



Published for the Department of Agriculture for the Province of Quebec, (official part) by
EUSEBE SENECAI & FILS, 20, St. Vincent St Montreal.

Vol. VIII. No. 1.

MONTREAL, JANUARY 1886.

\$1.00 per annum, in advance.

OFFICIAL PART.

Table of Contents.

Dairy-men's Convention on the 13 and 14 instant.....	1
Carrots	1
De Omnibus Rebus	5
Our Engravings	6
Correspondence	7
Value of Experiments	8
Editorial Notes and Comments	10
Cabbage worm	11
Lucern	11
Seeding for grass	11
Fallows	12
Sources of Plant Nitrogen	13
Trotting Stallion	13
Butter in the future	14
The preservation of eggs	15
A good Pulverising Harrow	15

Quebec Dairy-men's Convention.

The Quebec Dairy-men's Association will hold their annual Convention at Saint-Hyacinthe on Wednesday the 13th and Thursday the 14th instant. These meetings for several years past, have been most interesting to all dairy-men, to cheese and butter makers, as well as to the patrons of butter and cheese factories.

The fee of one dollar covers membership, a right to one copy of the annual report, and also to a certificate enabling said member to obtain a reduction on railway fares of 33 1/3 per cent, in order to attend the St. Hyacinthe Convention. For all details, write to J. de L. Taché, Secretary Quebec Dairy-men's Association, St. Hyacinthe.

We have every reason to hope that the attendance this year will be as large as ever and we know that the programme of operations at the Convention promises to be unusually good.

CARROTS.

Sorel, December 2nd 1885.

A large extent of land, combined with want of capital, is the main source of many of the grievous errors in cultivation which even a careless observer may see as he traverses the province of Quebec. Among these errors, no one is more injurious to the farmer than the practice so common here, of allowing more distance than necessary between the plants of our vegetable- or root-crops. This practice may be traced to the time when the stumps and stones of newly cleared land prevented the cultivator from drawing out the rows intended for potatoes, maize &c., with anything like accuracy: drilling up the land with the double-mouldboard plough was impossible, even if the process had been known, which it wasn't,

and the use of "hills," made with the hoe was a necessity. Hilling is still largely employed, even in the Eastern Townships, where it is not uncommon to see potatoes, as well as corn, planted in that fashion and this has had the unhappy consequence of causing those farmers who have learned to use the drill system to plant their crops at unreasonable distances apart. I have often seen, even in such an advanced district as Compton, potatoes set twenty inches from plant to plant, with three feet intervals between the rows! Corn, I see every season sown in patches of three seeds at intervals of three feet each way, and this with our small Canadian corn!

Well, what has this to do with carrots? I can hear some of my readers ask. It has this to do with them: no crop grown demands more thoughtfulness as to the distance between the plants than carrots. There are three distinct sorts of carrots, and each sort requires a separate mode of treatment to ensure the greatest possible yield.

Daucus carota, the name of the plant given by Linnæus, the great Swedish naturalist, was, as far as we know, very little cultivated by the ancients. Its field culture was hardly in England in my younger days, in fact, I believe that to the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society is due the first development of the Belgian carrot as an English cattle-crop.

There are three principal sorts of carrots: the half-long, the long red, and the long white, and these, again may be divided according to their form: the early horn, the stump-rooted, the Orthes, and the Belgian.

The Early-horn carrot.—This is a very valuable vegetable for early consumption in families where soups are *de rigueur* all the year round. It is small and short, rapid in growth, and takes up but little room in the garden: it would be absurd to sow it in the field. After soaking the seed as will be hereinafter described, sow *thinly* in rows—on the flat—twelve inches apart, and not more than half an inch deep. I say sow *thinly*, because this carrot alone should be drawn from the rows for use, instead of being thinned out for a crop. The land should be in good heart for the early-horn carrot, but dung should not be given for this, or indeed, for any of the table-carrots, as it makes them grow *forky*, and forked carrots are invariably stringy.