

HAYING.—We understand that the first hay mown on the peninsula this season was cut on the farm of Henry Pryor, Esq., D.C.F., during the fourth week of June. Grass had been cut prior to that, but was found too succulent to be made into hay.

ACCIDENT FROM A KICKING HORSE.—Felix Smith, residing in Jerusalem Settlement, St. John, was kicked in the breast and shoulder by one of his own horses while passing through his stable. The injuries he received were so severe that he died in the course of an hour.

SCARCITY OF OAK LUMBER IN CANADA.—The quantity of oak which will find its way to the Quebec market the present season will be fully a million and a half less than was at first supposed. This information is obtained from timber cutters and others well posted in the trade. —*Colonist.*

DISEASE AMONGST CATTLE.—The Montreal *Telegraph* regrets to learn that Pseudo-rabies is prevailing to an alarming extent among the cattle in Central Canada, and threatening unless means are speedily taken to eradicate it by the isolation and destruction of the infected herds, to become a most disastrous plague.

Communications.

ON MANURE.

NO. IV.

Having briefly pointed out the wisdom of saving all the manure made upon the farm, or rather in the barn-yard and stables, (for I have not yet alluded to the house, &c.) I must now be allowed to point out the wisdom of taking some little trouble to increase the quantity thus made, without deteriorating the quality.

I have said that the liquid manure is more easily applied to the land than the solid; and in fact, it is also more advisable (in some instances) to use it as a liquid, than to convert it into a compost. But, on the other hand, a good application of compost is invariably a desirable and necessary thing in the fall, and early spring, upon grass. By a judicious system of making composts a variety of fertilizers can be obtained, and the quantity available for different crops be not only greatly increased, but the quality also can be so regulated as to be made more effective, and useful to the particular crop, or land applied to. I will not, however, just now go into the minutiae of making compost heaps, but confine myself to the advocacy of doing that which it is in the power of almost any farmer to do; and the farmer who may have taken the steps necessary to save all his manure, will not only have it in his power to do what I recommend, but will also be willing and anxious to do so, or I am much mistaken. He will, as I said in a previous letter, be in a position to measure his future heap of manure, by the amount of skill and labour he is willing and able to bestow on it. And what a splendid compost heap will this vision expose to his views if he takes into consideration that one ton of the urine of cattle will so saturate a ton of dry bog earth, as to make it, to all intents and purposes, equal to two tons of cow dung; for, in fact, such a mixture when sufficiently moist, has not only the appearance of dung, but, by analysis, it is found to be of a like nature.

This being so, and the liquid from each animal being of greater weight than the solid, it follows that by using the liquid in the above manner (that is, by making a compost of it with dry bog earth), the compost heap will be more than twice as valuable as the solid excrement saved from the same cattle.

It is said that a man who causes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before deserves well of his country—and so he does—but more especially so if he does this over his whole farm, and by his example sets his neighbours to do the same. Now this can only be done by saving, making, and applying manure judiciously.

I have not said anything in these few letters on this important subject but what almost every farmer can do, or he has no right to the name of farmer, and the poorer he is in stock and the means of farming, by so much the less can he afford to lose the manure his cattle make, or lose an opportunity of increasing the quantity and quality of it.

Bedford.

ON THE BREEDS OF COWS, SHEEP, PIGS AND HORSES BEST ADAPTED TO CAPE BRETON.

SYDNEY, 21st June, 1865.

As many of my English friends and family have been distinguished breeders, I advise, with some degree of confidence, that sheep crossed South down and Leicester, will be found best suited to this Island. You have sufficient weight of carcass, together with as heavy a fleece as is obtainable without a degree of coarseness unsuited to our local manufacture.

In cattle in years gone by, we had the preference in the London dairies (see the Watson cows in Society's for Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, Agricultural Series) colour all red,—not so long in leg or horn,—more ruby coloured than the Devons,—they were a cross between the old Cravins and Albemarle Holderness,—crossed again with us by a son and grandson of "Comet," bought from Collins,—they milked enormously in London, from 2½ to 4½ or 5, when being all the time in high condition they went to Smithfield. These were said by London dairymen to be the most profitable in England, and were all the time bespoken. Something like this cow would do here, but I am very strongly impressed with the idea that for our poorer grazing districts the improved Galloways will be found useful, easily kept always in condition, as I find on trial with a very common beast; now I could not say if I were at the Board, more than Ayrshire and Shorthorns for the high grazing, and Ayrshires and Galloways for the poorer grazing districts.

With regard to pigs, the Berkshires are best suited. But about horses I am afraid to say anything, for I find farmers keep too many, and the result is the boys, instead of being at the plough and cart with a good honest Suffolk punch, or other useful beast, are "starring it" everywhere on their "bits of blood," and I feel inclined to check this vicious habit in this new and poor country.

H. DAVENPORT.

REMARKS ON THE PRESENT CONDITION OF AGRICULTURE IN LUNenburg COUNTY, AND ON THE STATE OF THE CROPS.

During the past few weeks I have been visiting the farmers in almost every section of Lunenburg county. Feeling a deep interest in agriculture, —altho' not my profession, I make it what many might do with advantage, my recreation—believing that prosperous husbandry is the head and heart of prosperity of almost every other kind. Its ablest eulogists have not claimed too much attention, or illustrated too forcibly, the many channels through which the failure or success of agriculture affects the happiness of man,—his comforts and luxuries, trade and commerce. Even the condition of society, the advance of civilization, and the stability of institutions cannot claim to be independent of it. This county compares favourably with the best agricultural counties in the province, as a peep at the last

census returns will show, although nearly one half of the population are more or less engaged in the fisheries. All the cereals are raised here, not excepting Indian corn, which is now raised and succeeds well. The cabbage and turnip are favorite crops. They yield abundantly and are well worthy the attention bestowed on them,—being acceptable to man and beast,—and leave the land in good tillth.

Our people generally are thrifty and well-to-do, yet they are not much given to the study of agriculture, and generally keep very tenaciously to the old country methods of tillage. Buildings generally for the protection of crops and stock, and saving of manures, are very inferior, even compared to some parts of the province, although lumber is reasonable in price, and stone and lime plentiful.

We have somewhat improved in breeds of cattle, and for this much is due to the few zealous members that composed the late agricultural society in Lunenburg town, which I am informed was the oldest society in this province. It is to be hoped that the societies now organized in this county, under the Board of Agriculture, largely aided by grants of money from the government, will not be allowed to languish.

A visit to these societies this season, from our invaluable Secretary of the Board, would have a good effect, and I would suggest his visiting New Germany, our best agricultural district, from which we get superior cheese and butter, and where farming might be brought to great perfection. It ought to have an agricultural society, and be able to report to your journal good, solid, practical matter and information, which as farmers they alone can give, and with correct ideas of the capabilities of rural life aspire to the title of country gentlemen.

I have been asked to give a few notes in reference to the state and prospects of the farm crops, &c.

The spring opened very early, and continued to advance to the end of April with unusual dry weather, giving a great advantage to the early farmer. But experience has taught that with most crops May is the right seed time, but it set in and continued wet, cold and backward, which made many of our farmers to be late in getting in their crops.

June came with fine warm weather, and changed the appearance of things. The crops advanced rapidly with a good dark green color. Very heavy frosts succeeded, which, in some localities, destroyed entire fields of corn, potatoes, and other roots, obliging some farmers to plough afresh, and re-plant with other seed.

The orchards suffered to some extent from the same frost, and the prospect of fruit is not very promising.

We have from the same cause been almost entirely deprived of the delicious strawberries which our pasture lands largely produce.

Crops generally bid fair to yield well, more particularly the hay crop. The season was especially favourable to it; it will be very large and of first quality. There appears to be an unusual amount of red and white clover this season, mixed with the long grasses, which adds very much to its value and quantity. Yet many places are badly overrun with the in nutritious daisy weed, which ought to be exterminated. The scythe is now felling the grass in every direction.

I am glad to say that the Goodrich seedling potatoes sent me from the Board of Agriculture, promise well, surpassing in appearance all other sorts that I see around me.

I cannot forbear expressing the strong hope I entertain for the success of our home *Journal of Agriculture*. All that at present we can expect from it is, good practical matter to guide and cheer the young inexperienced tiller of the soil, and divert him from labor to refreshment in the study of nature and nature's laws, applying them to improving the soil, lightening labor and raising his standard and social position.

H. A. N. K.

Lunenburg, 14th July.