

## Poetry.

## To the Farmer's Advocate.

Oh, now you see its myself that can say  
I've been reading your paper this many a day,  
About cheese and butter, and cattle and hogs;  
Of drain-tiles and ditches, in dry land and bogs;  
Of horses with lampas and cracked hoofs and a';  
Of British Columbia and Manitoba.

I've looked through your columns and never could find  
A word from this district that's just to my mind.  
It's four years last September since first I began  
To hew out a house by the Wagnetawan,  
And I'm getting on fine, though I say it myself,  
And I like both the land and the climate full well.

We can grow fine potatoes, wheat, too, and corn,  
And cabbage—oh, thunder! as big as a barn;  
And peas, beans and buckwheat and oats, too, galore.  
If you saw our big pumpkins, you'd set to and roar.  
Sure, the hay crop beats any I ever did see;  
And tomato plants grow as big as a tree.

You'll be saying I am blowing and talking too loud,  
But I'll send you some samples of which I am proud.  
Folks say that this line is a frost smitten spot,  
That wheat won't grow and potatoes will rot.  
But if you'll have patience and listen to me,  
I'll explain the conundrum as plain as can be.

There's a lot of galouts—nothing more can I call them—  
Who come to this district from far distant climes;  
Some come from the city—for them more's the pity;  
While others have come because of their crimes.

They come here, you see, with high expectations  
Of what they will do when they get on the farm;  
But tradesmen, you see, can't farm to a T,  
And they find that their notions don't work like a charm.

For they plant and sow far too late in the season,  
And then don't half cover or harrow it in.  
Then, of course, in the fall the frost spoils it all;  
And when we are reaping their crops are quite green.

Now if these men would only subscribe to your paper,  
They'd learn from its columns the way how to farm;  
And they'd learn when to sow, and the right time to mow,  
While they'd say that your precepts all work like a charm.

BUSHWACKER

## A Couple of Magpies.

From the Boston Transcript.

I rode in a horse-car the other day  
With some girls who ran on in this sort of a way:  
"Good heavens! what a stranger you are.  
I'm awfully glad you took this car.  
I'm going down town for a little spree.  
Where are you going? Can't you come with me?"

"No; I just came out for a bit of a lark,  
And a little shopping; but keep it dark.  
I've been so busy I'm almost dead,  
And I've a million things to do," she said.

"It's horrid walking, but it's warm as spring;  
I think it's too lively for anything;  
But the days are so short it will soon be dark."  
And her friend replied, "I should so remark."  
"I wish you'd join our Sunday-school mission;  
It is in a flourishing condition:  
We have more than forty nice little girls,  
And one of them has the loveliest curls.  
One of my friends has a class of boys;  
I don't like them—they make too much noise;  
I suppose their heathen minds must be fed,  
But sometimes its enough to turn one's head."

"Have you seen Salvini? Oh, you ought to go;  
He's perfectly splendid—you'd like him, I know;  
Did you see Bernhardt? "Yes, I saw her twice;  
I think her costumes were awfully nice."

"Your sack is lovely—such a pretty make—  
I really think it takes the cake;  
And your hat is just the 1-1-loveliest style."  
And the other only answered, "Well, I should smile."

"Mr. Thompson presents his compliments to  
Mr. Simpson and begs to request that he will  
keep his piggis from trespassing on his grounds."  
"Mr. Simpson presents his compliments to Mr.  
Thompson, and begs to suggest that in the future  
he will not spell piggis with two gees." "Mr.  
Thompson's respects to Mr. Simpson, and will  
feel obliged if he will add the letter E to the last  
word in the note just received, so as to represent  
Mr. Simpson and lady." "Mr. Simpson returns  
Mr. Thompson's letter unopened, the impertinence  
it contains being only equalled by its vulgarity."

## Miscellaneous.

## Acknowledgments.

We are in receipt of the Reports of the Ontario Agricultural Commission. There are six published, also an index; the whole complete will make quite a library for many farmers. It will take a long time to read the whole of them. There is undoubtedly a great deal of valuable information contained in this work. From time to time as the evidence was taken we have given you the cream of it months in advance of the reports. Should any further points in them appear of advantage to our readers we shall avail ourselves of this great Government expenditure.

From Washington we receive the official reports of agriculture; one in book and one in pamphlet form. This work is neatly bound, and contains a great deal of valuable information about crops and the diseases of farm animals.

Catalogues of numerous seedsmen are received. The contents of any that contain any special subject that we think deserves prominence will be duly reported. The catalogue of McBroom & Woodward, London, Ont., is, we think, the neatest that we have ever seen produced in Ontario.

Mr. Philip McKenzie, of this city, brought us a sample of wheat sent to him by Mr. Angus Shore, of Aumsville, Oregon, U. S. This wheat, we think, is the finest we have ever seen, and we have examined the wheat at the great Exhibitions in Paris and Philadelphia. Any person can see it in our office. It is quite a wonder.

## New Brunswick Farmers' Association.

The fifth annual meeting of the New Brunswick Farmers' Association took place at Sackville, N. B., Feb. 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The attendance was good, and the meeting a very interesting one. Mr. Peters, the President, read the opening address, which was in substance much like the Hon. Mr. Wedderburn's, a synopsis of which we gave in our last issue, among the proceedings of the New Brunswick Board of Agriculture. Mr. Peters fully agreed with Mr. Wedderburn's remarks regarding agricultural education, and spoke at length of the necessity of introducing agriculture into their public and other schools. He considered children should be educated for the calling in life which they intended to follow. In speaking of the capabilities of the soil, he said they could produce coarse grain and roots in abundance; the average yield of the wheat crop this year was 20 bushels per acre. He fully endorsed the action of the Government in establishing a Provincial Board of Agriculture, and stated it had been done in accordance with the previously expressed wish of this Association.

After this address, the Secretary's report was read. The Treasurer reported the state of the finances, showing receipts of the year to be \$2,732; expenditure, \$2,354.

The report of the committee in connection with the establishment of a model farm and school of agriculture was then brought in, and showed that the universal sentiment was in favor of such an institution.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, Mr. Howard Trueman being elected President; O. C. Arnold, Secretary. Thirteen Vice-Presidents were elected, and a Board of Executors, representing various counties.

The remainder of the time was taken up with the reports from the various county societies, and discussions and essays on various agricultural topics.

The papers read and discussions following were of a very practical nature, and must be productive of great good to all present and the Province at large.

After discussing the various breeds of cattle, it was

Resolved—That, in the opinion of this Association, the discussion on the breeds of cattle best suited to the wants of these Provinces is in favor of Shorthorns; Ayrshires and Polled Angus were favorably recommended.

The Association decided to meet next year at Hopewell, Albert County.

## Ontario Poultry Association.

The attendance at the exhibition at Brantford, on Feb. 10th, was said to have been very good, breeders from all parts of Ontario and Quebec being present. Visitors spoke highly of the exhibition. The annual meeting was held in the Kerby House. E. Kester, President, occupied the chair; the minutes of the last meeting were approved of. Brantford was unanimously chosen as the place for the next exhibition. The following were elected officers for the coming year: E. Kester, Brantford, re-elected president; A. Boyne, London, 1st vice-president; J. McLellan, Peterboro, 2nd vice-president. A full board of directors was also elected.

RESISTANCE TO THE COLLECTION OF COUNTY TAXES.—The Township of Lowe in the Gatineau District, Province of Quebec, has been settled by principally Irish emigrants, who a few years ago obtained free land until a municipality was formed. They paid, under protest, the municipal taxes for a number of years. They willingly performed statute labor, but refused to pay the money annually demanded by the Treasurer of the County. Three years ago action was taken by the County Solicitor on their refusing to pay. In June, 1878, a judgment was given against the township for \$94, amount of debt and costs. The necessary legal documents were served, and no attention being paid to them, the Deputy-Sheriff was deputed to execute the writs and make the seizures. The defaulters resisted, and gave him a very short time to leave the township. Finally the Judge of the Circuit Court, on being applied to, granted the application for the necessary assistance, and the Wakefield Infantry Company has been deputed for service.

\* There is as much nutrition in a bushel of beans as in four bushels of potatoes.

The cattle on the Cheyenne river, Dakota, are dying in great numbers from starvation. The snow is from eighteen inches to two feet deep, and the herds cannot reach the grass.

Among the exports from Portland to Glasgow, via Halifax, Feb'y 17th, were 2,500 sacks of flour by Mr. Saunby, of London, Ont., and 3,000 sacks by Messrs. Hunt Bros.

Muck is cooling to the soil in summer and warming in winter; it collects moisture and retains it; it aerates the earth, is a reservoir of ammonia and other elements of plant-food, not the least of which are its crumbling shells and fragments of petrifications.

REMEDY AGAINST WORMS IN APPLES.—There is no remedy against the worms in apples but to catch and kill the parent moths. This may be done by keeping bands of thick paper, straw, or coarse carpet around the trees; the worms hide under these, and can be caught and killed. To bore holes in the trees and fill them with sulphur will be of no avail whatever.

"SCOURS" IN A COW.—Diarrhea is caused by irritative matter in the bowels. This is not removed by astringents, and to give them only increases the trouble. A laxative is needed to remove the offending matter, which is usually some undigested food. Give a pint of linseed-oil, which is better at this season than salts, and repeat it, if necessary, in three days. Give an ounce of ginger with the oil, and when the oil has operated give a dram of ginger and a dram of carbonate of soda daily in the food for a few days.

The healthy properties of onions have never been fully understood. Lung and liver complaints are certainly benefited, often cured, by a free consumption of onions, cooked raw. Colds yield to them like magic. Don't be afraid of them. Taken at night, all offense will be gone in the morning, and the good effects will amply compensate for the trifling annoyance. Taken regularly, they promote the health of the lungs and the digestive organs. An extract made by boiling down the juice of onions to a syrup and taken as a medicine answers the purpose very well; but fried, roasted or boiled onions are better. Onions are a very cheap medicine, within everybody's reach, and they are not by any means as "bad to take" as the costly nostrums a neglect of their use may necessitate.