers, we throw up the following landmarks from the Springfield Republican, for the common benefit:

- 1. Invest all your capital in land, and run in debt for more.
2. Hire money to stock your farm.
3. Have no faith in your own business, and be always ready to sell out.
4. Buy mean cows, spavined horses, poor oxen, and cheap tools.
5. Feed bog hay and mouldy corn-stalks exclusively, in order to keep your stock tame; fiery cattle are terribly hard on old, rickety waggons and ploughs.
6. Use the oil of hickory freely whenever your oxen need strength; it is cheaper than hay or meal, keeps the hair lively, and pounds out all the grubs.
7. Select such calves for stock as the butchers shun - beauties of runts, thin in the hams and pot-bellied; but be sure and keep their blood thin by scanty herbage; animals are safest to breed from that hav't strength to herd.
8. Be cautious about manufacturing manure; it makes the field look black and mournful about planting time; besides it is a deal of work to haul it.
9. Never waste time for setting out fruit and shade trees; fruit and leaves rotting around a place make it unhealthy.

Winter Roads in Lower Canada.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER.

Sir, - The winter roads in Lower Canada are destroyed by the habitants traineaux. I have always found the habitants civil and quiet, provided you do not interfere with their traineaux. I had made several unsuccessful attempts at different times to get a double road past my own farm, and had long abandoned it as hopeless, when the boon, at the beginning of winter, seemed suddenly within my grasp. It happened that my next neighbour, Jean Baptiste, had a quantity of fuel to cart to market, and that I had a splendid yoke of oxen and a large wood-sled idle in my yard. Jean called on me to discuss the terms on which he could have them; he agreed with me in the superior advantages of wide roads and driving double, and entered so fully into my oft-expressed views, that I thought at last I had made a convert. My delight at the prospect of a double road induced me to be generous. He bound himself, in writing, to make a daily trip with the oxen, (weather permitting,) drawing wood to market. I, in consideration, lent, for nothing, my oxen, yoke and sled as long as the winter roads should last. Soon after there came on one of the Lower Canada old-fashioned storms, which filled the road inconveniently full of snow. Now I expected to realize the advantage of my bargain, and waited for Jean to pass with the oxen. By-and-bye he passed, sure enough, with Buck harnessed to a traineau in front, and Star attached to another behind. I sallied forth to tax him with breach of contract. "Pardon," says he, civilly, - "Monsieur forgets I only bound myself to make a daily trip with the oxen, and I am an honest man, and will stick to my bargain." Mex. - I shall try no more conversions.

ALEX. WELLSOLD.

Lower Canada.

FARMING A POOR BUSINESS. - We have often heard our farmers complain about "their business," remarking that in Vermont there was nothing to be made a-farming, especially since the war broke out. Well, it does seem to be an up-hill business, very much like country publishing; but after all, we are inclined to think that labour and capital expended on a farm is about as good as anything now-a-days. The other day we conversed very freely with a Northern Vermont farmer, and he gave us some statistics that we wish to put on record, for the benefit of all concerned. He said that last fall he drove up to the barn 370 sheep to winter. In March last he sold \$1 lambs and fat sheep for market, for \$556. In July he sold his clip of wool for \$751, and then had a flock of 70 head more than he had in the fall! He also informed us that his flock was by no means an extra flock of sheep. Now, if one farmer can do this in Vermont, others can. These things being so, why is farming an unprofitable business? We can't see it. - Newport News.

A New Home Wanted.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER.

Sir, - Although the advice given in a recent number of the CANADA FARMER, under the heading "Westward Bound," is very good yet, however industrious the bees may be, the hive is often found too small for all, and some must seek a new home. I thank Providence I have as comfortable a home and homestead as most Canadian farmers on one hundred acres, but I cannot purchase land for my boys in this section of the country, and do not like to expose them to the temptations they might meet with as clerks, &c., in towns or cities. Now, though very much attached to home and its surroundings, I would rather part with it than part with its inmates. My attachments have prevented my thoughts from being "Westward bound." I prefer the rugged clime of Canada, under the old flag. If I knew of any place where sufficient land for a large family (not afraid of the bush) could be got at a moderate price, I would, though not without reluctance, part with home and neighbours to keep my family under my eye.

Any reliable information relative to the wild land now available for settlement in this Province, would be thankfully received by many of the readers of THE CANADA FARMER, as by,

Yours, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Biddulph, March, 1864.

An urchin suffering from an application of the birch, said: "Forty rods are said to be a furlong; I know better, let any one get such a licking as I've had, and he'll find out that one rod makes an acher."

Snow. - The thick bed of snow, which in boreal regions - or in those where the height above of the atmosphere is considerable - covers the soil during great part of the year, cannot fail, in consequence of its want of conductivity, to prevent the extreme cold of winter from reaching the earth, or, at least, from descending in it to depths which it would reach if the surface was not clothed with this kind of envelope. Snow, strange as the result may appear at first sight, is then, on the whole, in regions where it makes a long stay, a really warming influence - Arago.

An individual is told of as doing business in one of the markets, who is down on customers who don't speak properly. "What's eggs, this morning?" says the customer. "Eggs, of course," says the dealer. "I mean, how do they go?" "Go where?" "Sho-!" says the customer, getting up his fury, "what for eggs?" "Money, money, sir! or good endorsed credit!" says the dealer. "Don't you understand the English language, sir?" says the customer. "Not as you mix and mingle it I don't," responded the egg merchant. "What - is - the - price - per - dozen - for - your - eggs?" "Ah, now you talk," says the dealer. "Thirty cents per dozen in the price, sir!" They traded. But it appears that another customer, who on asking "what's eggs this morning?" was answered "eggs, of course," responded, "well, I'm glad of that, for the last I got of you were half chickens."

Markets.

Toronto Markets.

"CANADA FARMER" Office, March 13, 1864

Since our last report very little business has been transacted on the street. The bad roads and the decrease in price have evidently kept farmers from bringing the produce by team to market. The news from Europe of a depression and dullness in bread-stuffs had the effect of rendering prices in our market rule lower. Flour - Superior at \$3 80 for shipment per barrel, \$3 75 to \$3 40 for home consumption. Extra \$4 25 to \$4 65, Family \$4 10 to \$4 20; Superior \$4 75 to \$5 10; Bag Flour \$4 00 per 200 lbs. Very little of the higher grades in the market. Fall Wheat, 85c to 95c for common to choice per bushel, 65c to \$1 00 for good to choice; \$1 01 to \$1 02 for Extra. Spring Wheat in good demand at 75c to 80c per bushel for good, 82c to 84c for extra, occasionally a lead brings 85c. Barley at 70c to 80c per bushel. Oats at 35c to 45c per bushel. Peas 45c to 60c per bushel. Hay \$9 50 to \$10 50 per ton. Straw \$5 to \$6 per ton. Bran \$10 a ton at the mill. Shorts \$13 to \$15 per ton. Hides (green) at 4 1/2c to 5c per lb, the better up. Calf-skins at 7c to 9c per lb. Sheep-skins at \$1 25 to \$1 75. Lamb-skins at \$1 25 to \$1 70. Coal \$7 25 to \$9 per ton. Wood \$4 25 to \$5 50 per cord. Provisions - Hams \$9 50 to \$10 per 100 lbs., Bacon \$8 50 to \$7 per 100 lbs.; Cheese \$9 50 to \$10 per 100 lbs., wholesale, 12c to 15c per lb. retail. Beef in the market, inferior 31c per lb, second 34c to 40c per lb, extra 40c to 45c per lb, wholesale; 35c to 40c per lb for retail.

5 1/2c per lb, extra 40c per lb, wholesale; 3 1/2c to 6 1/2c per lb for ordinary, 6 1/2c to 7c for superior, retail. Calves scarce at \$1 and upwards. Sheep at \$1 10 to \$1 50 each, according to size and quality. Pork - Dressed \$6 to \$6 50 for common to extra. Butter - Fresh, wholesale, at 11c to 15c per lb; retail 15c to 20c per lb. Tub butter, dairy packed, 16c to 18c according to quality. Tub butter, common, 11c to 12c per lb. Eggs - 12c to 15c per dozen, wholesale; retail 15c to 20c per doz. Chickens - Plentiful at 25c to 40c per pair. Ducks - 30c to 45c each. Geese - 30c to 55c each. Turkeys - 55c to \$1 50 each. Salt - \$1 75 to \$2 per barrel. Water Lime - \$1 60 to \$1 60 per barrel. Potatoes - 25c to 40c per bushel, wholesale, 50c to 60c per bushel, retail. Fresh Fish - 17c and upwards each. Apples - Common to good, \$2 to \$2 75 per barrel; extra \$3 per barrel. Coal Oil - 25c to 35c for Canada, 45c to 55c for Pennsylvania. Wood - scarce at 35c to 41c per lb.

Montreal Wholesale Cattle Market. - Butcher - The market has been better supplied for the last week, and prices are rather easier say 1st quality \$6 25 to \$6 75, 2nd do, \$5 50 to \$6 25, 3rd do, \$4 50 to \$5 20. Refusals of lots \$2 50 to \$3 50. Milch Cows continue scarce and common high prices, say \$35 to \$45. Yearlings none. Two year-old none. Sheep continue very scarce, and prices have advanced, say 1st quality \$5 to \$10, 2nd do, \$7 50 to \$8; 3rd do, \$6 to \$7 50. No spring lambs yet offering. Calves coming in more freely, and prices have a downward tendency, say 1st quality \$9 50 to \$8, 2nd do, \$8 to \$6 50, 3rd do, \$1 to \$5. Hogs - Market sparingly supplied with Dressed Hogs, price ranging from \$6 to \$6 50, according to weight. Live Hogs, some few offering, and bring from \$7 to \$7 50. Yellow scarce, and not much demand at rough 5 1/2c to 5 1/2c. Lard rendered 10 1/2c to 11c. Hides - Few offering, but demand slack, prices \$5 50 to \$5 75. Sheep Pelts scarce and in demand at \$2 25 to \$2 75. Beef Barrels - Rather more enquiry at prime mess \$9 50 to \$9 75; prime \$6 to \$6 50, tucres \$16 50 to \$17. - Herald, 11th.

Hamilton Markets. - We are unable to supply these, as the Hamilton papers of Saturday evening and Monday morning do not contain a report.

London Markets. - March 12th - There was a good general supply on market to-day. Grain quiet and steady at recent quotations. Hay and Straw in large quantities. Potatoes and Apples in liberal supply and cheaper. Maple Sugar to any extent. Wholesale prices no change. Grain - Fall Wheat, per bushel, 60c to 65c. Spring Wheat 55c to 58c. Barley, per bushel, 75c to 85c. Oats, per bushel, 35c to 40c. Peas, per bushel, 45c to 48c. Corn, per bushel, 50c to 52c. Buckwheat, per bushel, 20c to 35c. Rye 55c. Potatoes - Dressed Hogs \$3 25 to \$5 75. VEGETABLES - Potatoes, by the load, 60c to 70c per bushel. Provisions - Butter, in kegs, 20c per lb. Fresh, by the basket, 15c to 20c per lb. Eggs 12 1/2c, per dozen. Hides, at - Green Hides, per 100 lbs, \$4 50 to \$5. Sheep-skins \$1 50 to \$2 each. Calfskins - Green, 6c per lb. Wool 35c to 40c per lb., matted and unwashed subject to a deduction of one-third of the weight. Hops, per ton, 20 to \$1. Straw, per load, \$2. - Free Press.

New York Markets. - March 11 - Flour - Receipts 12,047 barrels, market dull and 5c lower. Sales 5,200 barrels at \$6 30 to \$6 45 for Superfine State, \$6 65 to \$6 75 for Extra State, \$6 80 to \$7 10 for Choice do; \$6 25 to \$6 45 for Superfine Western; \$6 50 to \$7 15 for Common to Medium Extra Western. \$7 10 to \$7 20 for Common to Good Shipping Brands Extra Round-Hoop Ohio. Canada Flour dull and a shade easier. Sales 500 barrels at \$6 75 to \$7 for Common, \$7 05 to \$7 10 for Good to Choice Extra. Rice Flour steady at \$5 50 to \$6 25. GRAIN - Wheat - Receipts 3,643 bushels, market one cent lower, moderate demand. Sales 24,609 bushels at \$1 02 to \$1 04 for Chicago Spring; \$1 62 to \$1 64 for Milwaukee Club, \$1 64 to \$1 65 for Amber Milwaukee, \$1 69 to \$1 70 for Water Red Western, \$1 72 to \$1 74 for Amber Michigan. Rye quiet, sales 8,600 bushels Eastern at \$1 37. Corn - Receipts 24,617 bushel, market rather more steady, sales 21,000 bushels at \$1 31 for shipping mixed Western in store. Oats dull at 69c to 70c for Canada, 70c to 70 1/2c for State, 69c to 91c for Western. Provisions - Pork quiet and steady. Beef very firm.

Albany Markets. - March 11th - Grain - With a moderate milling enquiry for Wheat the market is firm, with a good supply offering. Sales 400 bushels Winter Red State at \$1 65, and 3,000 bushels White Michigan at \$1 93. Corn steady, with sales 400 bushels Royal Yellow at \$1 25, and 400 bushels Western Mixed at \$1 50. Rye and Barley quiet. Oats in active request at rather better prices. Sales 3,500 bushels State at 84c to 85c, part deliverable on Monday next. FEED - A firm market. Sales 20 tons Middlings at \$1 95 to \$2. SEED - The market is rather easier for Clover. Sales 10 bbls Medium at 12c, and 21 bags do at 13c. Timothy is steady but rather quiet. - Journal.

Cincinnati Markets. - March 11th - Red Wheat was in fair request, and prices were sustained at \$1 50 to \$1 52 for prime. White was held at \$1 35 to \$1 40, but it was not much inquired for. Corn is flat at 60c to 85c for ear in bulk. Butlers are not buying, and prices tend downward. There was a fair demand for Oats in sacks at 50 cents, but bulk were dull at 75 cents. Rye steady at \$1 50 on arrival. Barley dull at \$1 15 to \$1 20 for Spring, and \$1 20 to \$1 25 for Fall. There is a healthy movement in Provisions, and prices are fully sustained, though a speculative feeling does not show itself to any great extent. The heaviest demand was for Bulk Hams, which advanced to 11c. The supply is light. Bulk Shoulders sold at 8 1/2c to 8 1/2c for medium, at close heavy averages were held at 8 1/2c to 8 1/2c. Mess Pork firm but not active at \$22 for best brands of country, and \$22 50 for city. Lard fell back to 12 1/2c for prime city.

Chicago Markets, March 11. - Grain - The Wheat market was less active, at \$1 14 to \$1 16 1/2; and No. 2 Spring at \$1 07 to \$1 10 1/2 - the market closing at \$1 14 1/2 to \$1 15 for No. 1 Spring, and \$1 09 1/2 for No. 2 Spring. Oats were in good demand and firm, but there was no actual advance in prices - No. 1 selling at 63c to 64 1/2c, and No. 2 at 62c to 63c, according to the date of the receipts. Rye was more active, with sales of No. 1 at \$1 in store. Barley was dull and nominal - trading sales having been made at \$1 15 to \$1 16. Provisions - The Provision market was less active, but there is no material change to note in prices. Mess Pork was in demand at \$20 to \$20 25, but sellers were asking higher prices, and we have no transactions to report. There are still buyers of Prime Mess Pork at \$18 60, but it is held firmly at \$10. A small lot of country packed changed hands at \$18 25. There was a better demand for English Meats on account of the recent advance in sterling Exchange at 9 1/2c to 10c for Short Rib, and 10c to 10 1/2c for Cumberland Middle. SEEDS - Timothy Seed remains dull and dropping - with light transactions at \$2 65 to \$2 80. Clover is dull and nominal. Flax Seed is scarce and firm.