

out of society." I am of opinion also, that each ploughman should use his own horses and his own plough, which is not the case at present in the county of Quebec; many are in the habit of borrowing both ploughs and horses. Were every man constrained to this, by the requirements of the societies, every man would strive to procure, keep and entertain, good horses and good ploughs. I shall make no excuse, or apology for a wet or stormy day, but leave the above remarks to your superior judgment.

And remain your very obedient servant,

A CANADIAN PLOUGHMAN.

St. Foy Road, County of Quebec,
10th of September, 1852.

To the Editor of the Agricultural Journal.

Dear Sir,—As the cultivation of oats has become very extensive in the county and district of Quebec, and a great many farmers and others, entertaining different opinions as to which, among the varieties of that grain, would be most suitable to the soil and climate of Canada East, generally, and at the same time yield the greatest quantity of meal, I, with many others would be highly gratified by hearing the opinion of the "Agricultural Journal" on the subject—

Yours truly,

A CANADIAN FARMER.

St. Foy, County of Quebec,
11th September, 1852.

Cleaning seed is almost always paid for by measure. It used to be paid for in some districts, in the case of wheat, by a portion (one twenty-fifth) of the grain thrashed, and this, when the crop was an average one, was a pretty fair wage. Thrashing wheat and cleaning it costs generally 5d. to 6d. a bushel; thrashing oats, 1½d. to 2½d. and barley, 2d. to 3½d.; beans, 2½d. to 3d. and peas, 2½d. to 3d.—the price, of course, varying with the yield of grain and the bulk of straw. There can be no doubt of the policy of using machinery for this purpose; and none, of the superiority of steam or water for this purpose over horse power. A day's work of six horses, and of one man to look after them, may cost £1. A six horse power steam engine and boiler need not cost £100 more than the horse-wheel needed in the other case; the interest on which, added to the tear and wear of the machine, is not more than 3s. a day during the sixty days on which the machine may be supposed to be at work. Add to this 2s. 6d. for the man who superintends it when at work, and 5s. for the seven cwt. of coals it needs during the day, and you obtain a total of 10s. 6d. in this case, to compare with the £1 in the other. This is much cheaper than horse labor. It was a good reply, made by an

intelligent bailiff, to a gentleman who came to see the steam thrashing machine at work. The man was feeding his engine furnace. "Ah!" said the gentleman, who, doubtless, disliked the machinery, as tending, as he supposed, the displacement of manual labor, "I find your horse requires food, just as those of more ordinary kind." "Yes, Sir," returned the other; "but this is a horse that never feeds unless he works." We find an engine costing, as we have said, 10s. 6d. a day, can easily, during that period, thrash, clean, and, if the necessary apparatus be supplied, sack up the produce of 140 cubic yards of straw (settled down) in the rick. This in the case of wheat and barley, may be 80 to 100 bushels; and in the case of oats or beans, from 120 to 200 bushels. To find the cost of this process per bushel we may add to the cost of the engine 2s. 6d. per day as the tear and wear of the thrashing machine, 6s. as the wages of three men, and 3s. 4d. the wages of four women, and we shall have 22s. 4d. as the expense of taking from the rick, thrashing, and building the straw, and cleaning and sacking the grain of 140 cubic yards—a rick of grain. This, taking the yield of that bulk as above, will amount to from 1½d. to 3½d. for wheat; from 1½d. to 3½d. for barley; and from 1½d. to 2½d. for oats or beans.

We now come to the last item of our account, BLACKSMITH'S WORK may be bargained for per pair of horses per annum, thus (we copy the agreement with our own smith):—I engage to shoe a pair of horses, and perform all necessary repairs upon a plough, a pair of harrows, a horse hoe, or the iron work of a set of harrows, a pair of hames and plough chains; also to keep in repair a fork and graip for the use of the stable (all new metal and wood work being paid for extra,) for £3 per annum, and the hauling of a load of coals." This will be found cheaper than the keeping a running account with the smith for the various mendings, and, as they occur, as the customary charge for each. The saddler's bill may be contracted for at £1 per pair of horses per annum, for both plough and cart harness—the harness being in good condition to begin with.

With regard to the cost according to the live stock of the farm, we have not much to add. We find that, in 1844, a man and three boys cleaned and cut turnips for, and littered, forty-five head of cattle in stalls, which ate three tons of turnips daily, besides steaming potatoes for and feeding about twelve sows and litter. In the winter of 1850-51 one man and two boys cut turnips, fed and littered, for about sixty head of cattle, fed in boxes, where no daily removal of the soiled litter was required. At the same time, the cleaning of the Sweedes and mangold wurzel was let to a lad for 2½d. per ton, or £10 for about 1000 tons; and he earned, during the winter, at least, 30s. over his day's wages. Again, one lad, about seventeen years of age, earning 7s. a week, with two boys under him earning 3s. and 3s. 9d. respectively, cleaned and cut Sweedes and turnips for 310 sheep, in sheds, and littered them every two or three days. These sheep also ate about three tons of roots daily. We may also mention it as an understood thing in those districts where sheep is folded on turnips in the field, that a shepherd and his boy is wanted for 300 sheep, and another boy is wanted for every additional hundred. Sheep shearing is generally done by the piece at 3s. 6d. to 5s. per acre, according to the size, &c., of the herd and condition of the flock.

In addition to the above statement of charges, we may insert the particulars given by Mr Raynbird, in