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selves with any cleverness, and doubt whether we could make people think any better of our paper than it deserves by any encomiums which we have the wit to bestow upon it. It would be of more value if the friends to improvement in the country would send us the result of their experience upon undecided topics; for an ounce of experience is worth a pound of theory. Many experiments may be tried upon a small scale as well as upon a greater. Two ferrow Cows might be fed for a fortnight with a certain quantity of boiled potatoes, and have their milk carefully measured; the same quantity of raw unwashed potatoes might be given for the next fortnight; and then again changed for boiled, &c. By continuing this practice for two months, and keeping an exact account of the quantity of milk, the much disputed point of which is the best might be determined. We would be glad to have experiments upon the use of lime as a manure particularising the soil, and the kind of rock it rests upon, if near the surface, as also whether the ground is dry or wet. Very small pieces might be tried upon slate, as it is doubtful if it would there be useful, and on the same soil, we believe lime-stone gravel, sea shells, or old plaster would be beneficial. Gypsum might be worth trying at Brookfield and at Kentville. For two years in succession we hear from Parraborough that land which has been limed has resisted the effects of drought better than any other land near it. If this is generally the case it could be ascertained by observations in different places. As we have peat in inexhaustible quantities it would be of use to ascertain its real value as a manure when fermented. As it does not heat readily, we would advise that the bottom of the heap be formed of small bushes laid about a foot thick, that the first layer upon these be straw or long manure and that not more than two loads of peat be used to one of stable manure. Where Buckwheat is grown it would be useful to compare the first crop of grass sowed with Buckwheat with that sowed with other grain. According to our experience for some years on new woodland, there was a difference of one fourth in favor of the Buckwheat. Many other useful experiments will suggest themselves to farmers. We cannot learn every thing from the experience of those who live in different climates, but ought to make use of our own experience, and when we have learned that which if known would be generally useful, we ought to communicate it, for our own interest, as well as that of others, for we are members of one body, and must thrive or grow poor together. We are now feeling somewhat of the distress in the Mother Country—hungry people will finally eat up their rich neighbours if they have nothing else to eat. The Albany Cultivator owed much of its value to the numerous contributions from practical farmers which were published in it. We have in the Province many farmers who read and think; to them we need not say that a paper which furnishes information of the improvements in their business must be useful. All the knowledge which the world possesses in Arts and Sciences has been acquired by an accumulation of the experience of persons who lived in different ages, and in different regions. Many farmers, sometimes by chance, at others by experiments upon some particular subject, have made useful discoveries which have died with them, but which had they been published, would have been beneficial to many. One of the most useful purposes of a periodical paper is to collect and preserve the scattered scraps of knowledge that are occasionally discovered. Ancient Mythologists inform us that when Pandora's curiosity led her to open the forbidden box, all kinds of evil flew out, and overspread the earth, and although the remedies for all these evils had been contained in the box they proved of little use, being written on oose leaves which were scattered far and wide by the winds; but

we hope that when any of our friends chance to pick up some of the loose leaves, that contain information useful to the farmer, they will send them to us, and we will endeavour to put them where they may be found if wanted. We know that some very capable men are at times shy of writing, because not having been accustomed to put their Ideas upon paper, they are not satisfied with their own style, but this is of trifling importance in communicating useful facts. The roughest gold is of far more value than polished brass. We can if desired remodel the language.

From different sources we learn that through the past scarce pestilential diseases have continued to make very considerable havoc among the Cattle and Sheep in the British Islands. I would apparently be prudent to cease importing from that country till the disease abates.

We ought to take advantage of the good animals already in the country to improve our breeds. Bakewell in the course of one hundred years formed his superior breeds. The best breed is that which gives the best payment for the expense of breeding. Many have an idea that the largest is the best breed. In some circumstances this is nearly the case, but in general it is far from the fact. It is highly probable that the Syracuse Ox, weighing over 4,000 lbs., has more fat than would have raised five to the same aggregate weight and that his flesh would prove inferior to that of the smaller animal. The Dishley Sheep is inferior in size to many other kinds, but when in a rich pasture gives them more mutton in proportion to the feed consumed than other breeds, and gets its growth in half the time required by some other kinds; in addition to this, it is capable of communicating its valuable properties to most other kinds by crossing. Early maturity and a disposition to fatten are also the characteristics of the improved Short horn cattle. But all desirable qualities are never united in one creature. Inferior strength, gentleness, and somewhat of a sluggish disposition, are as necessarily connected with the property of fattening easily, in other animals, as they are in man. The strongest breed of Cattle for labour, the cows which procure most of their own food abroad even in winter, and the Sheep who support themselves on barren lands all seasons; to which we may add the American pigs which for a century have been accustomed to get their living in the woods, are all strong, high spirited, lean animals, with plenty of muscle and sinew, but little fat, apt to quarrel with each other, and defying fences. They are of slow growth, and are not easily fattened; yet in certain situations they are better than any other breeds, because they are better than none, and are kept upon what costs nothing, and in addition to this, the beef and mutton of these breeds is of the best quality. Now a cross between a female of these hardy breeds, and a male of one of the fattening breeds, which have been formed by the art of the skillful breeder, generally produces a progeny of a quick growth, which is easily fattened, although, in some cases, not suitable to retain as breeders. Thus the Dishley Ram always requiring, and fed upon rich pastures being put to the black faced Highland sheep, produces lambs which will be grown in eighteen months, although their dams required two years; but this cross breed will not winter without assistance on the barren mountains like their mothers, but the ancient unimproved stock must be kept for breeders while the crossed lambs are disposed of to the butcher. The same effect is produced by crossing inferior breeds of Cattle with the improved Short-horns, and in places where an improved mode of farming is ameliorating the pasture this crossed breed is often retained as the stock to breed from, with advantage. But it is only the artificial breeds that possess the