

the lack of wider acquaintance with the varieties already in cultivation.

Whoever may have planted this grape under the name of *Laura Beverly*, supposing that it is anything different from the *Croveling*, will be disappointed; but if it has not been already planted under its true name, it will be a welcome addition to the list of early grapes, notwithstanding its defect in not perfecting all its berries.

On the above we have only to remark that we bought the supposed "*Laura Beverly*" from Mr. Beadle, on his high verbal recommendation of it when we were on a visit to his nursery, in the fall of 1868; that it is showing fruit this year for the first time; and that we feel disappointed that it should not prove a native product, seeing this fact subtracts one from the number of our Canadian grapes.

### IN BEHALF OF THE BOYS.

The *American Agriculturist* makes the sensible remark that a workshop is a necessary department on every farm—not only necessary, but it affords an agreeable variation to the boys, and in rainy days will furnish them profitable and pleasant occupation. Give them a tool chest and a supply of tools, and let them make all such things as rakes, harrows, hand-sleds, hencoops, mend harness, cut threads on bolts or burrs, or anything else they desire. Let them experiment there as much as they wish and by and by you will see them bring out something useful, save many trips to the blacksmith's or wagon-maker's, and many hard-earned quarters. If "variety is the spice of life," it is surely needed on the farm where hard and constant labor is the rule, and recreation is the exception. If you give them a supply of oil and paints, you will probably some fine day find the plows and harrows, or may be the old wagon, looking like new, in a new coat, and the garden gate smiling to the passer-by, in a new clean dress. By all means try to induce them, both by practice and precept to keep the work-bench neat and the shop

orderly. Habits thus formed will influence them through life, and may lay the foundation for future success. If you cannot teach them yourself, furnish them with a book; there are many such published at such a price as will be repaid many times within a year, besides leaving a lasting investment of good effects for a lifetime.

### CHEESE FAIR.

We learn from a circular sent us by the Secretary that the Canadian Dairymen's Association will hold a Cheese Fair at Ingersoll, in connection with the Exhibition of the South Riding of Oxford Agricultural Society, on Sept. 21, 22, when fourteen prizes varying in amount from \$100 to \$5 will be competed for, the cheeses exhibited to be of ordinary factory make, in lots of best six, over 50 pounds each. A meeting for the discussion of dairy matters will be held in the Town Hall on the evening of the 21st. Further particulars may be had by addressing R. A. Janes Esq., Secretary, Canadian Dairymen's Association, Ingersoll.

### ANNEXATION.

The *Western Rural* of Aug. 12., has the following Editorial paragraph:—

"Canada papers report the feeling in favor of annexation rapidly growing, and that the majority of intelligent people there expect in a few years to be a part of the United States."

We beg to ask our contemporary what "Canada papers" give any such report, and challenge it to name any respectable journal from end to end of the Dominion that either chronicles or advocates the State of things pictured in the above fancy sketch. The *Western Rural* resembles a certain Irish Member of Parliament who boasted that he trusted to his memory for wit, and to his imagination for facts. This is one way of manufacturing public sentiment in quarters where annexation is regarded as "manifest destiny," and where less artifice and more truthfulness are desirable. The same number of the *Rural* states that a pamphlet entitled "*The Fall of England*," has been published in New York, and "is eagerly sought after." No doubt.

"Scissors" of the *Guelph Mercury* dryly relates his woes in mournful cadence, after the manner of Dryden: "Dry is the weather, dry the clothes upon the line; dry is the pool where erst while slept the swine; dry is the meadow, throat and hill, but our exchanges!—they are drier still."