

and thus the seed-time extended from the first week in April to the second week in June.

The result was an average yield of from 14 to 21 tons of roots per acre, and it was estimated that with a more favourable season and a better knowledge of the culture of the Sugar Beet—most of the crops having been thinned out to too great a distance between the plants—the average yield would have reached 30 tons per acre. Furthermore, it was discovered that the pulp remaining after the beets had gone through the process of having the sugar extracted from them, contained enough sugar to fatten bullocks readily, and that a ton of it was equal to nearly 8 tons of Mangels for feeding to stock, and was sold at from 12s. to £1 for that purpose. We think, if some enterprising individual in Canada would follow the example of Mr. Duncan, the growing of Sugar Beets would become profitable, both to our farmers and the sugar manufacturer, (the average yield of sugar being 13 per cent. from the raw beets), and open the way for the more extensive introduction of root crops as a means of cleaning the land and restoring fertility to many of our already overworked soils. The Sugar Beet appears to be a much more saleable, and certain crop than the Turnip or Mangel. In a future article we will endeavour to give the method adopted in growing Sugar Beets in France, where it has reached the greatest perfection.

Farm Records.

Every intelligent agriculturist should see the importance of keeping a record of all that occurs on the farm from day to day. All that is required for the purpose is a few sheets of ruled paper, stitched together, on which to jot down every evening, after the day's work is done, what the weather has been, and what has been done, or has occurred on the farm; also, any facts he may have observed relating to the science of his profession. Here is a sample of an entry in our record book that may give an idea of the subject:

"Oct. 22nd.—Cloudy, and ground covered with snow that fell last night; wind N. W. moderate. Commenced feeding hay to cows, and to confine horses to the stable at night. Gathered in the last of the late winter apples; the russets are badly worm-eaten. Four hens stolen from poultry house last night; must get a lock for it. Removed geranium plants from the garden to boxes in the house. Engaged Mike for one month at \$8, commencing to-day. Clear at night with hard frost. 6 lb. 14 oz. butter made from 3 days' milk. Neighbour H. came over and begged hard to have Mike help him thrash to-morrow; could not well refuse him, although I intended to have potatoes dug out at once, as he can get no hands except what his neighbours can lend him.

"Oct. 23rd.—Clear and fine; a hard frost last night, penetrated the ground two or three inches and the Scotch Kidney potatoes, which in growing push out towards the surface, are greatly frost-bitten. Went over at 9 a. m. to neighbour H. to see how he got along with his thrashing. He could not get hands enough, so all the women folks are working in the barn. His crops are terribly infested with Canada thistle, and the air in his barn is filled to suffocation with thistle dust; thistle buds form a large proportion of his wheat crop, and the thrashers wear gloves to protect their hands from thistle spines. Digging potatoes as soon as the ground thawed out, which was not before 10 a. m. Engaged to go to town to-morrow at 6 a. m. with neighbour L., and promised H he should have Mike to-morrow, as he could not get through with his thrashing to-day. Agreed to let S. have 100 bushels potatoes at 60 cents."

Such a record will always be found interesting to look back upon, as well as valuable in deciding any question that may arise between master and servant, or in regard to sales and contracts made, stock purchased, labour given or received, &c., &c. Besides this record, a field book may be kept in which to record the amount of labour, manure, seed, &c. expended in each division of the farm, and the yield or returns made from the several crops grown upon them. This can be entered from the record book at a leisure time, and will show the gains or losses of each year on every acre of the farm, and enable the farmer to judge how and where to lay out labour and capital most profitably in the future. It is not absolutely necessary for the farmer himself to write the records; any member of the family can do that, even a child, if its education is far enough advanced; but he should give the facts, and see that they are put down in the record book.

Hemp.

We were recently shown some very fine samples of hemp fibre, produced from hemp grown by Mr. H. G. Joly, of Quebec, on his farm at Point Platon. Mr. Joly has written a very interesting letter to the *Gazette des Campagnes*, which we have translated from the French, and condense from it a few facts showing that hemp can be profitably grown in Canada, and that our ropemakers would do well to encourage home growth instead of importing the raw material from Russia and Kentucky.

He says that hemp was extensively grown in Canada when it was under French rule, and that quantities of it may yet be found growing in a wild state on many of the older farms in Quebec. He gives the result of a trial with seed from the so-called "wild hemp," from seed imported from Piedmont, and from Missouri. The Missouri seed produced the finest plants, but the plants grown from "wild hemp" were but little inferior, and

equal to the Piedmontese, while they ripened sooner than the others. The yield of raw hemp is given as 4,400 lbs per acre, which sold at a farthing per pound gives a return of \$60 per acre, besides the seed, which yields an oil equal to linseed oil for painters' use.

He states that the hemp can be grown equally as well as flax, and that the operations of scutching and heckling it can be done in a flax mill, with a little alteration of the rollers, or by wooden hecklers, constructed chiefly for the purpose. The hemp in its raw state is rather bulky for carriage, but when prepared by hand or machinery it is greatly reduced in bulk, and is then worth much more. The price of Russia hemp at Quebec is given as 9 cents per pound, so that if we can grow an article equal to it, which he says can be done, hemp growing would become a profitable branch of agriculture. It takes six pounds of steeped raw hemp to make a pound of hemp ready to spin, or make into rope, and he says the raw material would readily bring a half-penny per pound if steeped, and conveniences could be had for scutching and heckling it. Perhaps this matter may engage the attention of Canadian ropemakers, and they could be induced to encourage a home growth of an article now largely imported at great expense.

Mr. Joly left at our office some very fine samples of Canada Hemp, grown in Quebec, and prepared some by hand, and some by machinery; also, some specimens of rope manufactured from this hemp; a small quantity of the oil expressed from the seed; and also some cake for feed, manufactured after the manner of linseed cake.

We shall be happy to show these specimens to any one who may feel interested in the matter. From the success which Mr. Joly has met with in Quebec, where, we are informed, sixty farmers have grown this crop, we think it very desirable that a trial of it should be made in Ontario. Of course, we would not advise any extensive experiments at first, but operations on a small scale might be sufficient to indicate the suitability or otherwise of our climate for the growth of hemp. Those who have scutching mills for flax should bear this subject in mind.

Early Rose Potato.

This new potato was originated in 1861 from seed of the Garnet Chili, by Alfred Bresee, of Vermont, an intelligent amateur cultivator, and first introduced to notice in the spring of 1868. This gentleman, emulating the example of the late Mr. Goodrich, whose labours have contributed millions to the agricultural products and resources of his country, is still engaged in originating and experimenting with new varieties of the potato, which has been improved within a late term of years, adding both to its product and other good qualities, much more than the cereals