

principle of *omne ignotum pro magnifico*; but the analysis at once dispels this allusion, and nothing remains but the cost and its result, mere matters of ordinary calculation,

Which each man will do well to try
Ere he commits himself to buy.

—*The Field.*

Agricultural Intelligence.

DOGS AND SHEEP.—We regret to notice in the local papers that many valuable sheep have lately been destroyed in the neighborhood of Guolph, by dogs. Messrs. McGrea, Pipe, Chipcase, and Edward Brown have been among the sufferers. Mr. McGrea had about 20 valuable sheep killed. Mr. Pipe lost 6 pure bred Leicester ewes in lamb, which he had lately imported at great expense. Such losses from such a cause are lamentable, and show the necessity of some stringent regulation in regard to such dangerous animals. The dogs which effected the damage in this case, broke into the pens in which the sheep were confined at night.

FLAX.—The cultivation of flax is now attracting a large amount of attention in various parts of the Province, and it would seem that this question, so long discussed, is at last to be seriously taken up. The great difficulty heretofore has been the want of a local market, and of mills to prepare the fibre for market. We now hear of several projects of erecting mills. One is proposed to be erected at Georgetown, on the Grand Trunk Road. Mr. James Young proposes to furnish seed to 100 farmers, on condition that they sow five acres each, and bring the flax to the mill. Payment for the seed will not be exacted until the crop is harvested. The *Ayr Observer* says that upwards of seventy farmers in that neighborhood have engaged to sow a greater or less quantity of land the ensuing spring.

THE CROPS.—We hear rather conflicting statements of the condition of the winter wheat in this Province. Some accounts state it to be much heaved out of the ground, while others represent it as very promising. Of course a good deal depends upon situation, and the quality of the land, the precautions taken to secure drainage, &c. On the whole we are disposed to think that the prospects of the crop are favorable. We have had, so far, rather early spring weather, but the frosts at night have been injurious. A few genial growing days would soon place the crop out of danger.

ILLINOIS.—The early sown fields are generally looking well. There are fears that the

late sown wheat is entirely killed out; that put in with a drill or plough is looking well.

INDIANA.—The winter has been unusually favorable, and the wheat in the central part of the State looks well. Unless a great deal of thawing or freezing takes place without snow before the middle of April, it will have every chance of a fine start. In other outlying districts it is considerably injured.

NEW YORK.—The Buffalo *Express* reports from travellers that the growing wheat looks promising and apparently safely through the winter.

KENTUCKY.—The late sown wheat in this State, it is feared, will be of little use, but the earlier sown is safe. From other western States, the information, as far as it goes, is also favorable, and on the whole the prospects for the harvest of 1860 are equal to any of former years.

CANADIAN OATS IN SCOTLAND.—In Oats of any other variety, there were some very remarkable specimens of Canadian oats. Mr. Hutcheson's third prize sample was of that species of grain, but did not by any means show its qualities so strikingly as a sample of Mr. Souter's, of Stocheries, which was excluded from a prize by its having been partially "*sheeled*," in the process of being threshed. The grain was so very large and well matured that the "*sid*" by which it was covered, on being struck in threshing, had in some cases flown off, and gone with the chaff in dressing. This sample was said to be of the extraordinary weight of 50 lbs. per bushel.—*Banffshire Journal.*

[These Canadian oats were shown at the Banffshire District Agricultural Exhibition, held on the 7th of February last. It is not stated from what part of this Province the seed was obtained, nor the name of the variety. The climate of the Lower Province is more favorable to the oat, than that of the western section, but the contrary is the case with regard to wheat. Scotland is peculiarly adapted to the growth of the oat; and from the above facts, it would appear, that Canadian varieties when introduced improve both in weight and quality.—*Ebs.*]

Horticultural.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TORONTO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We are glad to see that this important and long established society continues to