

most consistent with remuneration. The profits on cattle are now made to contribute a very large item towards the farmer's returns, probably on most farms half as much as the grain, exclusive of the manure; hence the great necessity for attending to the rearing of early maturing breeds of cattle and of cultivating green food and linseed, or in Canada, Indian Corn, to force them forward.

(To be concluded in our next.)

UNBURNT BRICKS FOR HOUSES.

To the Editor of the Canadian Agriculturist.

Lindsay, 10th January, 1855.

SIR,—Being desirous of obtaining advice and instruction in reference to the best method of building cottages with *unburnt bricks*. I have taken the liberty of soliciting such information as you or some of your numerous and intelligent correspondents may deem necessary for guiding a novice like myself in preparing for and carrying on to completion an erection of this material.

There are I am told many country residences of this description in the country to the north of Toronto, but it has not happened that I have had an opportunity of either seeing any of them or of becoming acquainted with the mode of construction, although I have been credibly informed that they possess some advantages over those of the ordinary burnt bricks; that they can be erected at a much *less expense*; are *warmer in winter* and *cooler in summer*, &c.

I should be glad to be informed of the usual *size* of those unburnt bricks; whether they can be laid in the wall as well with *mortar made of the same material as the bricks* (viz. clay) as with *lime mortar*; and as I should be desirous, in case I should build, of plastering the *outside* with suitable waterproof plaster, I should like to know whether there is any difficulty or risk in insuring such plaster to *stick firmly*, so that its durability may be relied upon.

When putting on the plaster outside or inside, would it be advisable to first sprinkle the walls with water, in order to slightly *moisten* them; or, would the plaster stick as well or better by being applied to the *dry surface* of the bricks?

Would the bricks be any better for having *chopped straw*, or othersimilar material, mixed in the clay when making?

I should take it as a favor to receive information, through the medium of your valuable

journal, on these several points referred to, and such additional directions as may be considered essential for such an undertaking.

As this section of the Province is progressing rapidly in general improvements (and would improve very soon in a much greater ratio but for the scarcity of *laborers*), I have reason to believe that many farmers and others would erect dwellings of these unburnt bricks, should their declared *cheapness, comfort, and durability*, become an established fact.

I am, Sir, your most obd't serv't,

JOHN KNOWLSON.

REMARKS.—We shall be glad to hear from such of our readers as can, from experience, answer our correspondent's enquiries. Our impression is, that these buildings have not given satisfaction in the vicinity of Toronto.

NEW VOLUME OF THE AMERICAN HERD BOOK.

MR. ALLEN'S CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR,—During the past year, I have been enquired of, by several Short Horn Cattle breeders, when I intended to issue a second volume of the American Herd Book. My reply has been, "Not until the Short Horn breeders would come forward in sufficient number to patronize the work, by furnishing the pedigrees of their stock, and to buy the book to an extent sufficient to warrant the expense of its publication." The first volume of the American Herd Book, which I published in 1846, is still indebted to me in the cost of the book itself, throwing in the time and labor I spent upon it.

At the late "National Cattle Show," held at Springfield, Ohio, a large number of Short Horn breeders were assembled, from ten or twelve States, and the Canadas. The subject of a continuance of the publication of an American Herd Book was fully discussed by them. It was agreed that, with so large a number of Short Horn Cattle as are now owned and bred in the United States, and the Canadas, a Herd Book, devoted to the registry of AMERICAN Cattle, was imperatively demanded. The expense and trouble of transmitting their pedigrees to England, and the purchase of the voluminous English Herd Book, now costing at least one hundred dollars, is no longer necessary; and that as the breeding of pure Short Horn blood must depend much upon having a domestic record at hand,