

hay will be ; for it is the very reverse of meadow-hay, which cannot, at any stage of its making, be teased and broken up too much or too often. In other words, *make meadow-hay*, let clover-hay *make itself*. And, if possible, let the farmers be persuaded to put their clover-hay into stack, instead of into the barn. It should be stacked green enough to get a good sweat ; after which, it will be more than half-pressed when it is ready for the machine. Cut early, and made in this fashion, there is no reason why Canada clover-hay should not sell well in the English market. Take the average of years, and it fetches "a five-pound note" (\$24.00) a load of 2,016 lbs., in the London market, and it is thither that it should go, as the great dealers of the Metropolis are always ready to pay for quality.

We may be allowed to say that we sent hay to London for at least eight years, and may be supposed to know something about the trade of that village. The best clover-hay is now worth there £4, 15s. 6d. a load, equal to about \$23.00 for our ton ; and here we have clover-hay, ready baled, selling for, at most, \$3.75, or say \$4.00, one-sixth or one-fifth of the price !

BALED HAY.—Export business continues active, but local trade is dull. Receipts in Montreal are liberal, and prices easy.

Quotations are : No. 1, \$5.50 ; No. 2, \$4.50 to \$4.75 ; clover mixture, \$4.25 ; clover, \$3.50 to \$3.75.

THE HAY SITUATION.

A LOCAL MERCHANT'S IDEAS.—THE EXPORT WILL NOT BE SO LARGE AS ANTICIPATED.

There has been considerable discussion on the Board of Trade of late regarding the quantity of hay being shipped from Canada one merchant having recently stated that it was his opinion that there were not less than a thousand cars being shipped every week. This estimate is in all probability considerably in excess of the actual export, although the quantity, in any case, is large.

In discussing the amount of the available crop this year, a prominent merchant pointed out that in 1893, in which year, with the reserves from the good crops of the previous two years, there was exported 220,000 tons. This splendid showing was made possible by the unusually high prices paid to farmers this year, these prices averaging from \$8 to \$10 in the country. The tendency of

the farmers that year, he points out, was to consume as much as possible on the farms, and to hold the balance for higher prices. This was not to be wondered at when it was remembered that the present prices did not exceed \$3.50 to \$4.50 a ton, on cars, which was not sufficient to reimburse the farmer for the trouble and cost of harvesting, pressing and drawing to the cars. The fact that present deliveries were large was due to the necessity of farmers raising money to meet their March liabilities. As soon as these had been met, he thought that deliveries would drop off again as the immediate necessity of farmers would be over.

The inference he drew from this was that even though shipments might have been unusually large for a week or so, it would be erroneous to suppose that they could be more than a few hundred cars a week for any length of time. If they were it would not take long to ship out as much as was shipped during the whole of 1893, when the surplus was unusually large and prices such as to tempt farmers to market every ton they had instead of to use it for bedding, as they seemed inclined to do this year.—*The Star*.

And if clover-hay is worth such a figure in England, now ; after two such hay-crops as those of 1896 and 1898 ; there is not much fear of its averaging much less in future years ; only, as we have said over and over again, it is quality that tells in London market.

County-farms.—Some years ago, we proposed, in this periodical, that in every county in this province there should be a farm, under the patronage of government, carried on under the management of a skilled farmer, thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the agricultural population of the country. An old English proverb says that "Great wits (?) jump together," so we must confess that we were rather pleased at seeing the following proposal in the *Contemporary Review*, one of the leading magazines of England :

"THE ONE REMEDY FOR AGRICULTURE."

"Sir Edmund Verney declares that "until agriculture is regarded as a scientific profession, agricultural depression will always be with us." His contribution is all but entirely made up of a letter from a former farmer who tells how he made his farm to pay by brains, resolution, discipline,