

Answer to "Practical Farmer."

(To the Editor.)

SIR:—I regret to see in the *Weekly Globe's* issue of the 2nd instant, that some one, over the signature "Practical Farmer," has set himself to work to belittle the contributors of the CANADA FARMER. I am a farmer, working a very large farm in comparison with most in Canada, and am also a constant reader of the *Globe* and CANADA FARMER, and certainly, so far I have had no reason to agree with the writer in having suffered from the great evils he anticipates, and which he, in such a friendly spirit, warns us all to avoid.

The first thing that strikes me as being rather unusual in the communication alluded to, is that "Practical Farmer states that his anticipations of evil are gathered from some conversation he has had with some gentleman." Now, aside from this gentleman probably not being a farmer, and constituting himself a judge of agricultural matters, I think it would have been better had the gentleman in question given in his views direct, we should at least have had them from the fountain head, and not second-hand.

This gentleman may not be as good a judge of what he pleases to call *trash* as the farmer who contributes it.

No one having a grain of common sense can for one moment deny the utility of farmers contributing their experiences and experiments to an agricultural paper, they are "continually requested to do so;" and even supposing that some should be a little based on theory drawn from former experiments, wherein do these writings differ from those of half the world in this respect, notwithstanding such writings as have enlightened science to a wonderful extent, have never, to my knowledge, been given (like almost all the contributions of the CANADA FARMER) to the public without the *lure* so delicately mentioned. I would beg to call the attention of "Practical Farmer" and the gentleman in question to the fact that agriculture, both in Canada and the United States, has thriven under this system of contributions, and will probably continue to do so after he has withdrawn from his very disinterested position of public adviser.

To show that "Practical Farmer's" advice, and also the gentleman's opinion, should be taken, as the old saying is, with a "grain of salt," or a "pickled onion," we have only to take up any Fruit Growers' Convention, or Report of a Farmers' Club, published in any agricultural paper, to be at once struck with the various opinions there expressed, and the entirely contradictory results of various experiments. These being within the reach of "Practical Farmer," and the gentleman, I wonder much at his folly in writing the letter in question, and no less at your allowing space in your valuable paper for its publication. It seems to me that there is a very doubtful good end in view, and at the same time a certain evil in what has been done.

A HURON FARMER.

August, 1872.

Water Pipes.

(To the Editor.)

SIR,—Would you or some of your numerous correspondents, who have had some experience in conveying water in wooden or iron pipes, be so good as to give a few hints that would be of value to one who has not had any experience in the matter. Whether would wooden or iron pipes be most serviceable.

What would be the probable cost per foot of iron piping $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ inch bore, and how long would it be likely to last.

Will the water rise in the pipe when conveyed a distance of 300 yards, to a level with the fountain head, when it is only a small spring.

Would some of our readers who have had experience answer.

Dimehouse, July 29, 1872.

Durham Bulls.

(To the Editor.)

SIR,—While attending to some matters pertaining to the business in which I was engaged, I paid a flying visit to Widders Station, a small village on the Grand Trunk, in the Township of Busanquet, and while there I noticed some facts relating to the Agricultural Society of that township, which pleased me very much. I learned that the President of the Society had just arrived with two Durham Bulls for the Society, and of course being a farmer, I was naturally anxious to see what kind of animals he had purchased. I found quite a crowd collected, discussing on the merits and demerits of the animals, some disposed to give the President and the Society credit for this enterprise, while others found fault with the Society for spending the money in such a manner. For my own part, I thought the gentleman had made a good selection, and that it would be a credit to any township to have such animals within its limits. They were a couple of yearlings, large, well formed, and excellent specimens of the Durham, I think the one would be hard to beat. I believe they were bought in the township of Eramosa, from Parkenson and Grieve. In conversation with one of the Directors, I learned that the Society, contrary to the wishes of some of its members, last year bought three Durham Bulls, but they were obliged to dispose of one as unserviceable, so that they have at present four on hand with only a small debt standing against them.

It is a pleasing feature to note the enterprise that is being manifested among our Canadian farmers in reference to their stocks, each one ambitious to excel his neighbor if possible, and the result will be a rapid increase to the wealth of our new Dominion.

It is also satisfactory to note that the township shows of a former day are fast giving way to objects of greater practical benefit, and it is to be hoped that we shall soon see the day when those once honored instructions, will be remembered as things that are gone.

AGRICOLA.

Horse Power Saw Mills.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

There are no Manufacture of Horse Saw Mills in Canada, nor would such a mill pay expenses.

A saw requires to cut 2,000 feet a day, at least 8 to 10 horse power, and the outlay necessary for a horse saw mill, would be—including horses—quite as much as for steam. In fact, reckoning spare horses, to fill the place of those who may be sick, or disabled, the cost would probably be greater.

This plan of sawing has often been tried in countries where mule, or horse labor cost almost nothing, but always without success, in comparison with steam power. With us here in Canada, a steam saw mill, finds its own fuel, whereas no amount of rich food will keep in condition, horses so worked, provided they work ten hours daily, and are constantly employed. Then the difficulty of getting them to pull together, where there are a number employed, is very great. In fact, ten horses will not do more than seven times as much work as one, from that cause.

The writer, used eight horses many years, for driving a manufactory, and found the foregoing statement to be absolutely correct.

The power of a heavy team of horses, is very small in reality, when they have to keep constantly going, even when ploughing, the motive power rests at trial in turning, and always fail in condition, if ploughed steadily for any length of time. To test the work capable of being done under circumstances very favorable for a head wheel horse-power. The writer adapted a wheel underneath the bar, by which the horses move the machinery that drove his factory. Over this wheel, a chain was passed, and attached to the doubletree, by which the horses drew. At the other end of the chain, was fastened a weight of 200 lbs., and it was found that the pull of the team, exerted on the chain, to do the work the horses had always done, just kept the weight suspended sometimes rising a little, and sometimes falling to the ground, as there was more or less resistance, afforded by the works inside the building. The speed of the horses was $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour, the size of the track was 24 feet diameter.

It therefore follows, that a horse power so applied is equal only to 100 lbs., travelling $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour for each horse. The team so tested were very large and good, but such is the wearying effect on continuous work without intermissions on the animals. The same horses would have pulled up to the beam five times the weight, for a few minutes. The foregoing test was most carefully applied, and for months it had been found, that the same team had been able to do this amount of work, and it seemed very desirable that proof should be given of the absolute power required.

C.