

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

Mr. Robert Robson of London Township, appears to take more interest in Agricultural Education than any other person in this County. He has brought his views before Dr. Ryerson, but to no purpose. He has at his own expense procured some useful pamphlets on Agricultural Chemistry, such as he would wish to be introduced to our schools. He has left one for our perusal. It is replete with useful and important matter, such as should be known. If we had ten such men in this County as Mr. R. Robson, it would be a great blessing to it. He is a plain, aged farmer, and his politics are solely agricultural prosperity.

IMPLEMENT AGENCY.

Established in connection with our seed department, is a ware-room for the display of agricultural implements. There is always a space for any article that bids fair to forward the labors of the husbandman. Our connection rapidly increasing with leading manufacturers, farmers in many instances will find it to their interest to order through us. Were we not to aim to supply our patrons with the most improved patterns of labor-saving machines, and we wish to give a candid expression on the relative merits of each. We have sold many machines during the past year and received but few expressions of dissatisfaction, and now feel that with our present facilities, we can meet the requirements of those that may patronize us. We advertise at the lowest prices that manufacturers will supply them to individuals, and they will be put on board the cars at the manufacturers nearest station, free of charge. When implements are delivered at the ware-room, the purchaser will have to pay the freight from where they are manufactured. By this means, persons at a distance will have the same advantages as those near the emporium.

FARMER'S PIC-NIC.

The West Middlesex Agl. Society purpose holding a Farmer's Pic-Nic on those beautiful grounds South West of Strathroy, the driving Park, on Dominion day (1st of July) when it is expected the Great Western R. R. Co. will grant an excursion from Sarnia and London, to Strathroy. The Committee of the Society will spare no pains to supply good music, good speeches, hot and cold water, swings, velocipede races, athletic games, balloon ascension, &c, &c.

WEST MIDDLESEX FALL SHOW.

The Directors of the above Society have fixed upon Wednesday, 6th of October, to hold their Fall Show at Strathroy, of which North Middlesex Agricultural Society will please take notice, as those Societies have so

many members identified with both Societies, the Fall shows should be on different days.

MORE PURE BRED STOCK, FOR MIDDLESEX.—

Mr. John Fisher of London Township has purchased from Mr. E. Jones of Thorold, 3 Durham Cows and one Bull Calf.

BETTER TILLAGE.

Farmers in general expect a yield of crops more in proportion to the surface of land occupied than to the depths of the soil whereon they grow. Yet it is obvious that if one should scatter seed over an acre of rock it would perish; if over the rock there was a layer of soil two or three inches in depth, the seed might reproduce itself; add as much more soil and an ordinary yield might result; and again, if this depth should be doubled, and made available to the plant, who doubts that proportionately larger profits would be derived? Suppose this layer of soil contained plant food plentifully, but was of a consistent, impervious nature, so that the tender roots could not penetrate it, and make use of its fertility, it would then require loosening, pulverizing, aerating and in short, thorough cultivation, and according to the depth and thoroughness of that cultivation would be the amount of plant food made available, and consequently the yield of the crop. This is practically the condition of most of our land; it contains plant food enough to double the average yield of crops, if it were only made available to them, but the unworked subsoil is like rock, confining the roots of plants to the comparatively thin arable surface soil. Instead of coveting your neighbor's lands, and putting forth great efforts to secure more surface, is it not more profitable to cultivate deeper than which you already possess, and double its productiveness? With most of our farm crops the amounts of roots determines the quantity of products, and roots will develop abundantly wherever there is room and food for them, but they cannot push their way into stony lumps, nor live in hardpan layers where there is no air.

On many farms underdrainage lies at the foundation of improved culture.—

The stagnant water must pass off or air will not enter the soil, nor the latter remain loose any length of time after being stirred. Then comes a fair depth of surface-plowing, followed by subsoiling to any practicable depth. This way of preparing stubble ground for spring grain is excellent. Before sowing, cultivate deep across the furrows with a long-toothed cultivator. We have seen oat-stubble prepared for wheat by plowing to the depth of twelve inches, harrowing, rolling, then stirring the soil nearly to the bottom of the furrow by a long-toothed wheel cultivator, to which four horses were attached four abreast, and all was finely pulverized. Such a chance for wheat on strong loam or clay land is better than most summer-fallows.

Farmers, look to your possessions down in the ground; there are richer mines than those in the far mountains, and the patient worker thereof wins health, peace and competence.

CALIFORNIA WHEAT.—It is said that there are sixty-six vessels now en route to Great Britain from San Francisco with cargoes averaging one million seven hundred thousand sacks of wheat, besides eight vessels for domestic Atlantic ports with a hundred and sixty-six thousand sacks, and ten vessels to Rio Janeiro with fifty-one thousand barrels of flour. The California wheat and flour now afloat for China and other countries, is valued at four millions of dollars. This is the country that twenty-five years ago was a barren waste, and that twenty years ago, when it first began to be settled by mining adventurers, was regarded as being unfit for agriculture and only valuable for its minerals.

REMEDY FOR THE TURNIP FLY.

As soon as the young plants can be seen, let a light sprinkling of dry wood ashes be sifted over the rows. It will not injure the housewife's sieve that is used to sift Indian meal. Ashes can not be applied satisfactorily with the bare hand. The aim should be to simply cover the minute leaves with fine ashes sufficient to prevent their being devoured by the turnip fly. When ashes are applied by hand without a sieve, which should be held down close to the ground, careless operators are very liable to throw them on so bountifully as to smother the tender plants."

Mr. A. Young, 9th concession, Howick, has lost by disease eleven old sheep and eleven lambs. The disease is spreading. Mr. James Strong's sheep have been attacked, and some of them died. Mr. Addison lost four old ewes and twenty lambs.

TO FANNING MILL MAKERS.—Mr. R. Manning of Exeter offers double the price now paid for the fanning mills in use in his neighborhood, for one that will clean 30 bushels of wheat per hour, and not throw over more than a half bushel of good grain.

Mr. C. W. Crossman of Rochester, will please accept our thanks for the seeds so kindly presented. We will give them a trial, and if we find them as good as reported we will give information about them next season.

An exchange says:—The largest rose-bush in France is at Toulon. It covers a wall 75 feet long by 18 in height, and near the root measures 32 inches round. In the months of April and May it produces 50,000 roses.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

	Page.
Seeds, Adulteration of Seeds, Humbugs, Beet Culture and Beet Sugar in Canada, Cure for Sheep-Chasing Dogs.	84
Great Sale of Short Horns, Hill, or Level Culture, Grasshoppers, Watering Horses, Spring Show, French Farming, Test Seed Corn.	85
FLOWER DEPARTMENT.—Green House and Window Plants, Improvement in the Gladiolus. CORRESPONDENCE.—The Veterinary Department.	88
How to Prune Grape Vines and when to do it, Mineral manures.	89
The Origin of the Potato, Casting the Withers, Sexes of Animals at Will, Fruit Garden.	92
Velocipedes, Mulching Grapevines. Racing for the Improvement of Horses, London Markets.	93
Alterations of Farm Seeds.	90
Answer to Enigma in Last paper, Charade, Anagram, Cross-Word Enigma, A Boy's Evenings, How to make a Clock for Twenty-five Cents, What a Blind Man May do, Notice.	87
Hamburg Barley and Oats, Early Rose Potato, Miscellaneous.	91
A Hint after Cows have Calved, Fire, Agl. Implements.	83
Agricultural Education, Implement Agency, Farmer's Pic-Nic, West Middlesex Fall Show, Better Tillage, Remedy for the Turnip Fly.	85