The Fruit Garden.

Of the fruits that belong to the garden more than to the orchard, the gooseberry, currant, strawberry and raspberry are most known, and rank high for their utility in household economy. The culture of the gooseberry is pretty much alike, though the currant is better adapted to our climate, and its fruit is more in general use. The English gooseberry escapes the mildew in very few places; and, even when it is free from mildew, though it may attain the size and beauty of the fruit grown in our gardens at home, it has not that flavor that makes it so general a favorite there. The Downing and Houghton gooseberries, the varieties most familiar to us here, fall far short of the English fruit, not only in size, but also in richness and mellowness. There gooseberries of each variety and every hue, whether red, green, or amber, have each their peculiar flavor, and all are of excellent quality. Gooseberries and currants are propagated by cutting, or by *suckers* growing up from the roots; the former is the better method. Fruit from bushes grown from cuttings is always of a better quality. We have planted cuttings in the fall as well as in the spring and have had no failure in either case. The soil between the rows of cuttings in the nursery-bed should be kept from weeds and the surface wed throughout the summer that it may receive the full benefits from the atmosphere. They may be transplanted to where they are to remain when a year or a year and a half old in the nursery bed. The rule invariably followed in the Old Country, of training currant bushes to a stem, is not advisable here. More than one stem is necessary, as the branches serve to shade the fruit from the great heat that would ripen them too rapidly. We prune our currant bushes and apply manure in the fall. A good summer mulching is of great service; it keeps the soil mellow and moderates its great heat, a very desirable object in our warm summers; and a good mulching of the ground about gooseberry bushes is, we have reason to believe, a preventative of the mildew. A gooseberry hedge would form a handsome line dividing gardens. The foliage is one of the most pleasing to the eye in form and shade of coloring. The delicate tints of its leaves, varying from the pale green of early spring to its more glowing hues in autumn, make it a shrub of no mean beauty. And that beauty is much increased by the richness of its fruit.

We need hardly say anything of the value of the fruit—both currant and gooseberry. The demand for it when offered for sale proves how highly it is appreciated. The red currant is the variety generally grown. It is more easily propagated than the white, and is a heavier bearer than the black. This latter, however, has valuable medicinal properties, and this, added to its being so excellent a preserve, makes it one of the valuables of our garden fruits.

We merely add that we plant our fruit bushes in a line around our garden squares, eight feet apart, and three feet from the walk. The border we use is part for small herbs and part for hardy flowers.

"Canada."

We have received for publishment a valuable little work entitled "Canada"—a few facts about stock raising and pedigree cattle in the Dominion of Canada. It has evidently been written to give some information to those in the home country who are enquiring—What advantages does Canada present to emigrants who would engage in stock raising? From it we take the following extract:—

As a rule, Canadian cattle are superior to those of the United States, the Canadian breeders taking a special pride in preserving the English blood pure and free from mixture.

Canada has for a long time past exported live stock to the United States. In the years 1873 and 1874, 74,661 head of cattle, 571,494 sheep, and 14,863 horses. During the past few years very successful attempts have been made to divert this trade to the European market. Large quantities of dead meat, poultry, live cattle, sheep and horses arrive by nearly every steamer from Canada, and meet with a ready sale at remunerative prices. The horses are much admired for their superior constitution, symmetry and spirit, and are eagerly sought after by the leading London horse dealers and job-masters, at prices ranging from 125 guineas each to 200 guineas per pair.

According to the census taken in 1871, there were 643,171 horses in Canada, and 193,572 colts and fillies, which would by this time be about the right age for the European market. There are upwards of twenty thoroughbred entire horses, most of them imported at great expense, standing within a radius of ten miles of Toronto. No doubt, as these facts become better known, some of the enterprising English dealers, who are scouring the continent of Europe for horses, will be tempted to pay Canada a visit. The sea passage to which importers and exporters are so averse is the shortest from America (average 9½ days), three days of which is smooth-water sailing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Farmers in England will find some difficulty in the future in successfully competing with their brethren in Canada in supplying the home market. A very large per-centage of the Canadian farmers are their own landlords; taxation is light, Canada being the lightest taxed country in the world; no oppressive game laws. The labor question is solved by a very extensive use of labor-saving machinery.

The pamphlet is from the Canada Government Agent, Queen Victoria Street, E. C.

Beet Sugar.

In the days of the first Napoleon, the empire over which he ruled was in absolute want of some commodities that her people considered necessary for their very existence. Her armies were everywhere victorious over those who dared to meet them in battle. The entire continent of Europe was subject to their will, but England still defied the conqueror of nations and her fleet swept every sea. Wherever the flag of France, or any of the nations that were compelled to be her auxiliary, ventured from their fortified ports, the Island tars were there to seize the booty.

At that time France was wholly dependent on South America and the West Indies for sugar, and life without sugar to sweeten it was not to be endured. It was known that the beet, one variety of it, especially, was rich in saccharine, and Napoleon deemed that a bonus should be given for the manufacture of beet sugar. The experiment was so successful that the manufacture has never, since its commencement, ceased, and not only is that country independent for that article of other countries, but she exports large quantities to England; and the growth of beets and their manufacture into sugar is a source of considerable national wealth. The sugar itself, we must remember, is the only valuabls part of the beet. So valuable is not the pulp when exhausted of saccharine matter, that, if the sugar merely covers the expenses, the refuse pulp, used for feeding stock, leaves a good profit to the grower or manufacturer.

The time cannot be far distant when the branch of industry that has proved so profitable in France will be pursued in Canada, but there must be some encouragement for its establishment in our country. Farmers require first a prospect of a demand for the roots, and they who would embark in the manufacturing must see a prospect of a supply of beets for their works. And something more is needed—either a protective tariff or a bonus such as was the means of building up the manufacture of beet sugar in France.

The present time seems a very favorable one to establish the business here. The unusual scarcity of sugar, and the consequent high price, afford in themselves an inducement, even if this scarcity be but temporary. As the cause of this falling off of the ordinary returns is known we can easily guard against it here. An enterprising citizen of Toronto, some short time since, was about to erect a manufactory in that city for the purpose, but failing health, added to the present state of trade in all its branches in Canada, has, we are told, prevented his carrying out the undertaking.

The French excise returns of the manufacture of native sugar from the commencement of the season down to the end of December shows that the deficit, compared with the year 1875, which was 73,000 tons, had increased on the 31st of December to 121,000 tons; but as the stock on hand is much less than that in the previous year, the real deficit in 1876 amounts to 136,000 tons. The number of factories in working fell from 495, at the end of November, to 430 at the end of December.

When the supply has fallen in other countries how well would it be for us if we were in a position, to meet our own demands, and not be sending our money to other countries for a commodity in so great request, and be paying such high prices as will result from the scarcity. We expect to treat the subject more fully in our next issue, we, therefore, merely direct the attention of our readers to it for the present.

Mr. Moses Krauft, of Berlin, Ont., was successful in an experiment of making sugar from beets, but he lost heavily by the enterprize. In order to have it successful in a pecuniary sense, it should receive some aid. A branch of industry new to the country needs the fostering support of the country and Government more than those that are established, and are now able to stand alone.

Does Feeding Pigs Pay?

In the FARMERS' ADVOCATE of last issue we gave an abridged report of experiments of feeding pigs at the Ontario Model Farm. On reading the results of these experiments in the second annual report there is forced upon us the question:—Does the feeding of pigs pay a profit sufficient to induce a farmer to incur the risks and expenses of making the feeding of pigs a part of his farming pursuits? Without at all questioning the accuracy of the report, and the pains taken to arrive at a correct conclusion, we do not think that the question as to the profit of pig-feeding, and as to the comparative value of cooked and uncooked food, is at all decided by those experiments. The experience of the many feeders of pigs in America, as well as in Europe, is opposed to the conclusion arrived at. The results obtained at the Farm may have been owing to local or temporary causes. They are so modified, or wholly changed from what they would otherwise be, that it is unsafe to rely on the experiments of one season or one farm; and it is more especially so, when a conclusion is arrived at that is opposed to the opinions generally held by men of experience.

On looking to the table showing the financial result of the experiment, we see that the pigs fed on raw pease increased in weight 214½ lbs., and left a profit of $3; pigs fed on boiled pease increased 119½ lbs., there being a loss of 48 cents; pigs fed on steeped pease increased 174½ lbs., profit 3 cents; pigs fed on raw corn increased 170½ lbs., profit $2.14; those fed on steeped corn increased 140½ lbs., profit $1.98. The profit on the 2 lots of