

**Bailing Hay.**

Canada has this year the largest crop of hay we have ever raised—far more than is required for home consumption. The great question will arise with many farmers, shall we keep the hay for a year or two, or sell it to the best advantage; and what is the best way to dispose of it? The large cities will require large quantities. We presume farmers will purchase hay presses and travel through the country as they do with threshing machines, in localities where hay is made a staple article. The present illustration shows the latest and best hay press made. The presses appear to us rather high, costing as much as a threshing machine; but there is no hay press made in our Dominion that we are aware of.

The advantages claimed for the Dodge Excelsior Hay Press are that they are moveable, and not as liable to break as the old presses; that they can be worked by one man or by a gang of men, with either horse or steam power; that the dust is removed and the bales are more saleable, as they cannot put bad hay in the centre; that the bales are more easily handled, and the hay is more easily taken from the bale; that less wire is required to secure the bales.

The hay is thrown loosely on the feed table, or troughs, in front of the press, whence iron teeth

The press is warranted to bale densely enough to put ten tons in an ordinary box car, say 23 feet x 8 feet x 6½ feet.

Where the quantity of hay baled per day is of no particular object, one man alone can operate the press.

When the press is placed alongside the loose hay only two men are needed to attend the press, in supplying hay to the feed table and in wiring the bales when made. Of course when the press is fed faster, and more power applied, to turn out ten or twelve tons a day, more help will be required to remove the bales as rapidly as made.

The horse power is made with two rates of speed, and so built that two, four, six or eight horses can be used.

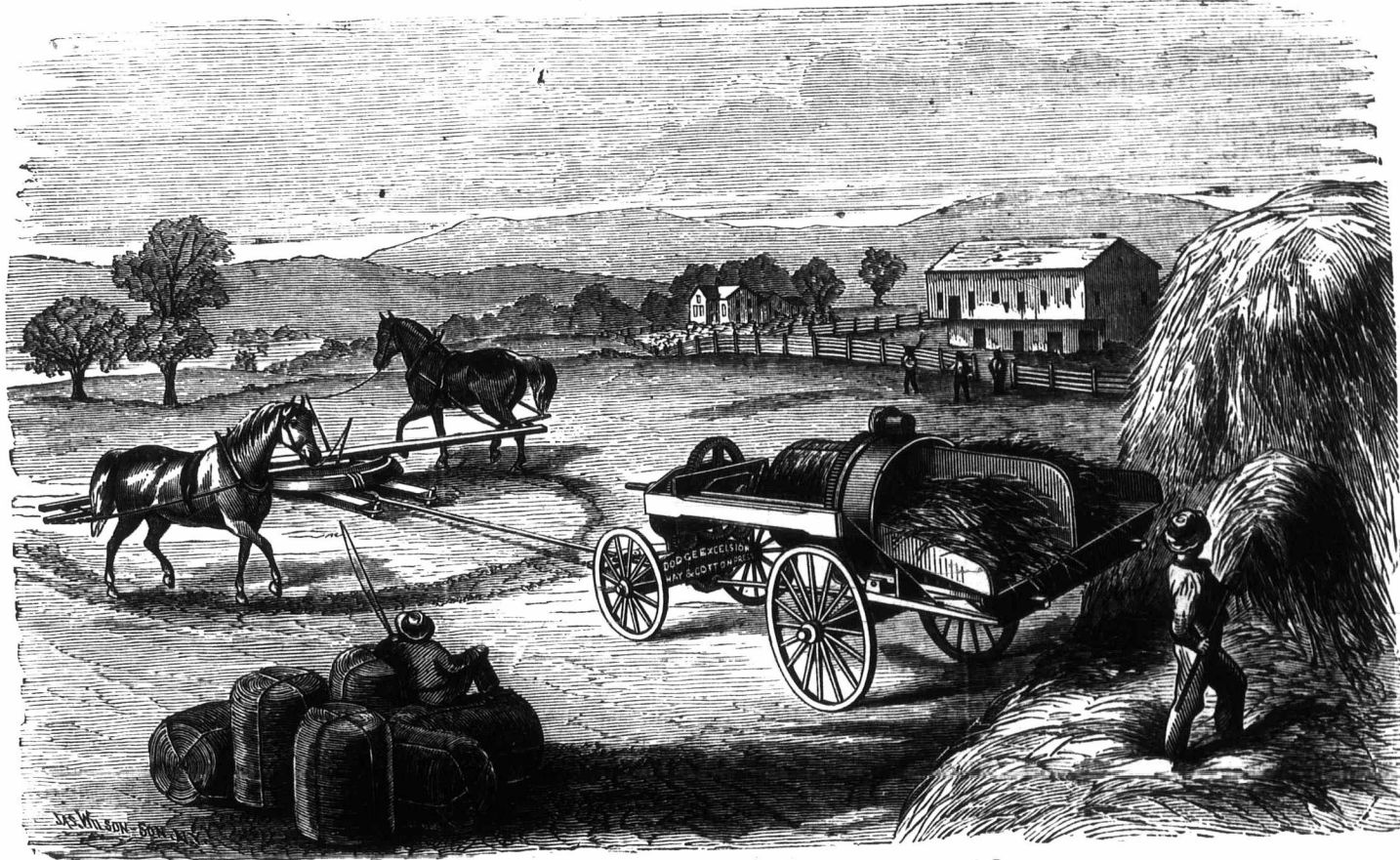
With two horses working on the slow speed, the press will average about seven tons a day. Operated with four or more horses, at an ordinary gait, with tumbling-rod on fast speed, the Press will turn out from ten to twelve tons per day of ten hours in the hands of ordinary attendants, and it is claimed by the makers that in the hands of experts trained to the work it is capable of doing fifty per cent. more work in a day, which is from 15 to 18 tons per day.

the close contact of the sand with the stem. When the cuttings are firmly planted, cover them with a glass shade if possible, as it will greatly promote the growth of the plant.

Moisture, light and heat are the three essentials to plant life; without them no cutting will start. Shade for two or three days from the sunlight, but don't let the sand become dry; then give all the sun you can obtain, keep up a good supply of moisture, and you can hardly fail to root most of your cuttings.

**Grasshoppers in Minnesota.**

A person who had travelled through a portion of Northern Minnesota, writes to a St. Paul paper about the grasshoppers. He says:—I travelled forty-five miles on Monday, and all the time among the most destructive army of pests I ever witnessed, or any one else, for they were so thick I could with difficulty get my team along, and where they had been only one day and night there was not a bit of grass left. Oster Tail county is nearly all cleared out. I came down through Clitherall, Nedross, Eagle Lake, Leaf Mountains and Millerville townships, and all the entire way, sixty miles, they were thick. A few miles along by Chippewa Village they were not so thick, but down in Ida, Douglas county, the fields are just



THE DODGE EXCELSIOR HAY PRESS AT WORK IN THE FIELD.

**How to Manage Cuttings.**

In reply to a correspondent, the *Floral Cabinet* gives the following directions in regard to the making and managing of plant cuttings:

In selecting a cutting, a great deal depends upon a judicious choice; if the slip is too young and full of fresh sap, it will fade away from too much evaporation; if it is too old—hard and woody—it will take a great while to strike root.

You must take a cutting that is perfectly ripened and is from a vigorous shoot, yet a little hardened at the base. It is also essential to have a bud or joint at or near the end of the cutting, as all roots strike from it, and the nearer it is to the base, the greater your chance of success.

Plant your cuttings in common red pots, filled half full of rich loam and two inches of sand on top (scouring sand will do, but not sea sand); wet this thoroughly, and put the cuttings close around the edge of the pot, for if the bud or joint comes in contact with the surface of the pot, it seems to strike root more quickly. Pull off the lower leaves before you plant the cutting. Press the wet sand tightly about the tiny stem, for a great deal of your success in raising the cutting depends upon

black with them, and the fences and fence posts are so thick with them that you could not put the point of a pin down for them. One cannot find language to half tell the story. Only seeing will give any one an idea. A swarm of bees when they are swarming is something like the sight.

**Growing Tuberoses.**

To cultivate the tuberose, that most beautiful of all plants, put the bulbs in six-inch pots, three in each, and use a mixture of equal parts of turfy loam, peat and leaf mold, and place it a pit. Give very little water at first, and as they commence to grow freely, increase it and keep near the glass. When they begin to push up their flower spikes, they will, of necessity, require to be placed where they will have sufficient space for the proper development of the tall spikes. These will come into bloom from August to October, when they will require a temperature ranging from sixty to seventy degrees, the latter being preferable. If wanted to bloom earlier, the pots should be placed in a warm pit and on a hot-bed, the temperature of which is about fifty degrees, to start them into growth more quickly.

carry it right into the open mouth of the machine. In its passage over the slotted troughs, the hay is completely cleaned from dust, and when it reaches the mouth of the press it is seized by the revolving cones in the head piece and drawn in from the feed-table in two continuous streams, and built up into a bale 26 inches diameter.

It has two rates of speed, and it can be operated at will by two, four, six or eight horses, and on the fast or slow motion, as may be most desirable.

After the bale is built such length as desired, the action of the compress Screw is brought into play by simply seifting one cog-wheel. The power of this screw is enormous, but the press is built immensely strong, and hence, in a few seconds the bale is easily compressed endwise, and shortened about from one-fourth to one-fifth in length, without increasing its diameter in the slightest degree.

While the compression is going on, the two men attending the Press are passing around the two wires, and consequently losing no time by using the compress. When this is done, the pressure is released, the bale dropped out, and the press set for another bale. Bales can be easily turned out in from three to five minutes each, according to the skill of the attendants.

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