

of heating and ventilating was discussed in its various aspects, how sewerage gas can be guarded against in private houses, how inexpensive shafts can be erected in stables, to remove the foul air and provide for the introduction of fresh, cold air, without affecting injuriously the normal temperature of the stable. Several of the proprietors of villas at Sillery were present, though many were prevented from attending by the inclemency of the weather.

A discussion was elicited by the various systems proposed by the learned lecturer, in which the Rev. Canon Von Iffland, Mr. Armitage Rhodes, Mr. J. Lemoine, Mr. Robert Campbell and the gardener, took a part. The meeting was ably presided over by Mr. P. Lowe, steward and head gardener at Cataract and a cordial vote of thanks tendered to the Revd. Abbé Audet, who consented to submit for publication by the Club his practical views on ventilation.

J. M. LEMOINE

The Quebec Daily Telegraph.

2. Dec. 1893.

The Flock.

EXPERIMENTS WITH RAPE

A number of reports have come in from farmers to whom the 1 lb. samples of rape seed were sent from the Nor-West Farmer office in June last. Only one man, Jacob Scott, senior, Brant, near Stonewall, Man., had enough rain at the start to give the seed a fair chance of success. He expresses himself as highly pleased with the result. He sowed the seed on summer fallow on July 4th and used the crop for pasture. After his stock had eaten it down he kept them off for a few days, when it was soon ready for use again. This was repeated five or six times and the crop is still (October 10) green. Mr. Scott says he intends sowing the whole of his next year's summer fallow of 30 acres, as he considers it will pay to pasture in the manner above described. One or two others, finding the drought so great as to spoil their chance of getting a fair test, held over their seed for another year. E. J. Bissicks, Cotnam, sowed much too thick and in consequence the result was much inferior to what it should have been under fairer conditions. The rest report as follows: G. Allison, Burnbank, Man., sowed on middling heavy land, manured, once plowed, broadcasted by hand, well harrowed. It was eaten by sheep, in the end of August, and he says:— "I think there is nothing better for fattening sheep. I have had a few acres the last two years and eaten it off by sheep, which do exceedingly well, and manure the land at the same time producing a good seed bed." (1)

Thomas Wilson, Cotnam, Assa., sowed on a black loam on a gravelly bottom, that had been plowed late in May, broadcasted June 19th, and rolled, hand hoed when the plants were small and thinned to about 14 inches apart. Size of plot, 40 x 88 yards. A few transplants yielded well, the thinning given to pigs, and latterly to three milch cows, on to October 20, but for cows he prefers ox cabbage. He thinks it first rate for sheep but would sow earlier, say 1st week in June, as fall frost injures it easily.

Henry Smith, Russell, Man., sowed

a plot of rich black loam 230 x 20 yds. broadcasted, with a few black oats mixed in. The oats did poorly, owing to dry weather, but the rape was an extra good crop, and given mainly to cattle intended for exhibition at local show, which ate it greedily when let in for half an hour at night after a day's ranging on the prairie. He has seen a good deal grown in England, but never a better crop than this.

Mrs. E. Hombroff, Russell, Man., sowed 15 x 3 rods by hand in the end of June on a piece of garden ground meant for summer fallow. It grew well till the drought of August and hot winds nearly killed it. It did better later on, and was fed to pigs, calves, cows and sheep, which all ate it greedily. She thinks if seed can be had reasonably and sown thin on summer fallow, to be eaten off in fall, it would be a capital thing.

John Correll, Carberry, Man., found it very difficult to grow. The drought was severe and kept it back, and when it did get up, his fowls ate up every leaf they could get at. A little of it grown in a garden did much better, but it proved rather tender, as an early frost nipped it. (1) The stock were very fond of it, and in a wetter season it would be valuable as fall feed.

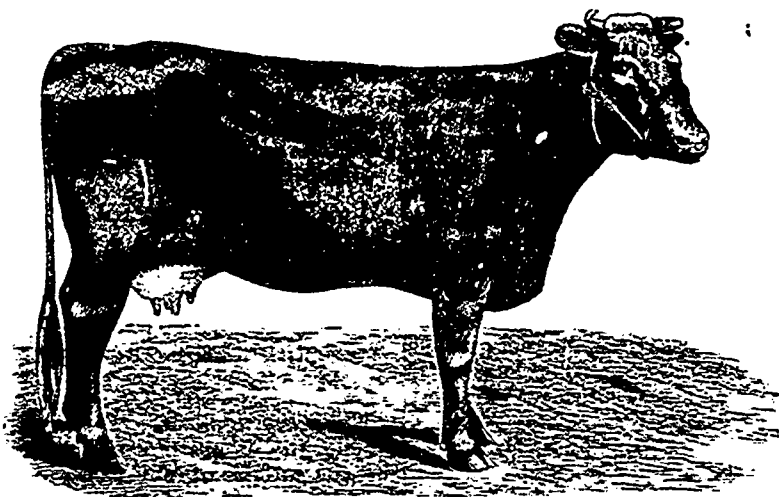
Nelson Bannister, Oak Lake suffered severely from the drought, but thinks highly of the rape if the season was at all right. He broadcasted on a

ray little experience, that cattle would fatten well on it. I intend to try a large piece next year."

Josiah Gately, Austin, Man., writes: "It was grown on sandy soil in flat rows, 24 inches apart, sown by hand and twice hoed. Plot sown 50' by 13 yards. Only three-quarters of a pound of seed was sown as the weather became so dry I reserved one-quarter of a pound to sow early next year to produce seed. The first lot was sown June 26, the second June 30, and the third July 8. First and second lots yielded well, reaching a height of 2 ft. 6 in. (1) and covering the ground completely. It was out from September 2 to October 2 and fed daily to pigs and calves. The third sowing was a failure for want of rain. It seems to me to be just the crop to grow in those sections of country where the prairie grass dries up early, and the second growth would be good to plow under as a green manure. Thick or thin sowing does not make much difference in yield, but thick sowing keeps weeds down best, and I think it would be best for that purpose sown broadcast. (2) Pigs, calves and fowls eat it greedily.

Alexander McKay, Estevan, Assa, and Jas. Muir, Alcester, Man., were both severe sufferers from drought and of course the rape was a comparative failure but did much better than turnips under the same conditions.

And. McCloy, Fairlight, Man., writes:



TYPE OF SHORT HORN COW ENGAGED IN THE DAIRY TEST AT THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.—(From *Hard's Dairyman*.)

sandy loam, rich though rather high, and put on a good coat of well rotted manure. (2) Having it in good shape for seeding on June 21, but only sowed June 30, after a nice shower, putting in turnip seed alongside. He reports: "I rolled the seeds next morning and in four days the rape was up, but no sign of the turnips. We had nothing but hot winds afterwards, no more rain until July 15. All through the great heat the rape continued to grow a little, and never looked dry or shrivelled, always retaining a rich green color. No weeds grew, the heat was too much for them, neither did the turnips grow at all. I am sure if the rape seed had had the slightest chance it would have grown to a splendid crop. What little there was, the cattle would almost eat the ground to have the full benefit of it. I think there would be no surer method of obtaining a good wheat crop. Share plowing summer fallow in June, then harrow and roll, harrow again and sow with rape, about the end of June, and then let the cattle on after the pastures begin to get bare. I am convinced, with

(1) As we have mentioned many times, our rape, at Sorel, stood well up to December 7th.—Ed.

(2) A few bushels of bone-dust for rape and keep the dung for the meadows or roots.—Ed.

The rape seed received from you in June last was sown on a part of my summer fallow, well harrowed and firmly pressed down by a rude implement of my own construction consisting of three planks spiked to cross beams and placed on the level so as not to drag the soil, but merely to press it down. We ride upon it. The seed was sown broadcast as my drill was out of order. I would prefer drilling. I have planted all my garden seeds for three years with field seed drill. I remove all the coulters but four and thus sow four rows at a time, mix the small seed with dry sand and fill the cups over the four coulters using judgment, and common sense, and I have the best garden in this settlement. Sown in the middle of June it was a trifle late and it should be sown earlier to catch the early June rains. Yield good, the crop was fed to hogs which were given two rations a day of rape and one of boiled wheat, they seemed wonderfully fond of the rape, it was pulled up root and blade, always thinning out the thickest and tallest as we went along. It was used in the latter part of August and first of September. I may mention that

(1) We have short partridges in it, on the East-hills in Kent, when the rape was certainly 3 feet 6 inches high.—Ed.

(2) Quite right.—Ed.

cattle, horses and even the fowls were all fond of it. Every farmer who raises pigs should grow rape, just try a pound at first and you will be pleased to find how much all your stock enjoy the rape patch. I have again ploughed the rape ground, which is now in splendid condition for growing wheat next season.

S. T. Kellaway, Killarney:—The land on which the seed was sown is a deep black loam, lying rather low being part of this year's summer-fallow. It received a light dressing of well rotted barnyard manure, about 20 loads an acre, was then plowed to the depth of five inches and immediately harrowed down fine. The seed was sown broadcast and the land rolled. The plot was 20 rods long and four wide, running north and south. The seed was sown on June 29 and as there was a fine shower of rain the next day it had a very good start. But as we had no rain from that date until after the middle of August, with several days of very hot wind, it did not make a very good growth for some time, but afterwards reached the height of 18 inches. During the last week of September I turned the cattle into it and found they were fond of it. In fact they would hardly leave the ground after they had it all eaten. And if a solid seed bed counts anything in growing wheat I shall have a big yield off the rape ground. I am satisfied it will do well here in an ordinary summer and would be a great help to cattle if fed about harvest time when the pastures are getting bare and before they can run on the stubble. I shall sow it two or three weeks earlier next season and put in drills as by sowing it broadcast there is no chance to keep weeds down except by hand cultivation and that is too slow for this country. (1) I think THE FARMER should advise its readers where to get seed true to name as there has been some difficulty in obtaining it in past."

Jas. McCowan, Summerberry, Assa., writes: "I tried it on a quarter acre of heavy dark loam that was in wheat last season. I plowed it deep, harrowed it well, and sowed broadcast on June 13th. It got a good shower on the 10th. I believe every seed grew, as there came up plants enough for a whole acre; it grew very fast however. At one month from the time of seeding, I commenced to thin out sufficient plants each day to feed ten hogs their mid-day meal. Towards the latter end of July we had very hot weather and scorching hot winds that brought the growth to a standstill about the first or second week in August, so that the crop might be considered middling. I believe it is a first-class feed for hogs. Shortly after commencing to feed on the rape, they appeared to thrive better, their skins got smooth and glossy and I believe they got as much feed from the small plot of rape as they would have done from 20 bushels of wheat. I think it would have done much better sown in rows or drills. As I summered followed the land on either side of the rape plot, going over it a few times with the harrow, I found that the plants on the outside of the plot continued to grow and flourish after the others had come to a stand still. The only way I could account for it was the cultivation. On pulling these plants, I found they had roots about three feet long and as thick as my thumb. I intend to try it on a larger scale next year."

R. K. Smith Maskawata, sowed broadcast one-quarter of an acre. Owing to excessive drought it did poorly. He says:—"Had I sown the seed

(1) If 6 lbs an acre are sown broadcast, the weeds have no chance.—Ed.

(1) The pressure of the feet of the sheep conduces to the retention of a firm root-hold in the sub-sequent grain-crop.—Ed.