

Agricultural.

Enriching Land by Clover.

From a report of remarks made in the Elmira Farmers' Club by Col. Brewer, we take the following:

"I beg leave to criticise remarks made by one of your members on the occasion of reading a letter I wrote your Club long ago. In treating of this subject of enriching land by the use of clover, I cited the case of a field too rich for wheat. Some one asked—'Can land be too rich for wheat?' I insist that it can; such land produces too great a growth of straw at the expense of the grain. I have brought land to this condition, and there is also the difficulty that on such land the crop is apt to lodge, and under the lodged straw the clover seed cannot grow, or if it has made a good start, it gets smothered out. I had a piece of three acres on which there was raised in one crop 110 bushels of wheat, but about half of the ground had no clover. I seeded the bare spot after harvest, scratching the surface slightly, and the next season there was no difference to be seen between the portions so seeded and that which came from the spring sowing, except that the late sowing remained green and fresh later in the season. For many years I have made it a point to attend to such bare spots after harvest, and with very certain success in most instances. I have an acquaintance, a young farmer in Hector, Tompkins County, who raises four crops in his course, all good. His clover is cut early for hay, then the second crop for seed, then barley and wheat and clover. If the wheat is rather thin it will do to use plaster on that. It is my opinion that none of us sow plaster early enough."

The Thistle Law.

Canada thistles are spreading with such rapidity that unless the law regarding their destruction is put into force, they threaten to have a most injurious effect on our crops. The law in regard to this is very strict, if carried out. It says in the statute of 1865:

It shall be the duty of every occupant of land in Upper Canada, to cut, or cause to be cut down, all the Canada thistles growing thereon, so often in each and every year as to prevent them going to seed; if any owner, possessor or occupier of land shall knowingly suffer any Canada thistles to grow thereon, and the seed to ripen so as to cause or endanger the spread thereof, he shall, upon conviction, be liable to a fine of not less than two nor more than ten dollars for every such offence.

It shall be the duty of the overseers of highways in any municipality to see that the provisions of this act are carried out within their respective highway divisions, by cutting or causing to be cut all the Canada thistles growing on the highways or road allowances within their respective divisions, and every such overseer shall give notice in writing to the owner, possessor or occupier of any land within the said division whereon Canada thistles shall be growing and in danger of going to seed, requiring him to cause the same to be cut down within five days from the service of such notice; and in case the owner, possessor or occupier shall refuse or neglect to cut down the said Canada thistles within the period aforesaid, the said overseer of highways shall enter upon the land and cause such Canada thistles to be cut down, with as little damage to the growing crops as may be, and he shall not be liable to be sued in action of trespass therefor; provided that no such overseer of highways shall have power to enter upon or cut thistles on any land sown with grain; provided also that where such Canada thistles are growing upon non-resident lands, it shall not be necessary to give any notice before proceeding to cut down the same.

It shall be the duty of the clerk of any municipality in which railway property is situated to give notice in writing to the station master of said railway resident in or nearest to the said municipality, requiring him to cause all the Canada thistles growing upon the property of the said railway company within the limits of the said municipality to be cut down, as provided for in the first section of this Act, and in case such station master shall refuse or neglect to have the said Canada thistles cut down within ten days from the time of service of the said notice, then the overseer of highways of the said municipality shall enter upon the property of said railway company and cause such Canada

thistles to be cut down, and the expense incurred in carrying out the provisions of this section shall be provided for in the same manner as in the next following section of this Act.

The municipal council of the corporation shall cause all such sums as have been so paid under the provisions of this Act to be severally levied on the lands described in the statements of the overseers of highways, and to be collected in the same manner as other taxes; and the same, when collected, shall be paid into the treasury of the said corporation to reimburse the outlay therefrom aforesaid.

Any person who shall knowingly vend any grass or other seed among which there is any seed of the Canada thistle, shall for every such offence, upon conviction, be liable to a fine of not less than two nor more than ten dollars.

The latter part of the second clause, however, is obscure and contradictory. The law regarding their destruction on public highways is explicit, and there can be no excuse for allowing railways and public roads to be loaded with them, the way they are at present. Not only does this apply to country places, but in villages and cities they are just as bad. In many places they are fence high, and in some parts of our town they are growing almost on the sidewalks. It is to be hoped our municipal officials will look after this matter.

Sunbury Farmer's League—Sunbury, N. B.

At the last meeting of the S. F. League, subjects of great importance to the agricultural interest of the Dominion at large were discussed by the members. We abridge from the *Colonial Farmer* the report:

The President, W. W. Perley, Esq., having opened the meeting, said there were several subjects he would like to hear discussed, such as How to Increase our Manure Heaps, and How to Regulate the Sale of Produce. These subjects were of immense importance to agriculture. Another topic he would here mention—the raising of different products by farmers, or, in other words, the division of crops as the best means to obtain fair prices. Canadians and Americans export beef to England at paying rates, and that is a lesson to us in New Brunswick. It proves that if we look to the proper feeding of our cattle the return would be advantageous.

He had communications from the Kings County League and others, looking to a general Convention of the County Leagues, for the formation of a Provincial League, and he hoped the meeting would take prompt action thereon.

Senator Wilnot said he looked on the movement as alike desirable and patriotic, holding the interests of the farmers to be not contrary to general interests, but conducive to the prosperity of the entire nation. He would not be willing to set up the interests of producers as opposed to consumers; he had never advocated the raising of such a question, and was glad to see that the League had confined its work to the upholding of their industry by the legitimate combination of their at present divided power.

The farmers, numbering about eight millions, as compared to eleven millions of the entire population of the Dominion, feel the necessity of having some organization, and when we consider what has been accomplished by the ship owners, mill owners, mechanics and artisans through association, there can be no just objection raised to this movement. The movement was not confined within the limits of our own province. He was aware that in the Eastern Townships of Quebec—a district without our facilities for raising cattle—a company with a large capital had been formed to ship beef to Great Britain without freezing, and it had perfected arrangements with the ocean steamers to deliver their beef in the old country as fresh as the day it was shipped. He intended, by invitation, to visit that establishment sometime in September next, after which he would be prepared to give a full description of its working; but what he would call their attention to at present was that New Brunswick could fatten beef for export as cheaply as Quebec, and if it paid the latter province to invest capital largely in this direction, we could engage successfully in the same enterprise. The fattening of beef calls into life all our efforts to increase the quality and quantity of suitable feed, and would promote the culture of turnips, a root eminently adapted to the soil of New Brunswick, and which we can raise just as profitably and abundantly as in Quebec.

Judge Peters, of Prince Edward Island, had raised 1200 bushels to the acre, and on his own farm, in Lincoln, the yield had been over four hundred bushels to the acre. Of course he had used bone dust as a fertilizer, for without it, ashes or some other special manure, the crops would be only ordinary, but the yield handsomely repaid the extra outlay. He considered turnip-raising, from long experience, to be profitable employment, and a large demand for good beef was created through the exportation; turnips, as the prime food for fattening, would be one of the best crops a farmer could raise.

Not that he would advise all farmers to go with beef fattening or turnip raising. To keep up remunerative prices it was necessary to have their labor as much divided as possible. Individually, he as a farmer would ever take great interest in the progress of this movement. He had been promised papers explanatory to the working of the Granges; if they came to hand, he would give the League his opinion on the advisability of introducing this order into New Brunswick.

John Covert, M. P. P., had full sympathy with the objects of the League. He felt certain New Brunswick could be an exporter of prime beef; her facilities for the fattening of stock were more widely understood. He knew that with less labor than in raising potatoes, there would be no difficulty in getting from eight hundred to one thousand bushels of turnips to the acre. This could not be done with barn-yard manure, as turnips required ashes, bone dust, &c., but then the cost was not much, and the manure was left to fertilize the other crops raised on the farm.

He had fed turnips to beef cattle and to milk cows, in all cases with grand results. For feeding to milk cows there was no trouble if the turnips were given immediately after milking, as the milk will not be flavored at all. The yield of milk is largely increased by turnips, as he knew by last winter's experience. Turnips are the only feed to lay beef on the ribs, and they will do it.

He said that last year he sowed his turnips on the 9th of July, and this year on the 8th, 9th and 10th of the same month. They look as well now as any he had ever grown.

He held that the agricultural resources of New Brunswick were almost unknown, and expressed a firm belief that the farmers could so successfully engage in the raising of wheat as to supply the country with bread, and that at good paying prices.

Not by the granting of large sums of money was this to be done, but by consulting the opinions of the farmers, to so frame legislation as to make it acceptable to their wishes, to the wishes of the mightiest power in the land. It was only through such associations as Farmer's Leagues could their voice be known, and to this end, as well as to all its expressed objects, was his cordial support and co-operation ever ready to help along the movement.

G. A. Sterling was pleased to hear the friendship expressed by the speakers towards the League.

The production of turnips as feed has been touched on by the speakers. This called for manure. Now he had raised good wheat with no other manure than fish pumice, four barrels to the acre, and if his experiment proved a success this year, it was valuable in that while he raised prime wheat, itself an acceptable crop, he left his barn-yard manure to be used for other crops.

The fish pumice was imported by their Agricultural Society, and cost \$15 a ton. His method of using was to mix one barrel of pumice with three of swamp muck, and after the mixture had thoroughly heated, it was sown on the land and cultivated in. On this ground the wheat was sown, and he would be happy to show any farmer the field of wheat, of which he felt justly proud.

With the objects of the Grange they were in accord, and if the time ever arrived when the union of the two orders was deemed advisable, he might advocate it.

Finally it was resolved that the Farmer's Leagues and Granges be invited by their delegates to meet at Sunbury on the fourth Tuesday in October, to organize a Provincial Farmer's League and take steps to carry out the objects set forth in the declaration of principles of the County Leagues.

Mr. W. B. Robinson, of Brougham, sold a pair of mares, four years old, and weighing 1,630 pounds each, for \$1,200, to Mr. Haskill, of Reoria, Illinois.

Some F

A fact not generally known is that the finely pulverized droscopic water—single experiment in the fall will result in the spring the

Finely pulverized up moisture equal quantities of nitro soils, because containing the droscop contains, to be multiplied by plan

Soils throughout rest, become ho line occupied by as channels to c directly away. wanted, for thu rain water do n the soil, and ar certain superfic supposing that drowth. If th depth of from s would be very f filter, passing t fast enough, an tility would be soil uniformly r

Again, under soaked, become not penetrate t soil holds water by the sun, ren and unfertile. the washing aw continued rain passed down th along the surfac stream, carryin tion, but also t acquires and h quiescent.

There is a w tion here, and bestowed upon theory that soi come impoveri management t the conditions constantly re Farm Journal

Grain Gro

In his "Wa American Ag statements of year's crop o marks shows produce grain ferior returns years' experie ized the large for manures, results on th prove:—

23½ bushels o 11½ cwt. of

Expense

Profit pe

30 bushels b 13 3-8 cwt.

Expense

Profit pe

3.—SUPER

58½ bushels 30½ cwt. of

Mr. Harri age results, By selecting stronger cas quoted abov gave over 7 later 77 bush