roosters, through the winter, that I cannot give the precise cost of keeping, but I am satisfied that potatoes may be given, as a general food, and fowls kept cheaper in this mode than in any other—and they will always be ready for the spit, if not stinted in quantity. I find my fowls fat at all seasons.

I estimate that my hens afford me from their eggs, without regard to their meat, a clear profit of fifty per cent. I confine them to their yard, hen house, and barn cellar, during gardening, and to their house and cellar in the winter, and think with that degree of confinement, they lay better than they do when allowed to wander at large. Hen houses and roosts should be kept neat, and often whitewashed, and their nests should always have half an inch or more of ashes or lime on the bottom, under the hay. Broken or rotten eggs should never be allowed to remain in the nests. Dirty water should not be given them. To do well, they require pure water, and all their food fresh and uninjured from taint or fermentation. I estimate that during the year, (deducting the time of their moulting, and inclination to set,) I have got daily, one half as many eggs as I had laying hens.

Every family can, with a very little trouble, with their flock of a dozen hens, have fresh eggs in plenty, during the whole year, say in all, two thousand, and one hundred full grown chickens! and of all the animals domesticated for the use of man, (if such be the fact,) the hen is capable of yielding the greatest profit to the owner. It is a pleasant recreation to feed and tend a bevy of laying hens.

Care should be taken to change roosters often, as otherwise the best variety in the world will run out, and cease to be profitable from breeding in; and I feel great confidence that much improvement may be made by due attention to crossing, and in this way some of the evils from breeding be averted. I have stated that I give my fowls meat: this is indispensible, if they are not allowed to go at large. If corn is fed out it should be soaked, and fifteen bushels is a fair yearly allowance for twelve hens and a rooster. But they should always have food by them, and after they have become habituated to find enough at all times in the trough they take but a few kernels at a time, except just before retiring to roost, when they will take nearly a spoonfull into their crops; but if they are scantily or irregularly fed, they will greedily snatch up a whole crop full at a time, and stop laying, and not unfrequently engender some fatal disease.—*Boston Cultivator.*

At a meeting of the Committee of the Halifax Agricultural Society, held at Mason's Hall on Saturday last, the following estimate was made of the quantity and value of crops raised on the Peninsula, between point pleasant and 3 Mile House:—

Wheat, 654 acres, 1509 bushels; oats, 783 acres, 3150 bushels; barley, 9 acres, 345 bushels; potatoes, 125 acres, 34,388 bushels; hay, 877 acres, 1315 tons; straw, 232 acres, 132 tons; pasture, 138 acres. Total value, £10,571 4s.—*Novascotian.*

Preparation of Seed Wheat.—Rye, oats, and barley are sown without any preparation; but wheat must be prepared for the furrow or it will be quite likely to be smutty. It must be washed clean in several waters and then be mixed with lime or ashes on the barn floor, or in a lime cask so that every kernel shall be covered with the dust. When this is well done and suffered to stand for 24 hours before sowing there will be no danger from smut. Brine also will be effectual for the same purpose. Seed wheat may lie in brine a long time without injury.

CULTIVATION OF FLAX.

Flax may be raised on various soils, but the one most proper for this plant is a deep rich friable loam, neither too dry in summer, nor wet in autumn or spring—in short, the best soil that can be found, as the roots strike deep, and are said, by those who have had much experience, that they sink into the soil to a depth equal to half of the length of the stem above ground. It is obvious then that flax requires not only a deep soil, but a porous subsoil as well, or one that is well drained. It is needless to add, after what has been said in former numbers of this journal, that large tracts of land in this country might be made to produce as much flax per acre, and of as good a quality, as the so much celebrated article grown in the neighbourhood of Courtray, in the Province of Belgium, without one-half of the cultivation which is expended in that country. Notwithstanding a less quantum of cultivation and care would be required in this, than in the country just mentioned, owing to the virgin state of our soil, still the vast amount of labour this crop would, in many cases, require, would tend to deter many from entering into the business. It would, therefore, be advisable for only those to engage, at present, in this branch of farming who have lands of the description just mentioned. On most farms there is certain fields that have been under grass for a number of years, and which have collected a great amount of vegetable and animal matter, which have become intimately mixed with the natural earth by absorption, and which is, in fact, an accumulation of humus. This is the best possible food to produce a good crop of flax. The most suitable period for ploughing such sward for this crop is in the early part of spring. The depth of the furrow should be proportioned to the depth of the soil, and the ground should be well ploughed, and the furrows so closely packed that there would be no possibility of the grass starting before the season for sowing the seed. Before the seed be sown, which should be about the first of May, or when the season would admit, the twentieth of April would be preferable, the whole of the ground intended for flax should be so completely harrowed, that it should have the appearance of a well-prepared onion-bed. The seed is then sown at the rate of a bushel and a half per acre. Two bushels, in many cases, would not be too much, as the plants should be very abundant on the ground to prevent the fibre becoming too coarse and grassy. The seed should be slightly covered with a bush-harrow, as over an inch of earth over it would prevent its evenly vegetating.

An acre of good flax, in Flanders, is worth from £20 to £25, sterling, without including the seed, which is worth from £4 to £6 more, and the article is so much prized that merchants come out of France to buy it as it is pulled and tied in bundles. They have it steeped and dressed at their own expense, by regular steepers and dressers. It should be remembered, however, that the article for which this high price is paid, is converted or manufactured into the finest qualities of bleached linens, and is worth, when prepared for the spinners, from £120 to £140, sterling, per ton.

It will require years of long experience for the Canadian population to arrive at the same degree of proficiency that the French flax grower has arrived at. The Canadian flax will therefore have to be converted into coarser fabrics. We have lately conversed with many of the German settlers residing in the township of Markham and Vaughan, who are most willing to engage in the cultivation of flax and hemp, if a certain and profitable market