

sable servant, and, if one was to keep account of what it would cost to hire horse help every time one would need it, we would find our faithful friend would almost pay for himself in one year, beyond his keeping.

As to the cows, our three in the year just closed paid \$99.00, *clear of expenses*. That is, \$33.00 per cow, and this was for what butter and buttermilk was sold not including what was used in a family of five persons, and what skim milk was supplied to two families that had no cow. We have regular customers in the city for our butter, at twenty cents per pound in the summer, and twenty-two cents in the winter. We feed the cows bran mash in the summer, besides the pasturing, and with bran and provender in the winter, with their feed of hay and straw. Salt them every morning, and stable them not too warm, and in the spring when turned out to open ground, they bound and play like deer. The horse gets his rations of hay and provender according to his work, with a handful each of salt and wood ashes in his feed twice or three times a week. This is all the condition powder he needs, and he thrives and is on hand to his work.

We keep about forty laying hens that yield *their* margin of profit as well. We do not believe in stimulating them to lay in the winter, and they begin to lay early in the spring, and do duty faithfully all summer to late in the fall, as a rule.

About three acres in fruit and the same in vegetables, if handled rightly, will yield a fair margin of profit, and will keep two hands busy enough to keep down the weeds, prepare the market loads, and do the marketing. Of course, in the fruit-picking season, extra help must be employed. We make strawberries a specialty, and do something in raspberries, currants, grapes, and have a cherry and apple prospect in the near future. Gooseberries have not paid with us.

The vegetable market is somewhat overstocked in Ottawa, except extra early productions, which pay well. The fruit market for home produce is *good*.

Taking everything into account, there is a fair margin for encouragement on a ten acre farm, within five miles of the city. But, economy in living must add its measure to the common interest. Extravagance in style, in high-toned table expenses, etc., are the canker-worms which eat out the prosperity of many a well-meaning man, but the hard pan essentials of existence can be fully enjoyed with health and wholesome contentment, which are, in themselves, real luxuries.

*Nepeau, Ont.*

L. FOOTE.

POISON VINES.—Some careful experiments have been made by eminent pathologists on poison by the sumac, the result indicating an almost perfect identity in the result with the disease known as erysipelas; and it is suggested, therefore, that the same remedy may be used for Rhus poison as for the trouble in erysipelas. A lather of common potash soap, made strong, and applied with a shaving brush on the affected parts, is a well known and effectual remedy. Those liable to be poisoned by this plant, will do well to remember this.—*Meehans' Monthly*.