

**A "New Wrinkle."**

After a horse is nine years old, a wrinkle comes on the eye-lids at the upper corner of the lower lid, and every year thereafter he has one well-defined wrinkle for each year over nine. If, for instance, the horse has three wrinkles, he is twelve; if four, he is thirteen. Add the number of wrinkles to nine and you will get it.

We extract the above clipping from one of our American exchange papers. We have not noticed this mode ourselves, and we are too much confined to our office to test the correctness of it. It has always been a doubtful matter to us to tell the age of an old horse, and we do not believe that one farmer in a thousand can tell correctly, within five years after a horse has passed twelve years, his proper age. And as many horses are between twenty and thirty, and valuable at that age—in fact very often of more value than many thousands of the four-year-olds—it is of much importance that a farmer should be able to tell the age of any horse by some correct date or rule. Knowledge is power, and when properly applied will make money, and money rules everything. Some of our readers may perhaps have noticed the above method before, but may have decided to keep their knowledge from the public, as some act on the principle: "get all you can, and keep all you get." But that class are known as misers, and are not as useful, as happy, or as beneficial members to the country as free, open, and candid men. We hope that some who have more time to observe the correctness of the above will furnish us with a report of their observations. If it is found to be a correct plan, let us know it; if it is of no use, condemn it. If any can give better information on this subject, send in a communication. This paper is for farmers to express their views in. When you send sufficient valuable matter, we will stop making clippings from American papers; not till then. Every paper furnishes you with text or hints to write about, and many of you have sufficient knowledge of many subjects without such hints. Send in your communications!

**Potatoes.**

**RATHER SEVERE.**—Thos. Rivers, the well-known English nurseryman, writes to the London Journal of Horticulture that he considers the Early Rose potato as raised in that country, "watery, nasty and uneatable." This was when dug for cooking in July; he tried it again in September, when, "on being cooked with great care, they were found to be harsh and dry, with a hard centre, and a flavor perfectly original, but so unpleasant—nasty, according to our cook—that I gave them up for that year. The misnamed Early Goodrich came in with the Regents, but instead of being like that sort in flavor, the tubers were earthy, with a peculiar unearthy, and most disagreeable flavor.—Ex.

It is now nearly four years since we introduced the Early Rose to this section of the country. On sandy, dry soils they have given entire satisfaction, and all who procured them the first two years, and planted them on suitable soil, have been very successful, and realized a good profit. But the cry has been got up to such an extent that this next season's crop will sicken thousands, especially those who plant on clay soils, and if the season should be wet. In our opinion they should be only planted for an early potato. Some

are planting for a main crop, and will probably find their mistake, as we do not class them as a winter potato; and the market will be glutted with them next year. For earliness they are already excellent; and as we live in times of progress, you will find that the most prosperous agriculturist will demand another and an earlier potato next year. It is for seed only that the demand has been so great this year, and the price ruled so high.

Many farmers have been led astray and planted them under the belief that the same prices would rule another year.

The Rose, the Goodrich, and the Harrison have given our patrons satisfaction.—They have known what they have procured, and planted according.

Next year the coming varieties for seed, of earlier and later kinds, are the Peerless, Prolific, King of the Earlies, Willard's Seedling, Calico, Climax, and Excelsior. The choice is large. Take of each a few, and you will be as well satisfied as you have been with the former varieties, and will make money.

**Postage on Seeds.**

We sent a petition to the Legislature during its last session at Ottawa, praying that seeds might be sent through the post office as cheaply as printed matter. It was laid before the House, and referred to the Postmaster General. The following is the reply, given to Thos. Scatterd, M.P.P., who favored us by presenting it:

Post Office Department, Canada, Ottawa, 23th March, 1871.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst., and to say with reference to the application from Mr. Weld, which it enclosed, that the present rate on agricultural seeds, cuttings, &c., of one cent per ounce, is certainly very low as an uniform rate applicable to all distances, and, like the other rates of postage, does not really pay the cost of the service performed. Therefore the Postmaster General does not see any sufficient reason, in the public interest, why this charge should be yet further lowered.

I am, sir,  
Your ob'dt servant,  
WM. WHITE, Sec.

Farmers, these are the facts: publications are sent through the post office for one cent for four ounces, or four cents per pound to any part of the Dominion. Seeds must be prepaid one cent per ounce or sixteen cents per pound. Cannot seeds be carried as cheaply as papers, and would not new and tried varieties tend to increase your profit and the revenue of the country? If the postage does not pay, with such high salaries as \$5,000 per annum, we feel quite sure it would be made to pay if men with half the salary and double the ability had control of its management, and there would be no difficulty to obtain such service at half the present price paid. By the accounts we hear of his Postmaster-ship, if they are so high paid as to have their ideas exalted above judging the requirements of farmers, it is high time a change should take place. Sir John A. should see that he has servants, or aids, who will look after the interest of farmers, as this class must pay for all, and should have seeds sent to them as cheaply as the citizens can have papers sent to them.

"I see the villain in your face," said a Western judge to an Irish prisoner. "May it please your worship," said the prisoner, "that must be a personal reflection."

**Agricultural Emporium Report.**

**IMPLEMENTS.**

We have been able to supply all our patrons with all the implements ordered, as soon as their orders arrived—except for Clark's Cultivator; and as soon as the season fairly opened for them, orders arrived far beyond our expectation, and we could not fill half of the demands.

We wrote to one large implement manufacturer living a long way from here, to aid us in filling our orders; but his powers were more overtaxed than ours, as he replied that he was obliged to refuse three and four applicants daily. We are pleased to report that really first class implements are becoming more in demand, as they are found to be the cheapest in the end.

**THE BLANCHARD CHURN.**

We received one of these churns from Peter Blanchard & Sons, of Concord, New Haven, and placed it in the hands of Mr. G. Jarvis, one of the most enterprising farmers in this county, to give it a fair test. This gentleman and his wife both say it is the best churn they ever used, and are determined to procure one as soon as we can get a supply. They say it takes about as long to churn as the common dash churn, but that it is much easier and works the butter up completely.

**SEEDS.**

It takes years of experience to understand the seed business thoroughly. Dealers may anticipate a good demand for some kinds of seed they know to be good, and the demand may not equal the supply. Again, other seeds may have a great run that a dealer may not have been able to lay in a sufficient stock. This has been most particularly shown to us this season. The Crown peas, which we know to be of advantage to good farmers, have not met with half as ready sale as heretofore; still, ours' has been the only real pure and clean stock that we have seen this year, and we have watched the stocks pretty closely, and the price put on them was only a slight advance on the cost.—But sales in that cereal were small in comparison with other years. We have reports of the general satisfaction these peas have given to farmers, and we doubt if they are yet fully disseminated over the Dominion. The demand for spring wheat has been far in excess of last year, and we anticipate more favorable reports. The New Brunswick oats, White Poland oats, and Norway oats have been in demand, and we were unable to supply some late orders of some kinds.

**LUMBER.**—We would call the attention of those requiring lumber, &c., to the advertisement of Mr. Knowlton, of London. Parties in need of such would find in him a conscientious business man in all transactions, who would endeavor to gain the approval of the public by putting into their hands an article which would give entire satisfaction, and at a price as low as any in the city, either wholesale or retail.

**Shakespeare No. 2.**

The printer he must have his pay  
If I should sell my corn and hay.  
It only costs me one day's labor  
For twelve months of your useful paper.  
Enclosed are the dimes for another year;  
Stick to your motto without fear;  
But, if you should chance to change or waver  
The next would be, "Please stop my paper."  
G. F. C.

Hollen, April 19th.

**Newspapers.**

In looking over the Kansas Farmer we count a list of 77 different newspapers that are published in that state alone—which is really astonishing. They all support a staff and all seem to live; and it shows us that the country cannot be all quite as bad as some represent, or that there are some good spots in it. We will give the American people credit for supporting their papers. We do not hear one making such a poor complaint as the only Agricultural paper published in one of our eastern Provinces, has done. In fact the whole agricultural press of Canada has been in a languishing condition for some years past.

**WILD OATS.**

Parsimony is not always profitable. A great hue and cry has been raised about Norway Oats. Some farmers would not be satisfied by trying a small piece, but must sow ten or twenty acres, or none.—Instead of procuring a pint to try and raise their own seed last season, Norway Oats they were bound to have, and enough of them; but ten shillings was too much to pay; they make enquiries all over the country, and hear of a locality where they can be procured at a low price. Off they go for 50 bushels, a 40 mile drive, and purchase such as no seedsman would dare to send out. Of course they will say they are all right and perfectly pure, but Mr. Parsimony, by this injudicious act, has at once cut the value of his farm down 50 per cent. After a life of toil to clear it of the timber, what has he now done? Sown wild oats over 20 acres of land, never in his life to be again clear, and must spread over every field he has, and most probably to his whole neighborhood. It would cost more to clean an acre from wild oats than the cost price of his land, and all the expenses of clearing and fencing.

**Postage.**

Some of our subscribers do not get their papers regularly, and immediately blame us for their loss. Now, our system of mailing the FARMER'S ADVOCATE is so perfect that there is no possibility of any mistakes occurring in our office. All papers are regularly mailed to every one of our subscribers, and placed in the post office in London, but after that, of course, we cannot take any further care of them. Many of them get mislaid either at way stations or at the country post offices, and in many cases postmasters are too lazy to look for the papers when they are asked for, and just say they have not come. Mr. Thomas A. Good, of Brantford, says, "I subscribed for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE in January, 1870. I did not get your January or February numbers at all. I gave up all idea of getting any until about the middle of December, 1870, when one day, being in the post office, the clerk handed me ten numbers, from March to December. These papers have been mailed by us every month, and allowed to accumulate at the post office." We insert this merely to show that we are not to blame if papers do not come regularly. It is the post office authorities that require stirring up.

We are informed that the Thames Joint Stock Cheese Factory has been lately started under the Joint Stock Act, having about \$3,000 capital, and 500 cows, and more cows are expected. It is situated near Nilestown, on Mr. W. S. Niles' property. We wish the concern success.