

spec. and correspondent's letter in time for your last issue. Besides, I had hoped some one more able than myself might have given the desired and satisfactory information on the subject which "Dovercourt" wishes to obtain. That, however, not being the case in your last number, I have taken up my pen to state my own opinion and long experience in the matter.

I do not wonder at "Dovercourt's" desire to possess some more expeditious and less expensive mode of harvesting his peas than by the scythe, having, as he says, forty acres to gather; but I regret to say that I can inform him of none, neither do I know of any implement at all suitable to the purpose. I have, as he has done, tried several methods of harvesting my peas, and have returned after all to the old scythe as the best means of gathering the crop, though much too expensive. The horse-rake I have a great aversion to, on account of the vast amount of dirt and rubbish it sends into your barn, together with the heavy labour it inflicts on the loader and unloader of the peas, through the haulm being so twisted and matted together. In fact, in a heavy crop, I consider it little less than *horse labour!*

There is, however, I think, a great mistake made in using too long a scythe-blade, and in rolling the wads up too large. I prefer a short blade and small wads, as in a wet time you can get the latter dry much quicker, and they are handled with far less trouble every way; and in fine weather you are enabled to get your crop quicker into your barn, with less dew upon your straw, and perhaps without any rain at all. Your straw consequently is of a much better quality, which is a great desideratum at all times. Indeed, I do not think that sufficient attention is given, generally speaking, to the securing of pea-straw in the condition it ought to be, nor is its real value as fodder duly estimated by many who grow it.

This crop is often allowed, as well as clover and timothy-hay, to remain far too long in the field after being cut, and thereby becomes dry, dusty, unpalatable, and unwholesome food! Neither the pea straw nor hay, in my opinion, can be secured too green, so long as the sap is properly killed.

I have been led, Messrs. Editors, to write more on this subject than I had intended on taking up my pen, and I much regret that I cannot give my friend "Dovercourt" more satisfactory information on the matter in question; but the inducement in replying to his communication is, in part, for the purpose of suggesting to the Board of Agriculture the *desirability* of offering a LIBERAL premium to the mechanics of Canada for the best machine for cutting and gathering the pea crop, which is now so extensively grown in the Province. Surely this would put some of our intelligent and able mechanics on their mettle! There is no question but it can be done if once set about; and I feel confident that it

would prove a very remunerative affair to the successful producers, as I know of no implement so much needed at the present time by the farmer as the one I am now writing about. The sale, I predict, would be beyond all calculation if an effective implement were produced, at reasonable price, as no sensible farmer would long be without it. LEICESTERENSIS.

Guelpi, 27th May, 1861.

Drain Tile Machines.

Having received some inquiries in relation to the cost of Drain Tile Machines, where they are to be had, the amount of work they will do, &c we insert the following chapter from a work on "Farm Drainage," written by Mr. H. French; published by C. M. Saxton, Barker, Co., New York. We commend this work to those interested in the subject of Drainage. It contains information relating to every detail and is copiously illustrated. It is sold by James Bain, Bookseller, Toronto. We observe that the prices mentioned of tiles in the United States are much higher than those at which tiles of excellent quality are sold in this city. The prices here correspond more nearly to the English rates.

"The prices at which tiles are sold is only, the lawyers say, *prima facie* evidence of the cost. It seems to us, that the prices at which tiles have thus far been sold in this country, very far above those at which they may be, fitably manufactured, when the business is understood, and pursued upon a scale large enough to justify the use of the best machine. The following is a copy of the published prices of tiles at the Albany Tile Works, and these prices prevail throughout New England, as far known:

Horse-Shoe Tile.—Pieces.

2½ inches rise.....	\$12 per 1
3½ " "	15 "
4½ " "	18 "
5½ " "	40 "
6½ " "	60 "
7½ " "	75 "

Sole-Tile.—Pieces.

2 inches rise.....	\$12 per
3 " "	18 "
4 " "	40 "
5 " "	60 "
6 " "	80 "
8 " "	125 "

Few round pipe-tiles have yet been in this country, although they are the kind generally preferred by engineers in England. The prices of round tiles would vary little from those of sole-tiles.