

BONES AND BONE MILLS.

To the Editor of the Canadian Agriculturist.

Paris, C. W., 18th March, 1857.

Dear Sir,—Can any of your correspondents inform me if the machinery for Bone Mills is manufactured in Canada. I have made many enquiries in this neighbourhood, but cannot learn whether there is a Bone Mill in the country. I purpose starting one, and wish information as to cost of machinery, amount of power required, and best place to order the mill gear. Added to which, "your opinion of bone dust as a manure, and different effects of the various sizes of bones when ground," will be thankfully received.

Respectfully yours,

A. W. G.

Remarks.—We are not aware that the machinery for Bone Mills is manufactured in Canada. A Mr. Lamb, near this City, erected a Bone Mill some years ago, and advertised Bone-dust for sale. But we have heard nothing of him or his Mill, for the last year or two.

We have frequently published articles on the subject of Bone Manure; but as we have had but little experience of its benefits, we must refer our correspondent to those authorities where its qualities and uses are stated, from chemical analysis, as well as experimental results.

The following extract from a late number of the *Country Gentleman* may give A. W. G. some of the information he desires :

EXPENSE OF A BONE MILL.—Thinking that it might be of interest to some of your readers to know the cost of a good mill for grinding bone, I will give the cost of the one in this city (Albany) belonging to Mr. Thomas Coulson, and which is acknowledged by all who have seen it, to be superior in its operation, at least so far as the quality of the article produced is concerned, to any in this country. Four pairs of cutters are used. The first two pairs cost, with gearing, \$300—the last two pairs, without gearing, \$600—the necessary belts, elevators, sifters, shafts, pulleys, &c., about \$200. The first set of cutters have done about ninety days' labor, ten hours per day, and are now completely "used up;" the second, or last set, have not been in operation so long, but are not expected to perform more than one hundred days' labour. To the first cost of all may safely be added 25 per cent. for repairing, breakages, &c., before they are finally laid aside. The motive power is a ten-horse engine, which, with building, built and used only for this purpose, cost \$1500 more.—CHARLES BELL.

GUANO AND GUANO ISLANDS.

The *Mark Lane Express*, of a recent date, makes the following remarks on the Guano question :—

We are just now at the very height of our guano difficulty. That is to say, this is the season—a most favorable season, too—when above all others we need it; and there is none to be had. One of our most respectable manure-dealers was, for the first time, on Saturday, directly refused. They could not even promise him any further supply. When people have gradually accustomed themselves to the matter-of-course use of anything, the unexpected want of it must be very severely felt. This is the case with the farmer. We want guano as a manure for our barley and oats, and as a top-dressing for our wheat. We have reckoned more or less on our customary allowance, and have consequently neglected proportionately, to provide any substitute. With ordinary care, as we begin to see now when it is too late, we might have fallen back upon our own resources; as it is, however, there is an extraordinary and altogether unprecedented run on such manufactured manures as contain the ingredients required—ammonia and phosphates especially. The makers and dealers are at their wits' end to answer the orders pouring in upon them, and go from one to the other anxiously seeking the material to fulfil them.