

pretty faint at the end of a fair day's work. For five pounds of the meal, I should substitute the same weight of pease, in the probable absence of horse beans, and half a peck of carrots or swedes.

Artificial manures for pease and beans.—A correspondent asks again. What artificial manure do you advise for pease and beans? I reply: Ville prescribes as follows:

	Per acre.
	lbs.
Superphosphate.....	352
Muriate of potash.....	176
Land-plaster.....	352
	880

It may be found advantageous to use the above, but I confess that, with the exception of a fair dressing of farm-yard dung, I never found any benefit from any manure given to beans, pease, carrots, or parsnips. On poor, exhausted clays, plaster has been known to work wonders on the leguminosæ. Tares or vetches, plants of the same family as beans and pease, are very different, the finest crop of them I ever grew were dressed with 336 lbs. of guano to the acre, and they were on the eve of falling. The whole nature of the tribe is a mystery to me, but practically we know how to treat it, which is the main thing. Why should not nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash, increase the crop of carrots or parsnips as they increase the crop of swedes and mangels? I do not know, and nobody can tell me!

Ryegrass.—The discussion about ryegrass still continues to excite the farmers in England. The majority of the practical men say it is perennial, the theorists say it is not. I do not see that it signifies much, so long as it is universally found in all pastures, whether it is perennial, or whether it seeds down sufficiently to keep itself *en evidence* continually. But, if it is a constant constituent of the Hampshire irrigated meadows, as Professor Wrightson says it is, how can it but be perennial, seeing that these meadows are grazed bare by sheep in the spring, mown bare in the summer for hay, and grazed bare in the fall by cows, and this year after year continuously?

Ontario.—So hard put to it were the farmers of the district round Kingston last summer for cattle-food, that two yearling heifers and a weaned calf were sold for \$25.00! Strange to say, the times were so bad that the attendance at the Agricultural College was much reduced!

Bad cheese in the States.—Well, at all events, we cannot speak of our provincial cheese-makers in this tone; though I confess I cannot buy any good cheese in Montreal grocery-stores:

In the reports of the Dairy and Creamery Associations, on the other hand, there is much in the speeches and discussions that dairy farmers in this country would be interested in reading. Many a sermon on the obstinacy of dairy farmers in making bad butter and cheese, when they might, by a little painstaking, make first rate commodities, is recorded in these reports. To give one example. Mr. Hoard, of Wisconsin, who was the principal visitor and speaker at the Annual Convention of the Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario, held last January (though in the report for 1887), referred to the preponderance of poor cheese as follows:—"We are struggling with the problem in the United States

as much as you are here... Our people are clamouring, 'Why don't you give us some cheese we can eat?' I don't think there is a set of people on God's green earth who are so stupid as cheesemen. Now you have got it square in the teeth. I never saw a set of men that when a man asked them for bread they would give him a stone, and then damn him because he didn't like stones, as cheesemen do with respect to this question of home demand."

Cost of wheat-crop in Ontario.—Below will be found a statement of the cost of cultivating an acre of land for wheat. It will be seen that the whole expense of harrowing, &c., after the seed is deposited amounts to only 39 cents. Does this mean that, after the autumn-work of drawing water-furrows, &c., is finished, nothing more is done to the land until harvest? No harrowing, no rolling, no weeding in spring? If this is so, I no longer wonder at the small yield. There is no fault to be found with either soil or climate. Thorough farming, in those parts of Ontario with which I am acquainted, ought to produce at least 24 bushels of fall-wheat an acre, and exceptionally good farming 30 bushels. Twelve bushels from an acre of *manured land*, or even sixteen—1½ quarters or 2 quarters in English terms—are incredibly small yields for land of such quality as we find in the districts of Hamilton, St. Catharines, Kingston, &c., and I cannot see why men who succeed so well in fruit-growing, cattle-breeding, and other agricultural pursuits, should not be able to produce a fair amount of that crop for which their province has been so long celebrated.

If a loss of \$2.33 is incurred on every acre of fall-wheat sown in Ontario, as the calculation annexed would seem to show, no wonder the President of the Ontario College complains that "farmers have great difficulty in getting a living: 'In Canada,' he observes, 'the prices of farm produce are unusually low, while manufactured articles are comparatively high. Generally speaking, we may say that what the farmer has to sell is cheap, and what he has to buy is dear. Therefore, the agricultural mind is disturbed. A feeling of unrest and dissatisfaction is abroad. The farmer finds it increasingly difficult to make a comfortable living, and something (*what?*) must be done to remove the difficulty, or the whole community will suffer." And the *something*, according to Mr. Mills, appears to be pretty difficult to do: "1. the yield of farm-crops must be increased; 2. better markets must be provided; 3. the cost of living must be reduced. And for these, he evidently hints at free trade with England and the States as the only remedy!

The following account is given of the average cost of growing an acre of winter wheat in Ontario, according to the returns of 197 correspondents of the Bureau of Industries:—

	dols. c.
Ploughing.....	2 95
Cultivating, &c.....	1 16
Barnyard manure (part charged).....	3 15
Manure applied previously.....	1 92
Seed.....	1 49
Sowing or drilling.....	0 42
After "fitting" or cultivation.....	0 39
Cutting and putting in barn.....	1 89
Thrashing.....	1 7
Marketing.....	0 85
Wear of implements.....	0 38
Rates, taxes, and insurance.....	3 76
	19 43

The return for grain given in this estimate is 14 dols. 13 c. for the grain and 2 dols. 95 c. for the straw, or, altogether,

(1) They were four feet long, and of course had to be cut at once.