crown, and hence the liability of budded trees to throw out sprouts.

A. H. Johnson said at Fonthill Nursery they double worked some kinds, first grafting and then budding.

Rev. Mr. Hart asked for information as to the progress of the reports. R. W. Starr replied they had failed to get the work done last winter, and no one had time to do it in summer.

Some discussion arose upon the charge made by Mr. Randall for the work done by him.

Resolved, That the publication committee be called together by the Secretary for the purpose of compiling the report; their expenses to be paid by the Association.

"GREEN FODDER."

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture:

SIR,—I notice in your January issue a re-print of my communication to the *Annapolis Journal* on Maize, and its use as an article of food for all animals included under the head of farm stock. The past year has been full of ensilage literature, in the leading agricultural journals of the neighbouring Union. Various communications and remarkable statements are given by zealous and successful farmers to prove its great value as an article of food—in the barn—for dairy stock especially. It is a pleasure to report that Nova Scotia, on the Silo question, is not in the background. King's County farming has fully settled the question of ensilage being a cheap and nutritious fodder. Some persons conversant with the process express surprise that this method has not been more generally adopted. The farmer usually is tardy in adopting any innovation likely to change his accustomed routine of work, he must calculate results, and much talk and time is consumed before a decision is arrived at favourable to a new project; but ensilage is becoming an interesting subject of enquiry. The construction of silos, the method of filling, and the best forage plant to grow for the purpose, are matters of interest to the enquiring mind. The peculiar advantages attending the silo method of preserving a year's supply of fodder when fully understood are obvious. The construction of the silo is not so formidable and expensive an undertaking as was generally affirmed. Experience has proved that cheap silos are equally available as more expensive ones, if constructed on the air-tight principle, although they are not so durable as a concrete structure in the long run. We have several silos in this vicinity, and the owners express great satisfaction at the results. Corn is grown for the purpose, although Mr. C. R. Starr, of Cornwallis, is not averse to a heavy growth of clover, and is enthusiastic over a good stand of rye in bloom. I am of the opinion that Mr. Starr would, at the right period of growth, ensilage all available green fodder from salt grass to sainfoin. One advantage of a silo is that it is not necessary to study the almanac to ascertain the probable state of the weather. Waiting for certain stages of the moon is all "moonshine." When ready for action you proceed to work, rain or shine. Last autumn, when Mr. Johnson was charging his silo, I came to the conclusion that a rainy day was advantageous. To be sure, it was not so comfortable for men and teams, but the work progressed with amazing celerity. Neither does it appear now that the ensilage was injured by being siloed on a rainy day. The centrifugal force of the two horse-power cutter would jerk the water out of the corn and send it off at a tangent,—it was mystifying.

There are three things just now to the agricultural mind a perplexity,—nitrogen, cotton-seed meal, and ensilage. No doubt before long some fellow will *turn up* prepared to prove that the true secret of farming lies in the silo. Silo- ensilo—ensilage. Well, what is it? It is nothing more nor less than green fodder stored in an air-tight compartment. Careful experiments in feeding have shown that, with this food and a ration of two quarts of grain daily, cows will give ten per cent. more milk than with the best of English hay and six quarts of grain daily, and, furthermore, that the cost of feeding is reduced nearly one-half. I am of the opinion, with the experience I have had with siloing cows, that one acre of land in ensilage will keep a cow the year round, and I doubt if any farmer in Nova Scotia can show one acre of land which, by the old stereotype system, will support a cow half that time.

A short description of this green fodder process, perhaps, would interest some readers of the JOURNAL. Southern corn, *alias* horse-tooth corn, white or yellow, or any other variety that will give a large yield answers the purpose for seed. Caution,—test the vitality of the seed before planting. Well prepared ground, made fine either by drag or roller, drilled three feet asunder, four kernels of corn to a foot in drill, harrow or cultivate before weeds make headway, and as frequent after as convenient. If planted in June, the plants in ninety days should average a pound in weight, which will give upwards of thirty tons to the acre. Mr. Johnson overran that, although it was greatly retarded by the drouth. As regards quantity and quality per acre of green fodder, Nova Scotia can show up on a par with, if not better than some localities supposed to be more favored in climate.

When the importance of ensilage is better known, and the method of preserving fodder in a green state better understood, our farmers will not be slow to adopt the silo practice. The great drawback to the agriculture of the period is "fogyism." Farmers are so wedded to ancient practice or prescribed rules that they are unwilling to admit the truth of modern science. In the fruit districts the question of manure is becoming more important each successive year. To supply the annual demand of a ten-acre orchard is no small tax on the manure-pit, and if farm fertilizers are withheld the tax reveals itself in some other form. The aim of good farming is to increase the product of the land. This is best accomplished, not by adding to the area, but rather by increasing the product of the area. More manure and a more thorough cultivation are the requisites, and nothing meets these requirements so well as ensilage. Hay is a most expensive fodder, and the stock of a farm is governed by the food supply. The product of an acre on an average of years is not over 1½ tons of hay, and that barely of medium quality. An acre of land planted to fodder corn will give a very much greater amount of fodder. Two crops can be taken in a year. Sod land, manured on the surface, ploughed and sown to fall rye, will be ready to cut in June. Planted to fodder corn, the crop will be ensilaged in September, in time for rye and clover. The clover ploughed under will restore the lost fertility, and the process can be repeated. Now that ensilage has ceased to be an experiment, practical experience shows that silos can be made in the ground or above it, of any desired capacity and convenient material. Large silos can be divided into small ones by temporary partitions. Any plant good for cattle food can be preserved in a silo for an indefinite period. Maize yields the greatest weight per acre. Rye is considered superior to corn in feeding value, but the product is less. The day of old style farming is passing away; science and art are introducing changes in all branches of productive labor, and Agriculture, the greatest and most important pursuit of man, is not destined to a back seat.

W. H.

Wolfville, February 15th, 1883.

TRURO, Feb. 5th, 1882.

To the Editor Journal Agriculture:

In the January number of the *Journal*, you have transferred to its pages, from the columns of the *Annapolis Journal*, a letter from Mr. Haliburton regarding Ensilage.

Mr. Haliburton makes the statement, that the cost of Ensilage, from fodder corn,