Finally, in 1887, I and one of my brothers bought a farm of 140 *arpents* for the nice little sum of $6,000. (1)

I need not tell you that on entering on the cultivation of a farm of that size, we were obliged to buy several horses, as well as the farm-implements necessary for the working of the land for such crops as we intended to grow.

This of course, increased our indebtedness. Upon which we said to ourselves: We must go to work in earnest, we have a heavy load to carry, and we must manage to stand up under it: and this we have done. We went heartily to work, and to day, I am not afraid to say before this meeting, in the very place itself, and in the presence of our creditors, if any of them are here, that we have "paid our way," and reduced the capital debt by more than $500.

You will perhaps, tell me that that is not much: I confess it willingly. But I wish you to observe that we have only had three crops from the land, and that the whole harvest of this, the third year, is still in our hands, and it is by no means a bad one. I do not suppose it is necessary for me to give you a completely detailed account of our crops, but I persist in saying that, as a whole, the system of cultivating hoed-crops is a paying one.

I am not afraid of declaring that, without our having followed out this plan of cropping, we should never have been able to succeed in meeting our obligation.

Here is an account of our operations:

We had, in 1889, in hoed crops.

8	arpents of	potatoes—yield—	1,500	bushels=	194	bushels per *acre.*
7	"	swedes — " —	4 500	" =780	"	"
1	"	red carrots " —	350	" =410	"	"
1	"	mangels— " —	400	" =470	"	"
1	"	white turnips —	200	" =460	"	"
1	"	maize — " —	15	" = 36	"	"

18 arpents=15 2 acres.

On the same land in 1889, we sowed:

13 arpents in barley—yield 450 bushels=40 bushels per *acre.*

2		wheat— "	40	" =24	"	
3	"	oats — "	120	" =46	"	"

The whole was sown down, in 1889, with timothy, and this year, 1890, off the same land, we carried 4,000 bundles of hay, equal to 30 tons, or 2 tons per imperial acre. We intend to leave this land in hay for two or three years more; we shall then pasture it, for a year or two, and then begin the same rotation over again. We mean to change the land for our hoed-crops every year, and follow the rotation as above described.

As you well know, people often assign as an opposing reason to my thesis that it is very easy for so and so to do so; he is rich; others say: Oh! he has a lot of children; it costs him nothing for wages.

To us, neither of these arguments will apply. As to the former, as I said above, we bought this farm without paying a dollar in ready money for it; as to the second, I have no children, and my brother, who is ten years younger than I, is only beginning his family, the oldest of his children being only six; consequently, there being only we two to work, we are obliged to pay for all the labour required.

It is unnecessary to say that, in order to be able to meet our engagements we must grow large crops, and that it follows that we have to employ a good deal of labour, which has to be paid for.

Allow me to say, before I conclude, that it is a very fine thing to be one of Fortune's favourites, as well as to have several children to help one, but although it is an advantage to be in either one of these situations, I can assure you neither is indispensable to success. There is one thing that is indispensable: earnestness; and to this I may also add perseverance.

From my own experience, I can assure you that, if you adopt this method of farming and give it all the care it demands, your success is certain, for I am convinced that what we have been able to do, can be equally well done by any other farmer.

I bear this testimony here, without any exaggeration.

I trust, Mr. President, that the few explanations of our system that I have just given will be useful to the worthy Dairymen's Association as well as to farmers in general: that is my earnest desire.

SÉRAPHIN GUÈVREMONT, Sorel.

November 1890.

Read at Sorel at the D. Ass. meeting.

(*From the French.*)

(1) 140 arpents=112 acres, nearly.

DE OMNIBUS REBUS.

Montreal, September 8th, 1891.

Wonderful crops.—A *special* to the *Montreal Star*, dated August 6th, states that a deputation from the Dominion Millers' Association visited the Experiment-farm at Guelph the day before, to get information from the different samples of winter-wheat grown there. The yield seems to have been wonderfully good—from 40 to 65 bushels an acre—and the weight of the bushel varied from 60 lbs. to 64½ lbs. The samples that the Millers recommended farmers to sow were the "Surprise," the Winter Fyfe, Canadian Velvet-chaff, and the hybrid-Mediterranean.

I take it for granted that these enormous crops were *fields* of grain and not plots of the 20th of an acre; and I make my compliments to Mr. Shaw, as having practically proved that the best land in Ontario, under really good cultivation, is capable of producing as great an amount of winter-wheat as any of the most favoured districts of England.

The yield of oats was calculated at 100 bushels an acre!

I should be very much obliged to Mr. Shaw if he would let me know the return of grain obtained from the land sown in rape and fed off by sheep.

If some of our more backward farmers could see these fields of grain, I wonder if they would believe their eyes!

Cost of growing silage-maize.—Mr. Saunders, of the Ottawa Experiment-farm, puts the cost of growing silage-maize at $32.65 an acre. Now, supposing the crop to give what he calls "a fairly good yield," i. e, 20 tons to the acre, the cost of a ton would be $1.63. But why does Mr. Saunders charge $4.60 for 100 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia —=92.00 a ton—? Mr. Vasey's price, at Hochelaga, is very little over $3.00 for that quantity=$62.50 a ton!

Striped-beetle.—A half-teaspoonful of turpentine, mixed with a pail of ashes and applied every two or three days, is said to keep the striped-beetle away from cucumber- and melon-plants.

Potato-sets.—At the Michigan Experiment-farm, in 1890, as well as in 1889, the largest yield of potatoes was obtained by from 13 to 27 bushels of seed per acre, the largest *net* yield being from 13.7 bushels. It also appeared that halves are better than whole potatoes of the same weight. The truth is, that up to the present date, no experiments have turned