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Seed Wheat.

The question is frequently asked by our correspondents, Which is the best spring wheat to sow? This is a very difficult question to answer, as some varieties are found to do well in one locality, and prove a failure in another. There is a great anxiety among farmers to procure some new variety of spring wheat that will surpass the present proven varieties, as in many localities the present varieties have ceased to be remunerative. The seedsmen are trying to procure any they can hear of in any part of the world that is likely to prove of benefit to the country. Our Government, we are pleased to learn, have secured samples of nearly all the varieties of cereals exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition from foreign countries. A portion of these will be tested at the Government farm; most probably some may be found to be of advantage. Several of our seedsmen are also attempting to introduce more suitable varieties. Messrs. Searl Brothers, of Toronto, have this year imported a large quantity from Manitoba and Minnesota. The spring wheat raised in that part is more valuable for flouring than wheat raised in Ontario. The change may be of advantage. Mr. W. H. Brown, of London, is importing a new variety from England, called the Mainstay wheat; also the Odessa wheat. Perhaps some of the other seedsmen may be importing other varieties. By some the Mainstay is claimed to be both a spring and fall variety, and to be of a most hardy and vigorous nature. The wheat known as the Red Chaff is yielding very well in many localities, although the quality is not equal to most other kinds. The hardiness and production have caused a demand in some localities for it. In other localities it is discarded. The heavy-bearded varieties, such as the Chillian, or, as some call it, rice wheat, is generally condemned because of its fatty nature. The Rio Grande, the long, open-headed, bearded wheat, is known under different names. It is not a general favorite. The Red Fern, or, as some call it, the Golden Globe, appears to be in much demand in localities where it has been introduced. There is a company selling the Egyptian at enormous figures. This wheat appears to have done well near Collingwood, but reports sent to us from some other parts are not so favorable. Some will not sow it again. Many complain about the old life wheat; still, our impression is that there is as yet a larger variety of that wheat sown than any other.

Ontario School of Agriculture.

The Fall Term of the winter session of this growing institution closed on the usual written examinations on Monday last. The subjects of lectures were held on Wednesday and Thursday, the 20th and 21st. The following are the Honour Lists—the names succeeding each other in order of merit:—

FIRST YEAR.

Agriculture.—1st class honours, Fitton; 2nd class honours, Gardiner, Buxton, Carpenter, Ferguson, Harris, Warren.

Chemistry.—1st class honours, Spencer, Fitton, Carpenter, Gardiner, Crompton. 2nd class honours, Aird, Logan, Naismith, Sangster, Graham, Ferguson, Buxton, Warren.

Zoology.—1st class honours, Spencer, Carpenter, Aird, Warren, Naismith. 2nd class honours, Ferguson, Harnes, Buxton, Fitton, Crompton, Farlinger, Logan.

Veterinary Anatomy.—Honours, Fitton, Spencer, Naismith, Aird, Carpenter, Freeman, Warren, Stewart, Pullen, Ferguson, Graham, Logan, Gamble, McKillop, Gardiner.

SECOND YEAR.

Agriculture.—1st class honours, Lindsay, Shaw.

Chemistry.—1st class honours, Lindsay. 2nd class honours, Sykes, Shaw.

Entomology.—1st class honours, Lindsay, Sykes, Shaw.

Meteorology.—1st class honours, Lindsay. 2nd class honours, Sykes, Shaw, Whyte.

Veterinary Pathology.—1st class honours, Lindsay, Sykes, Shaw. 2nd class honours, Pillar.

Canadian Agricultural Notes.

Ontario.

Mr. R. R. Saul shipped a cargo of very fine sheep from Strathroy to New York, for the Christmas market.

At the Guelph Christmas Fair on the 13th inst., about 1,000 head of cattle changed hands. Prices ranged from \$3.50 to \$7.00.

The prospects for the cattle trade with England may be estimated from one small item: In the month of November 2,600 cattle were fed in the cattle-yards of Toronto for the English market.

Upwards of four thousand barrels of Canadian apples were sold in the Liverpool wholesale market in one day, the 29th November. Prices ranged from fourteen to sixteen shillings sterling per barrel.

The last shipment of salt for the season was made last week from Goderich. The International sent 510 tons to Chicago, and 1,241 barrels were shipped to Canadian points by various dealers.

WHAT THE L. H. & B. RAILWAY IS DOING.—Arrangements are made by capitalists for building a large steam flouring and grist mill at Centralia, county of Huron, adjacent to the station. The power is to be sufficient to drive four run of stones, and to be in working order by next harvest.

The Agricultural Department estimates this year's wheat harvest at 245,000,000 bushels. Barley falls six and oats twenty-three per cent. below last year's yield.

PORK PURCHASES.—Mr. Lees has bought of Mr. Dunn, Guelph township, nine pigs, nine months old, weighing 2,396 lbs., at \$7 per 100 lbs. This is a very unusual weight for pigs of such age, as they averaged 267 lbs., 225 lbs. being considered a very large weight. Mr. Lees also purchased seven, of eleven months old, from another party, their weight averaging 305 lbs.

SHIPMENT OF PEAS.—During the last week Mr. J. M. Warner, of Guelph, has shipped for Liverpool thirty-five carloads of peas. The shipment was made by Messrs. James Sharpe, Thos. Hathery, jr., James Snider and Joseph Lynch, who must certainly have lost no time at their work. Mr. Warner says he will challenge any other warehouse in Canada to do it as quickly, where they are bagged and teamed.

Fifty-seven thousand pounds of poultry, intended for the Boston market, was shipped from Brockville recently. It was purchased by local dealers of Smith's Falls and Perth at the recent poultry fair held at those places.

A LARGE PRIZE TAKER.—Mr. Walter West's fat cow, which was sold to Mr. Geo. Hood, and by him to Mr. Britton, of Toronto, for \$176, appears to have been a very successful animal in the show ring. She took, as a three-year-old fat heifer, the first prize at the Guelph Easter cattle fair last year; the next, this fall at the Hamilton Provincial Exhibition; again she was a prize taker as a three-year-old heifer at the Western show at London; still another first prize at the Guelph Central Show this year; and at the Christmas Fat Cattle Show held on Wednesday took the first as a cow, and the sweepstakes diploma for any age. She is now four years old, never had a calf, and weighed when sold to Mr. Britton, 1,760 lbs.

A NEW IMPLEMENT.—The *Spectator* says:—We understand that Mr. John Richardson, of Ancaster township, has invented and is manufacturing a most ingenious combination in the shape of a combined gang plow and cultivator, which promises to revolutionize that branch of farm labor. The principle upon which it is worked is at once very ingenious and very simple. The gang plow can be removed and the cultivator attached or vice versa, at any moment, and the *modus operandi* is such that a seat is provided for the driver, who may be a boy, and who is given perfect control over the cultivator without leaving his seat. On the 22nd ult. an exhibition trial of the combination was witnessed on the farm of Mr. James Gibson by many of the most prominent farmers and most skilful plowmen of the section, who unhesitatingly pronounced their approval of Mr. Richardson's invention.

THE BAY OF QUINTE.—From the land adjoining this beautiful bay is grown the best barley on the continent. Of the bay itself a writer says:—Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte ought to be the de-

light of tourists—always cool and bracing, they afford a most enjoyable change from the hot, enervating atmosphere of crowded cities. This bay that stretches up so picturesquely among the hills of Prince Edward and Hastings counties to receive the waters of the Trent, is really a lovely sheet of water—I doubt if there is a finer anywhere on the continent.

Quebec.

SHIPMENT OF POTATOES FROM SHERBROOKE.—Twenty-two hundred and forty-nine bushels of potatoes had been shipped this season up to October 12. Of this shipment, two thousand bushels were to the States. From the amount of the shipment in this one town, we can form some idea of the productions of the Eastern Townships.

A GLORIOUS COUNTRY.—A Montreal correspondent of the *St. John's News*, in a late issue, writing of the opening of the Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa & Occidental Railway, says:—"The country south of this is a glorious country—the garden of Quebec; and much as has been done for it, it has done still more for itself. But it is a strip of hardly more than a hundred miles in width, contiguous to a foreign country. This north country, through which the new railway is to pass, and which it will be the principal means of developing, has no international boundaries. It is all our own, stretching back to the Arctic Circle. The broad St. Lawrence is before it—an almost insurmountable obstacle to enemies in times of war. The new railway, when completed, will communicate directly with the heart of Ontario, so that the two old Provinces will be one, as they never were before. Their interests will be in common, and the immense back country, rescued from the Provincial wilderness, will bring Canada forward to the eyes of the world in the impressive light of mere bulk."

WHAT RAILROADS HAVE DONE FOR THE FARMERS OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.—A farmer from Eaton Corner writes:—Instead of getting \$8 or \$10 for two-year-olds, \$50 for a good yoke of oxen, 75 cents for lambs and all other kinds of stock in the same proportion, we can get from \$15 to \$25 for two-year-olds, and \$100, and in some cases \$200, for a yoke of oxen; and still people say it is hard times. Potatoes, farmers used to get almost nothing for, now bring 40 or 45 cents per bushel. The Canadian Meat and Produce Company, he says, have lessened the supply of beef, which had been greater than the demand, by taking so much to foreign markets. This must consequently increase the demand, as what the Meat Company takes is not consumed in our markets, but takes from such, and brings so much more money to be spent in our country. From \$1,000 to \$10,000 have been paid for potatoes in this town in the last few months; prices are now 40 to 45 cents per bushel. We could not get this if we had railroad.

Prince Edward Island.

There was a lively time here this week among the shippers. The *Flamborough* took away 20,000 bushels of potatoes on the 12th and the *Carrol* 4,000.

ISLAND ENTERPRISE.—Our readers, particularly those of them who are farmers, have no doubt noticed Mr. Angus Gregor's advertisement of a combined Fanning Mill and Separator. Mr. Gregor, with commendable enterprise, purchased the patent right of the machine for this province. As it is one from which the farmers of this Island can derive great benefit, he ought to be encouraged. The Fanner and Separator has, we are informed, been examined by some of the best and most intelligent farmers and millers in the country, and they all consider that it does its work well. The importance of keeping up the character of our grain in foreign markets, and of having seed grain of the very best quality and free from weeds, cannot be over-estimated. Mr. Gregor's Fanners and Separator will prepare grain properly for the market. The farmer if he wishes can, by its means, have for seed the very best of the grain he raises. It is easy to see that a combined machine, besides being much cheaper, is in many respects, superior to two separate machines. We trust that Mr. Gregor's speculation will be both a benefit to the farming community and a source of profit to himself. He is an energetic and enterprising business man. The firm of which he is the managing partner, has in operation in New Glasgow two steam factories, provided with the best wood and iron working machinery. To such men as Mr. Angus Gregor, in the different departments of industry, the Island owes its prosperity, and upon such men it must depend to keep it in the van of industrial progress.