

Editors' Notices, &c.

SOLUTION OF ARSENIC AS A STEEP FOR GRAIN.—

We regret to inform a Correspondent at Port Maitland (whose name we cannot call to mind) of our inability to publish his interesting and valuable article on steeping seeds in arsenic, &c.; the manuscript, with the printed extract from the *Lancet*, having been destroyed in the late disastrous fire. We shall feel greatly obliged if our Correspondent will take the trouble to re-write his paper. Personally, we have had no experience of this kind of steep; but some few years ago the attention of Agriculturists at Home was strongly drawn to certain very favorable statements of the effects of several chemical solutions as steeps for grain; our impression is, that the results, upon repeated trials, fell much short of the expectations held out. The steeping some kinds of seeds, even in common water, before sowing, is, no doubt, a beneficial practice.

GOLD OF PLEASURE. For a like reason, we cannot insert the article of T. C., *Guelph*, on the culture of this plant. We shall be happy to hear from him again. The introduction of new seeds is a matter of great moment to the Agricultural interests of the country.

G. L.'s Communication, on the management of *Asparagus*, we are also deprived of, from the same cause, together with other matter, original and selected.

W. B., Flamboro' West. We are not aware of any machines in this country for making draining pipes and tiles. There are several kinds in England, most of which have stood the test of several years' trial. We will turn our attention to the matter before long, as it is of pressing importance to an improved system of Agriculture in this country.

Z., Niagara. We are of opinion that the use of a heavy roller would have a tendency to check the progress of the wireworm. We have tried it many times, with more or less success. The roller is also most destructive to the slug. For this purpose it should be used early in the morning, when the ground is damp, as these destructive creatures are then found on the surface. Rolling the ground well, after sowing spring grain, particularly clover and grass seeds, is a practice to be strongly recommended; it brings the soil and seed into more immediate contact, thereby promoting the important process of germination, while it tends to check a too rapid evaporation of moisture; objects of great importance during the frequent parching weather we experience in May and June, in this country.

INQUIRER. Several of your questions are of so difficult a nature as would require much time and space for a full reply. We will keep them in mind, and hope to be able to satisfy your curiosity, to some extent at least, as early as practicable. *Inquirer* should bear in mind that there is a large number of phenomena involved in Agricultural and other kindred pursuits, on which the present state of knowledge can throw but little light. Discovery and advancement must necessarily be progressive.

SOWING GRASS SEEDS. We beg to refer our *Newcastle Subscriber* to previous papers of the present number, in which he will find some valuable information.

GREAT FIRE IN TORONTO.

Many of our readers will no doubt have heard, before they see this paper, the particulars of the destructive fire that recently occurred in this City. A large portion of the most central and business part of the City has been reduced to ashes. Not less than £100,000 worth of property has been destroyed. Almost among the first buildings burned was the printing-office of Messrs. Rowse & Thompson, our publishers; and so rapidly did the fire consume, that only a small portion of the contents of the printing-office was saved. About half the matter for our May number was in type when the fire occurred. All this was lost, as well as the copy, communications, books, &c. &c., that had been supplied to the printer. A number of cuts, our stereotype vignette, and a quantity of paper was also burned. Fortunately, we had removed the surplus copies of our back numbers, so that our sets are unbroken; but still we are losers to the amount of several pounds, besides the delay and inconvenience. This number, as our readers will perceive, differs a little in appearance from the other numbers, owing, chiefly, to the difference in the type. The paper is a little better in quality, and is what we shall endeavour hereafter to procure. We had the precaution to order two or three plates of our head, or vignette, which is a more expensive affair than many persons may suppose, and, having them at another place, we are able to keep up our outside appearance as usual. As to the *inside*, we trust our readers will find something there worth their attention, notwithstanding our loss; and those Correspondents whose Communications became a prey to the flames before they had, properly speaking, seen the light, will perhaps be good enough to re-write them? Two or three that this unfortunate accident has kept from our readers possessed unusual interest. One has been furnished a second time by the writer, who happened to come to the City; and we hope the others will appear in a future number.

For any delay, deficiency, or neglect, the calamity we have mentioned must be our excuse. Our enterprising publishers will be able to supply every thing required on their part before another issue, in a style superior, if possible, to the past.

TORONTO MARKET.

APRIL 30, 1849.

Flour, per barrel, of 196 lbs.	16	3	to	21	3
Wheat, per bushel	3	6	"	4	9
Oats, per bushel, 34 lbs.	1	0	"	1	2
Barley, per bushel, 48 lbs.	1	8	"	1	10½
Rye, per bushel, 56 lbs.	3	0	"	3	4
Pease, per bushel, 60 lbs.	1	6	"	2	0
Potatoes, per bushel	3	0	"	3	4
Beef, per 100 lbs.	12	6	"	20	0
Pork, per 100 lbs.	17	6	"	20	0
Bacon, per cwt.	25	0	"	30	0
Hay, per ton	45	0	"	60	0
Straw, per ton	25	0	"	30	0