

elsewhere, whose proprietors are steady, industrious, pains-taking men, upon which, from year to year, it is difficult to produce any more than a bare subsistence. Could such farmers be persuaded to adopt new and improved modes of culture, such as has been proved the best by the experience of hundreds and thousands, both in this country and in Europe, they would be able to add to the value of their farms, and increase the comforts of their homes with every succeeding harvest, and lay up a little money every year to provide against any pressing emergency in the future.

Forty bushels of corn to the acre and a ton of hay, satisfies the ambition of far too many, whose lands are capable of a production of twice the quantity, because they will follow in the old routine of their fathers. In the first place they plough twice the land they can fertilize with the manures made upon the farm; they will not buy a dollar's worth of bone dust, superphosphate, or guano, for fear they shall never see the money it cost come back to them in an increase of productions, and they thus subject themselves to the trouble, cost and inconvenience of double the labour, in ploughing, tending and harvesting, which their more enterprising neighbours perform in accomplishing the same results.

What is required to accomplish the needed reform in the modes of management upon New England farms, is more faith in the land. The cultivator must come to a realizing sense that profit, which is the sum and substance of success, comes not so much from the careless cultivation of a large number of acres, as from the thorough cultivation of a few. And in that word "thorough" is included everything which relates to the manuring, pulverizing, and cleaning the land. The "are" what are called "small farmers," cultivating from eight to ten acres of land whose annual returns in cash would excite the envy of many who cultivate our largest farms; and yet they accomplish such results under greater disadvantage than the large farmers who achieve little in comparison. They do not hesitate sometimes to bestow upon the land in a single year, manure to the full value of the land itself, and they seldom fail of their reward in the shape of immense crops; while the old fashioned cultivators are tilling over a vast surface to gather the scanty products of the old system.

In a season like the present, when farm labour is so dear and difficult to be obtained, the advantages of a thorough cultivation of less land over the usual method, by a careless husbandry of a large number of acres, will be most apparent; and there are few who will make the trial of doubling their crops in the manner we suggest who will ever desire to return to the "good old ways" of their fathers.

But high manuring of less land, and thorough pulverization of the soil are not alone the means of adding to the farmer's gains. He must not neglect that other prime essential to good farming, a thorough eradication of the weeds. The richer the land the more rapid will be their growth, and they should never be permitted to obtain the mastery. Better abandon every acre, even after the crop is planted, which the farmer finds he cannot keep thoroughly clean, and confine his efforts to the few that he can, than suffer useful crops to struggle with the tares through an enfeebled existence, only to result in a meagre harvest and the re-seeding of the land with weeds for future years. The profits of farming are often discussed in public and in private, in the newspapers and in social circles, and opinions are very diverse as to the comparative advantages or disadvantages of the calling, as compared with the other pursuits in life. But the discussion of the question always turns upon the merits of the two systems of agriculture, viz. that while the largest farms in good localities, half cultivated, in the shiftless, slovenly manner which too often prevails, barely afford a competence to their owners; it is difficult to find one having faith in the land enough to manure it liberally, till thoroughly, and keep all the weeds from his rows and head lands, whose means do not increase from year to year, with a regularity and certainty which the same amount of capital and labour invested in other pursuits rarely surpass.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

**CANADIAN TOBACCO.**—Dr. F. L. Genard, of St. Jacques de l'Achigan, writing to a Quebec paper, states that notwithstanding the extreme dryness of the season, he has cultivated, at thirty-six miles to the north of Montreal, two hundred plants of tobacco, of which the leaves have on an average attained a length of thirty-six or thirty-seven inches, by seventeen or eighteen inches in breadth. One of these plants also weighed, after having been cut (on the 1st September) thirteen pounds without the seeds. The leaves to the number of 21, put end to end, give a length of seven hundred and twenty-four inches, or sixty feet and four inches.

## The Crops in Lower Canada.

We published in our last a condensed account of the crops of Upper Canada, compiled from the reports of station masters along the line of the Grand Trunk Railway. Below we give a similar account of the crops of Lower Canada. It will be observed that Lower Canada has produced better crops than Upper Canada during the past season. This is something unusual, and we congratulate our neighbours on their good fortune:—

**ST. ANNE'S.**—Wheat an average crop.

**PT. CLAFRE.**—Wheat pretty good; barley, oats and peas very good; potatoes also good, but very small.

**LACHINE.**—Fall wheat has given a yield of about 40 bushels per acre; spring wheat is rather light, but the quality is good; oats, peas, and barley good crops; root crops are good, with the exception of potatoes; hops very poor crop; hay an average crop.

**CATHERAWAGA.**—Spring wheat, oats, barley, and peas an average crop.

**ST. REMI.**—Oats, peas and barley an average crop.

**JOHNSON'S.**—Spring wheat straw, short; grain, good; barley good, but straw light; oats under average; peas average crop; potatoes not large, but good; turnips a failure; carrots good; hay on high lands light; on low lands, good; on the whole, an average.

**HEMINGFORD.**—Oats, average crop; rye and barley an average crop; potatoes more than average.

**ROUSE'S POINT.**—Oats are our principal crop of grain; considerable barley sown; very little wheat.

**LACOLLE.**—Spring wheat very much better than for many years, and will be a good crop; oats are the staple of this parish, and will be an average crop; peas and barley are looking well; buckwheat looks uncommonly well; flax is beginning to occupy more attention. One party has forty acres, which look splendid; potatoes good; English beans little sown, but good quality.

**SCOTTS.**—Barley will average 10 bushels per acre; peas 25; oats 20; root crops are very light.

**ST. JOHN'S.**—Oats, barley, and peas are good average crops; wheat, very little raised; hay an average crop; potatoes will be a good crop; Indian corn is unusually fine; fruit and vegetables, with good land and a good market, in this neighbourhood are singularly deficient—a good opening for a market gardener.

**ST. LAMBERT.**—The grain crops are below an average, but of good quality; hay is plentiful; oats, barley, and peas will average from 12 to 15 bushels per acre.

**ST. HENRI.**—Oats and barley very good, but short straw; spring wheat middling; Indian corn not very good; potatoes very good; peas very good; beans very good.

**BOUTHERVILLE MOUNTAIN.**—Spring wheat is a fair crop; barley, middling; peas good; oats poor; potatoes, middling.

**BELGIL.**—The crops are fully as good as last year; hay is considerably above the average yield.

**ST. HYACINTHE.**—Hay, oats, peas, barley, and potatoes are fair average crops.

**BRITANNIA MILLS.**—The crops in general are very good.

**ST. LINOIRE.**—Spring wheat, 5,000 bushels; barley 6,000 bushels; oats, 15,000 bushels; beets and potatoes, 16,000; hay, 1,400 tons.

**URTOX.**—It is likely the crops will be very heavy this year, especially wheat, oats, and peas.

**ACTON.**—Oats, peas, and corn very good and plentiful; barley below an average, but good in quality; hay below an average crop; root crops fair, but in small quantities.

**NEW DURHAM.**—Hay below an average; spring wheat and buckwheat good; oats very light; potatoes and turnips good.

**RICHMOND.**—The harvest is scarcely an average; there is a large quantity of coarse grains raised.

**DANVILLE.**—The crops in general are better than they have been for five years.

**WARWICK.**—All crops have a good appearance; spring wheat will average about 10 bushels per acre; coarse grains and root crops are good; hay is below an average.

**ARTHABASKA.**—The crops in general are good, except hay, which is below an average.

**BEACONCOUR.**—Spring wheat 15 to 20 bushels per acre; oats 30 to 35 bushels; barley 33 to 35 bushels; rye 27 to 30 bushels; buckwheat 45 to 50 bushels; turnips 300 to 400 bushels per acre.

**METRO'S MILLS.**—The grain and root crops are very favourable in the surrounding parishes.

**CRAIG'S ROADS.**—The harvest is satisfactory, except potatoes.

**ST. HENRI.**—Oats good; the root crops have a good appearance.

**ST. THOMAS.**—Spring wheat good and nearly double the average; oats above the average, a good quality. The grain crops are better this year than they have been for ten years.

**ST. ANNE.**—Spring wheat an average yield; flaxseed will be of very good quality, and of some importance; hay below an average yield, and poor quality; oats, barley, and peas are very good, the appearance of potatoes is very good.

**RIVIERE OUELLE.**—Spring wheat will average about 15 bushels per acre; oats 40 bushels; barley 18 bushels; carrots 40 bushels; potatoes 150 bushels; hay about 1½ ton per acre.

**ST. PASCAL.**—Oats 48,000 bushels; wheat 12,500 bushels; coarse grain and root crops 75,450 bushels.

**WINDSOR.**—Spring wheat is very good, both in quality and yield; coarse grains good crops and good quality; root crops very good.

**BROMPTON FALLS.**—Wheat is an average crop; coarse grain and root crops are good; hay rather light, scarcely an average crop.

**LENOXVILLE.**—The crops in this vicinity are good; hay a full average crop; spring wheat is better than for several years; other grains good; root crops are plentiful.

**WATERVILLE.**—The crops in general are good.

**COATICOOKE.**—Spring wheat will average about 25 bushels per acre; oats 45 to 50 bushels; the breadth of land sown is over 2,000 acres; buckwheat good; potatoes good; hay an average crop.

## Tobacco Curing.

In order to procure a good fine-flavoured, superior quality of tobacco, a suitable tobacco house is the first, and most imperative necessity. It would be just as absurd for one to attempt the manufacture of fine, marketable butter in a pig-trough, or delicious ice cream in a coal scuttle, as to think of curing tobacco properly in an open shed, cellar, chamber loft, or ordinary stable. And yet half the people who raise tobacco in a small way actually attempt to do it, and wonder at their inevitable failure. There is a great deal more in the curing than in the culture of tobacco, so far as determining its character is concerned, and that the crop may be properly cured, a suitable house in which to effect that cure is indispensable. It is all simple enough too. No mystery about it—not expensive either. In size, the tobacco house should be determined upon by the quantity of material you intend to produce. A light frame structure covered with rough boards, a tight, slung roof, with openings along the ridge, and the same half way up the sides, all so arranged as to be closed at will or opened at pleasure, is the kind of building you require; then never permit it to be used as a hog pen, hen roost, hay loft or horse stable.

For convenience sake, your tobacco sticks ought never to be more than five feet long and no larger than is necessary to sustain the weight of a dozen tobacco plants. The sticks tied in pairs at the heel, should be placed on the sticks just clear of each other, and the sticks then placed on the bearing poles regularly as candles are suspended for the old-fashioned "dip," and thus continue the process until your whole stock is disposed of.

During the curing season, care should be taken to close all the openings of the buildings during rain storms and all unusually damp weather, and opening them again for free ventilation, as soon as the atmosphere becomes suitable. The tobacco may safely hang thus undisturbed from two to three months, at the end of which time it will be a good plan to take it from the sticks and pile neatly in heaps of say a hundred plants each on rows of poles or boards, a few inches from the ground. In this position it may remain with advantage any length of time, so that it does not get damp, and mold or mildew.

When you are ready for stripping the tobacco will also be found ready and in prime order, provided the weather be suitable; it being bad management to strip or handle cured tobacco on the stock during very dry weather.

In stripping the tobacco the best plan is perhaps to assort the leaves into three distinct grades, taking always the four lower leaves for the first, the next four for No. 2, and the remainder at the top of the stock for No. 3. By this means, while you have diminished the value of No. 3 nothing, you will have enhanced that of the other two grades, and consequently that of your entire crop by making all your "hands" and packages of uniform size in each particular grade. Let ten to fifteen leaves form a "hand;" wrap them firmly at the base with an imperfect leaf of the like quality with the "hand," and make up packages of twenty-five to thirty pounds, neatly and uniformly, by placing the first layer with the points of the leaf all one way, revers-