

book, which is intended as "a guide to farmers young and old." It contains practical information in regard to buying and leasing a farm,—when and where to buy,—commencing operations,—key-note of practical farming,—fences and farm,—buildings, farming implements,—drainage and tile-making,—ploughing,—subsoiling, trenching, and pulverizing surface soil,—manures,—rotation of crops,—root crops,—forage crops,—live stock, including cattle, horses, sheep, swine, poultry, &c., with winter management, feeding, pasturing, soiling, &c., with directions for medical and surgical treatment of the same,—the dairy in all its departments,—useful tables for farmers, gardeners, &c., &c.

The work is to be sold by subscription. Agents wanted every where. Parties wishing to sell the book, are to address the publishers, E. B. Treat & Co., 654 Broadway, New York. We should be glad to see "The Handy Book of Husbandry" extensively circulated among the farmers of Canada.

THE POULTRY BULLETIN.—We have received the first number of a periodical with the above title, issued at New York in the interest of the New York State Poultry Society. It is a modest, neat quarto of eight pages, and is intended not only to treat of poultry matters, but of "pet stock" generally, as pigeons, rabbits, song-birds, ponies, dogs, fish breeding, &c. The first number contains valuable articles on breeding for points, rump, influence of the cock, transportation of eggs for hatching, &c., together with a large number of advertisements. Subscription, one dollar a year, to be sent to the trainer of the N. Y. P. S., Box 316, New York City.

The Farm.

ON THE VALUE OF THE MANGEL WURTZEL ROOT.

To the Editor of the ONTARIO FARMER:—

SIR,—As some of your readers are fastidious enough to complain that there is too much theory and not sufficient practical articles on Agriculture in your journal, I have concluded upon giving them one which may prove interesting to most farmers reading your monthly journal, who possess the desire to turn every operation to the best account connected with their farms—for I hold that it is almost next to useless for a man to look for prosperity, unless he has an eye to the success of everything going on around him—for to succeed with one operation on his farm, and to lose by another through want of foresight or skill which, I am sorry to say, is too much the case in this country, is by no means profitable or satisfactory. But, sir, before I proceed to comment on the value of the root, named at the head of this article, to the

farming community, I would wish to ask them, and more especially those who have spoken to me of the paucity of the "practical articles" in your journal on farming, at whose door that sin lies, if it be one? Or, in other words, on whom does the culpability rest? Certainly, I should say, not altogether on you, as editor, for they cannot so easily expect that all practical articles should emanate from you, or be concocted in your sanctum: but let me ask any complainers if all practice is not grounded upon theory? Has not the mind first to plan what the hand is to bring to maturity? If some of your readers want more practical articles, why do they not furnish communications to your journal? It is greatly to be lamented that there should always have been a dearth in every Agricultural paper that has appeared in this Province of practical and useful communications from farmers themselves,—and why, let me ask, should this be so? For although, doubtless, there are many who do not possess the ability to frame articles of sufficient merit for publication in your journal, it is equally plain there are hundreds, aye, thousands, possessed of both education and ability sufficient to enable them to contribute once in a while, creditable and useful articles, grounded on their own and on their neighbor's experience; and, I may safely add, that any number may be found equally, and even far better, qualified than I am, to write on such subjects. What a contrast, in this respect, do we find existing in the United States! It is not many years since I was one day in personal communication with Mr. Tucker, of Albany, when that intelligent, energetic and sincere friend of Agriculture told me that he had, at that moment, more voluntary matter from subscribers to his paper (*Albany Cultivator*) lying in his desk than he could possibly insert during the next six months! and this, too, at a period when I well know that it was a rare thing for the *Canadian Agriculturist* to have a voluntary contribution once a month! Why, Mr. Editor, should there be such a wide difference between the two communities? Let us, however, hope for better things, and that the effect of Agricultural education with the rising youth of the country may be generative of more satisfactory results in the future than we can boast of in the past! And now, having been led away, very unintentionally, to a greater length on this subject than I had intended at starting, I will, as briefly as possible, say my say on the superior benefit derivable from the cultivation of the mangel-wurtzel for both fattening and milking cattle, as well as for sheep, in comparison with the turnip. In the first place then, I am convinced and ready to prove that from four to five hundred bushels more of the former can be raised to the acre than there can be of the latter—each crop having the same treatment in every respect, and I fully intend, if I can lay my hand on the publication I have in view, to show to the sceptical, if there be such, where and when it has been done in this country. But I have, myself, known in England, a nobleman's steward who, on a ten acre piece