



September

Brown hues begin to break the sea of green;
In all the valleys yellow tints prevail;
No more is heard the song of night-
ingales fall rustling now, the
leaves beneath the
Beneath the giant oak at morn and
e'en,
By limpid waters rest the spotted
deer.
The heron stands upon the margin
near,

And her keen eye with hunger grows
more keen.

The timid hare starts up with sudden
fear,
From the brown ferns that fill the
woodland vale;
And hazel nuts shake down at
every gale,
And thrifty squirrels store their win-
ter cheer.
The glory of the summer time is past,
And every day grows shorter than the
last.

—J. T. Wollaston.

The Story of a Nova Scotia Farm

A story of pluck and perseverance is always profitable reading and, in most cases, interesting. One that has both of these qualifications is that of a farm in Nova Scotia that has been developed from a state of practical barrenness to a paying investment in a more comfortable home. Ten years ago, Mr. Henry Watts bought a farm of 275 acres at Waterville in the Annapolis Valley. The family came from England and were practically strangers to Nova Scotia conditions, although Mr. Watts and his daughter, Miss Eunice Watts, had spent a summer in that province previously. As the readers of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World know, Miss Watts is now a regular and valued contributor to our columns.

Out of a run-down farm, Mr. Watts and his family have made a success of settling in Nova Scotia. When they came the people of the neighborhood shook their heads, and said that other English people had failed to make a success of farming, and that the Watts would, too. Others said that there was a curse on the farm, and that they "would not have it as a gift." The man who owned the farm was anxious to get rid of it because he had taken it for debt and, as there was no house, he was glad to sell it. The Watts took possession and named the place, "Brooklands." They first built a house, at which all of the family helped, employing two carpenters and, of course, masons for the stone work and plastering. The family consisted of five members, including the father and mother. Having completed the house, it was furnished with such things as had been brought from England, and additional furniture that had to be purchased on this side.

As bee-keeping has been made a specialty, up-to-date appliances had to be bought, including a Cowan extractor. It took them some time to learn how to winter bees in Canada. That they have succeeded is evidenced by the steady increase in the size of the apiary and of its profits.

On the old farm there is a barn, a fowl house and two sheds. One of the latter has been converted into a carpenter shop and apple house. All these buildings sadly needed repairing. In order to do this, granite rocks were

blasted off the land and used for the cellar walls. Logs were cut and hauled to the mill, where they were made into shingles, and other necessary lumber. There were too acres of woodland on the place but the best wood had been cut and much wasted. The newcomers are paying attention to forestry and cut judiciously, so that there is no waste. They grow their own firewood, barrel stave wood, hoop poles, poplar for strawberry baskets,

gotten out. All these years have been spent in catching up to where many Nova Scotians began.

The orchard is now the principal department. When the farm was bought many trees were dying or were dead. Others had to be purchased to fill the spaces. The first year the apple crop consisted of between 20 and 30 barrels, mostly culls. This year between 350 and 400 barrels are ex-



A corner of the garden at "Brooklands," taken three or four years ago, in apple blossom time. The paths are edged with pleasant eye pinks.

pected. There is in addition a commercial apple nursery on the place. The orchard and nursery comprise 30 acres. Good varieties of gooseberries, pears, apples and quinces, have been imported from England and France. Blackberries, raspberries, currants, cherries, plums and crab apples also are grown.

There is a fenced-in garden, a corner of which is shown in the illustration, where asparagus, lettuce, herbs,



Brooklands House—The Home of One of our Correspondents in Nova Scotia

The picket fence is made of young pine and spruce trees. It encloses a small garden and an apiary of twenty hives. This photograph shows the house of Mr. Henry Watts, Waterville, Kings Co., N.S., and of his daughter, Miss Eunice Watts, a capable and interesting writer on topics of agricultural interest and a regular contributor to the columns of THE CANADIAN DAIRYMAN AND FARMING WORLD.

and soft wood for crates and bean boxes. One of the girls makes several thousand strawberry boxes every winter, and also the bean boxes. A cooper is employed to make the barrels.

The meadow is now said to be worth as much as the Watts gave for the whole farm. They have cut bushes, altered the water course, plowed and fertilized it. The old fences were tumbling down and new ones had to be put up around the large area, for which many poles and posts had to be

try they had to buy implements. A partial list of them will show the expense that had to be incurred, and the excellent equipment that now is had: One-horse wagon, one two-horse Bain wagon, two buggies, one double-seated express wagon, wheelbarrow, grindstone, winnowing machine, mowing machine, hay rake, plow, harrows, spike toothed and other cultivators, wheel hoe, drags, scythes, hand rakes, forks, shovels, spades, hacks, hoes, axes, saws, full set of carpenter's tools, furnace and stoves, dairy utensils and separator, ladders, baskets, pruning and grafting implements, knives, sprayers, fertilizers, and many other up-to-date farming implements and necessities; also many labor-saving devices for the kitchen.

A pair of matched colts was raised. Their mother is still the pivot on which most things turn. There are kept about six sows and periodical pigs in numbers. There are 12 cows and heifers. The milk from these is weighed every night and morning and records are kept. The cows are Guernseys and their records will compare favorably with others. They are groomed and well bedded. Some poultry, chiefly Rhode Island Reds, is kept.

As animals, implements and labor have not been paid for, great profits have not been expected, as it has been uphill work, but this year the owners will be on their feet. One of the secrets of their success has been the facility of being able to adapt themselves to work of all kinds. Each member of the family can milk, and do any of the farm chores and work. One hired man is kept, sometimes two, but the farm is rapidly assuming a condition where it is possible for members to pay much for outside labor. Stock had to be kept to build up the orchards. The cultivator has been going incessantly during the growing season. Nothing has been thought that could be done without, but, as a member of the family has said, "It pays to lay out money in all implements that are useful and necessary."

Prizes have been taken at exhibitions for apples, beans, buckwheat, corn and peas. Last year they harvested about two bushels of buckwheat, 800 bushels of turnips, a large quantity of oats, and so forth.

A few years ago, Miss Am. Watts secured two Macdonald prizes in a seed grain competition. She and her brother have taken short courses at Truro Agricultural College. Miss Eunice Watts is a graduate of the Horticultural College at Swanton, England, and of the Nova Scotia School of Horticulture. To complete the achievements of this enterprising family and to fulfill one of their greatest desires, they, in the words of Miss Eunice Watts, "Want free delivery of mail, but our aspirations are not yet successful."

An Orchard Free

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As the family came to a new coun-