

Manitoba, and there are already signs that next season the influx of intending settlers from this country will far exceed the large figures of last year.

The great shows of fat stock preliminary to our Christmas markets, are already being talked about, and a great struggle between the rival breeds for the premier places is certain to take place.

I hope your poultry farmers are ready with abundant supplies of turkeys and geese. There is a market here big enough, and to spare, for all they can send.

Farm Notes.

The past month has been unusually fine, and admirably adapted to the prosecution of farm work, such as plowing, taking up roots, husking corn and making general preparations for winter.

The roots, especially the turnips, are not what might be called a heavy crop. The season was altogether too dry and warm for a luxuriant growth of swedes. The best increase of this latter is made under a low temperature, or during the cold nights of September, and from that to the middle of November. It has been excellent weather for harvesting roots; the tops and the ground were dry, and the men could work comfortably. As a rule it can be relied upon that the 20th of November is when winter sets in in this country, and, if possible, all outside work pertaining to getting in roots and fixing up for winter should be done before this, but at the time of writing, 22nd Nov., a number of fields of turnips were out in the vicinity of London.

Carrots have not been extensively grown this year, but the crop is very good. We think why our farmers do not more generally grow this tuber is because, on clay lands especially, the labor is too much in digging them. In heavy land, and more so if it be hard, and they have to be dug with a spade, and then if they are the long red kind, the greater part of them breaks off and remains in the ground. Intermediate carrots and the White Belgian are the only kinds that can be grown on the majority of our clayey soils, and it may be suggested that the former can be raised as a profitable feeding crop by careful attention to thinning. It should be recollected that carrots are much more nutritive than turnips, and red carrots more valuable than white ones, and that all roots are not only valuable as feed, but also for their medicinal properties; for instance, look at the tonic and laxative properties of the turnip, and the diuretic and stimulating qualities of carrots, and it is not hard to see how beneficial they are to cattle, horses and sheep. Farmers, don't neglect your root crops if you want healthy stock. Growing parsnips as a field crop has been tried in these parts, as they are good croppers, and in advance of carrots in their nutritive properties; but on heavy soil the length of the root renders it almost impossible to get them out of the ground profitably. This year a common spade is no use whatever in digging them, and with a strong, narrow draining tool a man would have to work hard to get up ten bushels a day, and then half of them are left in the ground. As far as a general crop is concerned, parsnips, owing to the labor in digging, will prove a failure. Turnips and mangels are the most profitable root crops that can be raised in heavy soil, though a carrot and parsnip crop are surer owing to their not being liable to depredations from insects, and also to the hardness of the plant.

Plowing is progressing favorably, and it has been good weather for getting on with the work. At this date, 22nd November, the ground turns up nicely, and there is just enough moisture—and not enough frost—to make this work pleasant. It never pays to plow clayey soil when it is soggy and wet; the effect is to pack it so that it is impossible

to work or pulverize it afterwards. There is a diversity of opinion about deep and shallow planting, and the question is asked: "Shall we plow our land always deep?" No. The following short rules on this subject will be a guide: 1st, plow deep when there is a rich and impervious subsoil; 2nd, when the subsoil is sterile and impervious; 3rd, don't plow deep a sterile, impervious subsoil. The double object of deep plowing is to utilize fertile soil, and to loosen the under soil for the more ready reception or penetration of the roots of plants.

DRAINING.—There have been a great many tiles put in this fall all over, but getting the level has been tedious, owing to the want of rain, but a pail of water generally shows whether a drain will run right or not, in absence of proper levels. There is one thing certain, not over half enough tiles are made to supply the demand in this part of Ontario. So much for the teachings of good agricultural papers like the *ADVOCATE*. So quickly are the tiles sold that farmers have to go during the night, after the kilns are burned, in order to get their loads. In consequence of the short supply and the increased demand, coupled with the high price of labor, tiles have risen in price rapidly, and it costs fully 30 per cent. more to drain land now than a few years since. There is a great scarcity, too, of efficient and skilled ditchers, and good hands from England, who have been brought up to this work, might make handsome wages by putting down drains.

Farmers don't feel inclined to sell their wheat at 90 cents a bushel, and the majority are holding on; and, indeed, from their financial position they are able to do it. A succession of good harvests and good prices hitherto for all kinds of produce, have placed our farmers on a solid basis. Besides, other produce, at present, is selling well, and farmers are disposing of this in order to keep their wheat. Wheat never pays to raise in this part of Ontario short of \$1 a bushel, and if a farmer only realizes 90 cents, he loses 10 per cent. on his wheat crop. If our farmers can keep their wheat, certainly they stand as good a chance of a rise in price as the grain rings and speculators; and wheat can't be any lower than 90 cents. Indeed, at this price it is bringing the prices of the coarser grains, and it would pay to sell the latter and grind wheat for feed. In fact, a gentleman from Komoka, last Wednesday, expressed his intention to us of selling his corn—of which he had 400 bushels—and grinding his wheat for use instead.

Manitoba Letter.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

West Lynne, Nov. 7th, 1882.

During the past month the weather has been very changeable, with heavy falls of rain and snow, followed by mild Indian summer days; and present appearances indicate that it may remain open for some time to come. To-day (Nov. 7th) teams are busy plowing and cattle grazing on the prairie, not yet confined to their winter quarters. Farmers have been greatly delayed in threshing by wet weather and scarcity of hands. From \$2 to \$2.50 per day and board are being paid for men, and they are hard to obtain at those figures. The yield of grain is a fair average in this section, but a good deal of it is badly damaged in the stacks by the recent heavy rains, through bad stacking, for farmers as a rule have been quite careless in that respect, not expecting much rain at this time of year; but no doubt this season will be a lesson to many, and cause them in the future to put their stacks together in a workmanlike manner, thereby avoiding similar losses.

Most of the annual exhibitions of the different

Electoral Division Agricultural Societies throughout the Province have been very successful, showing a marked improvement over former years, both as regards the number of entries and superior excellence of live stock and other exhibits, although the weather was very unfavorable at the time a number of the exhibitions were held. As usual at this season of the year, prairie fires have been numerous, and in some sections considerable damage has been done by them. How they originate is hard to find out, but it would be well if some of the parties setting them could be caught and punished, for it might have a tendency to check such depredations in the future, and be the means of saving a good deal of valuable property. The markets have been scantily supplied with grain during the past fortnight. Roads are heavy and farmers still busy with their fall work, taking advantage of the present open weather. The hardest grades of wheat seem best up in quality, while softer kinds as a rule are a great deal lighter, and have suffered considerably from the dryness of the past season.

Prices for dark Fife have ranged from 75c upwards, and choice samples are bringing 80c. Lower grades are not much in demand, and have not in any case reached the lowest of those figures. Millers and dealers are anxious to secure any quantity of No. 1 wheat, but do not care about handling soft kinds. Farmers are beginning to see the advantage gained by raising and feeding stock. The high price of meat, and abundance of feed usually at their command to dispose of, are causing them to turn their attention more every year to those branches of industry. Mr. Arthur Walrond, a gentleman recently from England, and at present located at Pembina Crossing, returned a few weeks ago from Ontario with a lot of choice cattle in order that he may improve the stock in that locality. His importation comprises both Herefords and Shorthorns, and are a good lot in their respective classes. Your correspondent was pleased to hear that you enjoyed a recent visit to this Province, and had a jolly good time. A description of the journey in Minnie May's Department of the *ADVOCATE* has appeared in the columns of several of the local papers.

On the Wing.

THE CHICAGO FAT STOCK EXHIBITION.

Chicago has for several years held a Fat Stock Exhibition. It has gradually increased in popularity and in the extent of its utility and magnitude. It is now the largest and most important fat stock exhibition held on this continent. Some claim it to be the best in the world, but we are not prepared to endorse that sentiment; however, we have no doubt but that with judicious management, it will rival any exhibition, for the extent of country from which it can draw its resources is so vast, and many Americans are able and willing to procure and care for the best, and when they have the best they are willing to let the world know it.

The exhibition was held in their fine, large Exposition Building, some of the internal fittings having been removed, and stalls, show-ring and all other appliances erected on the most approved and convenient plans, the stalls for the cattle and the spaces between the show-ring being so well arranged that the animals could be seen at all times, and ample space given for visitors. Everything was kept in excellent order, and the stalls, walks and show-ring were kept scrupulously clean; a good, deep covering of clean saw-dust was kept on the show-ring. The cattle were bedded in small shavings brought from the planing mills; it made excellent bedding, and all filth was immediately removed. The building was lit up in the evening with both gas and electric light. The prize animals were brought in the ring in the evenings, and a description, the weight, the owner's name, feed, breed, &c., were announced by a speaker on a platform. So large is this building that not over one-third of the available space was occupied by the fat stock exhibited; thus they are prepared for any stock exhibit, both in regard to numbers and quality.