

### The Farm.

#### The Quebec Farm School.

Whitfield is the name given to a new post office established on the Whitfield Farm. This farm consists of about 800 acres, half of which is lying on the side of the Rougemont mountain, some 1,200 feet high, having a stepping ascent and partially level plateaus that are arable, although stony, the greater part being best adapted to grazing. The soil on the mountain side is porous and of a light quality. The other half of the farm consists of rich bottom land, lying in a large fertile valley below the mountain. This large valley runs about 100 miles in length, and varies in width from about 8 to 20 miles, having mountains of greater or less height along each side of it. It is a beautiful, rich, picturesque valley—in fact, the view from the top of Rougemont, and even from the house about one-third the way up the hill, is one of the finest landscapes we have ever seen. The magnificent scenery alone will recompense an admirer of the beautiful and grand to visit this

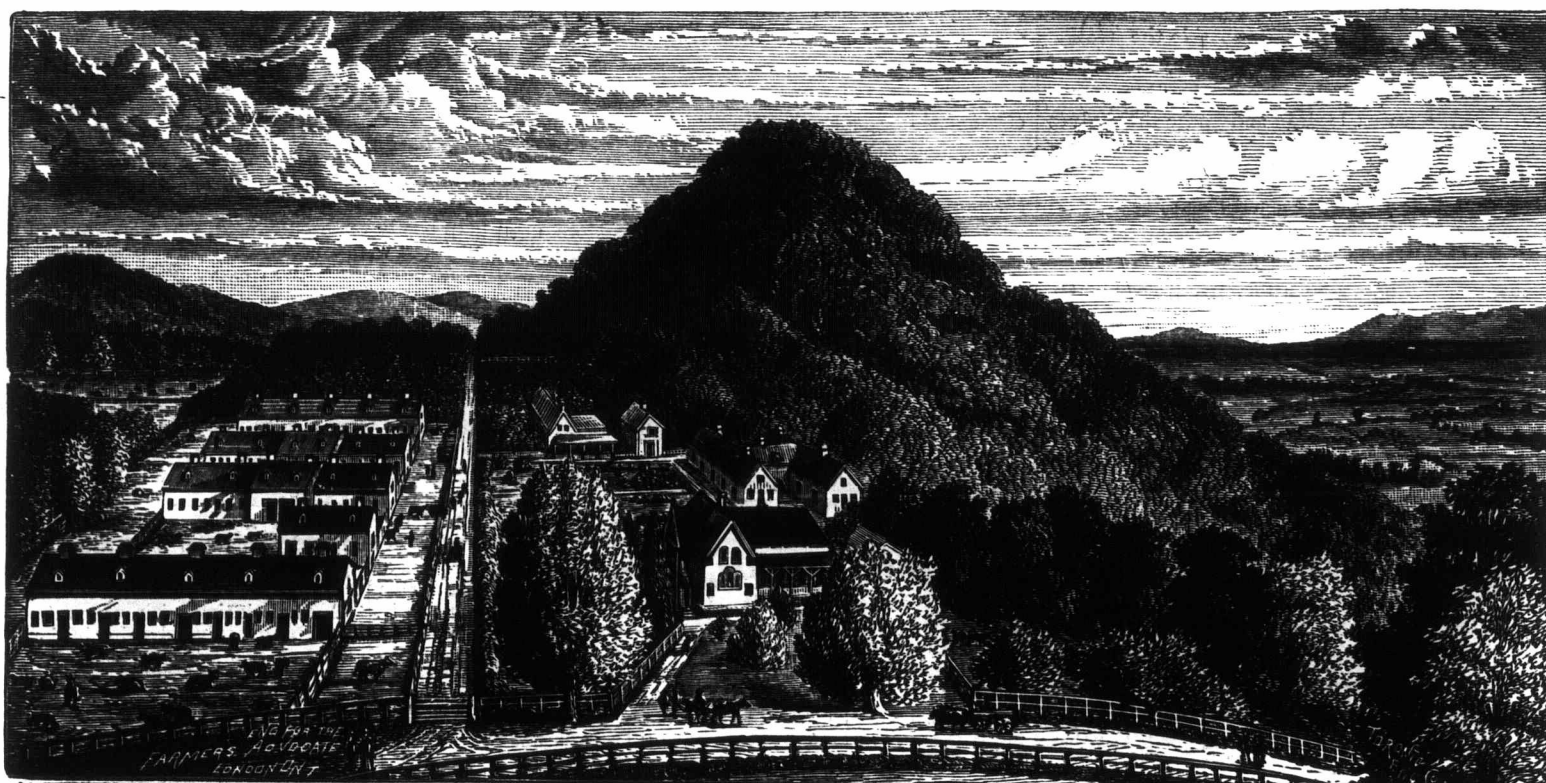
pense to procure the best animals that could be purchased in England. The Quebec Government now grants a subsidy of \$6,000 per annum for the benefit of the students, the officers of the institution, and maintenance of stock. It is now the Government Model Farm of Quebec, although owned by Mr. Whitfield. There are other Government Farms in Quebec, but of very slight importance in comparison to this. Mr. Whitfield is endeavoring to procure the best superintendents in each department. Mr. E. A. Barnard, Director of Agriculture, and the former editor of the Government Journal of Agriculture, is now the General Manager. Mr. J. Watson is the General Stock Manager. This gentleman has a calm, quiet demeanor, and is very widely and favorably known on this continent and in Europe. He has acted as cattle exhibitor or judge from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Mr. Watson and his ancestors have a world wide reputation as breeders of Polled Angus cattle. This class of animals now command a higher average price than any other class of beef cattle. The largest herd of pure bred cattle on the farm consists of 69 Polled Angus. The mag-

### Green Fences.

A correspondent in the *N. Y. Tribune* says:

"More than twenty years ago I began to raise osage fences, and while many of my neighbors met with failure in this industry, my efforts were usually crowned with success. Winter-killing is the chief setback. For two or three years the plants must be well mulched over winter, and the vacant spaces reset in spring. With age comes hardness, and no tree bears neglect better. An osage hedge set ten inches apart in the row should be a good, effective fence against all stock, hogs not excepted, in four years from setting. But hogs must not root along it, nor lie under it through the summer for shade, for grass is its winter protection, and bare ground its certain death. Shearing of the hedge should commence the second or third year, if one has time. But very little of it was ever done here at that age. Necessity drove most of us into hedging, and the fence once grown to effectiveness was left to itself, and there it stood a faithful guard for ten, or often twenty years, with no care save an occasional branch bent down and crowded into a hole below.

"I have here on my small farm more than 600 rods of good osage fence, not much of it less than twenty years old. A few rods of it have never been either lopped or trimmed, and yet it does good service. Six years ago this spring I com-



ROUGEMONT—THE QUEBEC PROVINCIAL MODEL FARM, THE PROPERTY OF G. WHITFIELD, ESQ.

place, if he should take the pains to climb to the summit and admire it, as we did.

Mr. G. Whitfield, the proprietor, is a wealthy West Indian merchant. He was born on one of the farms which now comprise the estate. In his youth he had noticed the improvement made by the use of imported stock; and being desirous to improve the stock of his native place, he commenced the establishment of this as a model farm about eight years ago. He has added farm to farm, and erected the fine block of agricultural buildings which are to be seen in the view now given. The cattle stables are large, convenient and airy; they were constructed to accommodate ten herds of the different varieties of cattle and a dairy of 70 cows. Mr. Whitfield says he wishes to give each variety a fair trial and prove the merits of each. He also wishes to establish a trade between Canada and the West Indies. He intends to ship his dairy products to that part of the British possessions.

Mr. Whitfield has been generously allowing farmers the free use of his fine bulls for the improvement of their stock. He has spared no ex-

nificent bull, "Judge," stands at the head of the Angus herd. He is a perfect model of what we might term a mountain of beef.

The number of cattle at present located on the farm is 321, consisting of 69 Polled Angus, 16 Gallows, 27 Highlanders, 52 Shorthorns, 24 Jerseys, 34 Ayrshires, 5 Shetlanders, 9 Sussex, 12 Devons, 3 Kerry, and 70 grade milch cows. Over 200 head, including the fine herd of Herefords were sold last spring. In our last issue, page 223, we gave full information from Mr. Barnard regarding entrance to this Farm School.

LEGUMINOUS PLANT FERTILIZERS.—Sir. J. B. Lewes, the great English scientific and practical farmer, reasons from experiments in this style: "To obtain maximum crops of grain the proper course to pursue is to precede them with a crop of leguminous plants—that is, peas, clover, vetches, etc., to which the minerals should be applied, and this enables these plants to make an unusual growth, which renders them capable of storing up a large amount of ammonia—more than is necessary for the grain crop that follows—and the latter, by this active stimulant, is rendered capable of obtaining all the minerals required from the soil and the decaying vegetation for maximum crops."

menced lopping, and got at odd spells 200 rods of it into the shape of a bush fence. My man being ignorant of the business, I allowed him to cut the plants half way off at the ground and lap them backward, one upon another. With his axe to cut and his weight to afterward press down, he made a barrier of the high and wide branching trees that was almost equally effective against a horse or a rabbit. A dense and rank growth of sprouts shot up through it, and by the end of the second summer many of them were six to eight feet high and an inch through. I now determined to make a trim, neat hedge of it. This was no child's play—the tall and wide and thorny old row. With a hedge-axe I narrowed up the sides to the main stems, and with a short-lipped, long-handled shears I made it three and one-half feet in height, cutting off, for the most part, one shoot at a time. We now shear that hedge twice a year; first about the last of June and then again the last of August, and the fence is an ornament to the farm."

While the wet weather all over the country makes digging ditches impracticable, it is an excellent plan to mark where underdrains are needed. Unhappily on most farms failure of crops indicate the places plainly enough, and very often the crop that failed would have fully paid the expense in one year.