Board of Works

THE Maritime Farmer.

AGRICULTURE THE MOST HONORABLE AND USEFUL OF ALL OCCUPATIONS.

L. C. MACNUTT, Editor and Manager. FREDERICTON, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1884. VOL: VI., NO. 1

DOUBLE AND SINGLE BARREL

Breech Loading Guns!

Muzzle Loading Guns,
Paper and Brass Shells, Wads,
Loading Implements, Powder, Shot, &c.

For Sale by T. McAVITY & SONS,

13 King Street, St. John, N. B.

Send for Illustrated Catalogue.

Equity Sale.

THERE will be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION, in Room of the County Court House, in the City of Fredericton, in the County of York, on TUESDAY, the eighteenth day of November next, at the hour of twelve o'clock, noon, pursuant to the provisions of a Decretal order of the Supreme Court in Equity, made on the fifth day of August, A.D. 1884, in a certain suit in the said Court, wherein James Colebrook Carter is Plaintiff, and William J. Berton, Susan Berton, Annette Louisa Berton, Ann S. Berton, Margaret F. Berton, and H. Lawrence Sturdee are Defendants, with the approbation of the undersigned Barrister, the mortgaged lands and premises in the pleadings in the said cause mentioned and described, and in the said decree as follows:—

"All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land, and premises, situate in Block Number One, in part of Lot Number NINE, in the Town Plot of Fredericton, in the County of York, in the Province of New Brunswick, commencing at the southeasterly angle of said Lot Number Nine, in the southwesterly line of Regent Street, thence southerly along Queen Street, twenty-three feet eleven inches, to a lot of land sold to John Neill, thence southwestely one hundred and twenty feet, thence northwesterly twenty-three feet eleven inches to said Lot Number Eleven, and thence northeasterly one hundred and twenty feet along said Lot Number Eleven to the place of beginning, being the same lot or parcel of land, mortgaged by one James Moore from one John G. Lawrence and Esther, his wife, by indenture, bearing date the fourteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and subsequently conveyed by the said James Moore to the said William J. Berton and Samuel D. Berton as tenants in common," together with all and singular the buildings and improvements thereon, and the rights, members, privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging.

Dated the 12th day of August, A. D. 1884.

JOHN BLACK,
Barrister.

For terms and particulars apply to W. P. ROBERTS, Plaintiff's Solicitor, Fredericton, N. B.

FOR SALE.

THAT place known as the "Sixteen Farm." Situated 3 miles from Upper Woodstock, on the Jacksontown Road, and adjoining land occupied by Mr. Hamilton Emery.

There are one hundred acres, thirty of which are under fair cultivation, and good buildings which need but little repairs. The place is situated within a mile (more or less) of 4 churches, several stores, blacksmith shop and good schools etc.

The place will be sold on easy terms and at a low price, for approved payments.

Any information can be obtained from Mr. John Camber, on the Farm, Mr. H. Emery, Jacksonville, or from the subscriber at Fredericton.

J. C. RISTEEN.

NOTE.—If the above Farm is not sold, it will be let to a good responsible party at reasonable rent, from three to five years if required, either with or without the stock now on the place. Possession given this Fall.

J. C. R.

Fredericton, Oct. 17.—tf.

Farm for Sale.

MRS. MARGARET SMITH offers for sale her very valuable property in the Parish of Douglas, York Co. This farm is situated eight miles above Fredericton, and contains eight hundred acres of land, about one hundred of which is cleared and under a state of high cultivation, cutting annually between forty and fifty tons of hay of a superior quality, besides tillage and pasture land. The forest is well wooded with valuable lumber of every description and cedar in abundance. The water privileges are good. There are on the farm a house, three good barns, and two orchards. The New Brunswick Railway runs across the property between the house and highway with station within convenient distance. The location of this property commands a view of Islands and beautiful country around not surpassed in New Brunswick. It has a frontage on the River St. John of one hundred and ten rods yielding a shore rent of fifty five dollars annually.

The churches of the different denominations and school houses in this Parish are numerous, and within reasonable distance of the property.

The property will be sold with or without the stock and farming utensils

The price reasonable and terms of payment to suit purchaser

—For further particulars apply to me by letter or at my office.

T. CLOWES BROWN,
Box 20, Fredericton.

March 26, 88 4

VALUABLE PROPERTIES

Near Fredericton,

FOR SALE!

A PORTION of the "Homestead" belonging to the Estate of the late H. RAYMOND RAINSFORD, fronting on the Old Kingsclear Road, and about two miles from Fredericton, containing five hundred and fifty acres, one hundred and fifty of which are under good cultivation and well fenced and watered.

Forty acres on the Rainsford Lane, so called, leading from the Old Kingsclear to the Saint Andrew's Road, on which there is a new house and a small barn. The lot is about three miles from Fredericton.

Also ninety acres on said Lane in lots to suit purchasers.

One hundred and ninety acres on the Saint Andrew's road about three and a half miles from the city, eighteen acres of which is in grass and well fenced, and about twenty five acres ready for a spring crop, the land is very good and free from stone.

Also a number of other valuable lots near the city.

Terms Easy.

For further particulars apply to R. W. RAINSFORD, on the homestead, or to

H. B. RAINSFORD,
Barrister, Fredericton.

March 26, 1884

VALUABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE.

THAT valuable property in Kingsclear known as "Woodlands," fronting on the River St. John, and situate one and one-half miles from the City of Fredericton (proper.)

This property is well fenced and watered, and contains about forty acres, thirty of which are under cultivation, and the remainder heavily wooded. The buildings comprise a House, 45x32 feet, containing four sitting rooms and nine bed rooms, five of the rooms are furnished with register grates, besides kitchen and scullery, 23x20, pantries, etc. There is a frost proof cellar under one-half the house. Lodge, containing four rooms with small barn attached. Two barns 50x20, studded and clapboarded, stone root-house, 32x20, piggery with feed boiler and flue, shed containing woodshed, coalhouse hen house, ice house and workshop. All the buildings are framed, and on stone foundations. There are two orchards in bearing, gardens, etc. The grounds in general being well laid out and planted, with ornamental trees, making a most desirable property for a gentleman's residence.

For further particulars apply to HENRY B. RAINSFORD, Solicitor, Fredericton, H. L. STURDEE, Solicitor, St. John, or to the subscriber on the premises.

CHARLES C. TABOR,
Woodlands.

February 9, 1882

OPIUM Morphine Habit Cured in 10 to 20 Days. No Pay until Cured. J. L. STEPHENS, M. D., Lebanon, Ohio.

CARRIAGE and SLEIGH FACTORY!

King St., - - Fredericton, N. B.

R. COLWELL, Proprietor.

CARRIAGES, WAGGONS SLEIGHS and PUNGS

Built to order in the latest and most durable styles.

MATERIAL and WORKMANSHIP of the BEST

PARTICULAR ATTENTION GIVEN TO

Painting, Trimming and Repairing Carriages, etc.

ON HAND:

FOR FALL AND WINTER TRADE

A LARGE LOT OF

CARRIES,
PIANO BOX,
TOP PHÆTONS,
WAGON CONCORDS,
GENERAL GRANDS

AND A LARGE LOT OF

SLEIGHS AND PUNGS

TO BE SOLD CHEAP.

Terms to give satisfaction.

YOU CAN BUY BOOTS AND SHOES,

Clothing, Hats, Caps, &c.,

CHEAPER!

AT

McALPINE'S,

Than any other House in the city.

BOYS and CHILDRENS

LINEN AND TWEED SUITS!

A specialty, at prices ranging from

$1.00 to $6.00 per suit.

J. B. McALPINE,

NEXT ABOVE C. H. THOMAS & CO.,

Queen Street, Fredericton.

June 18, 1884.

PRACTICAL PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING!

ESTABLISHMENT.

THIS establishment now having two thoroughly PRACTICAL PLUMBERS and GAS FITTERS in their employ are prepared to attend to all work entrusted to them in a thorough workmanlike manner.

Parties desiring to have their houses fitted with all the modern improvements in the above business would do well to apply to us for estimates before going elsewhere.

A variety of GLOBES and PATENT GAS BURNERS for sale cheap.

GAS STOVES and HOT WATER FURNACES always in stock.

Orders for Tin Roofing promptly attended to. Tinsmiths Work of every discription and of the best material manufactured to order the premises at shortest notice.

Prices to suit the times.

J. & J. O'BRIEN,
Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B

Feed. Feed.

ALWAYS ON HAND:

BUCKWHEAT KENELL, SHORTS, BRAN and OATS,

ALSO,

Extra No. 1 Green Head Lime

fresh from the kiln. Also

Calcined Plaster.

For Sale low at

W. E. MILLER & CO'S.

Feed and Seed House, opposite People's Bank, Queen St.

Fredericton, July 16

Builders' Hardware!

A COMPLETE stock of Builders' Hardware, including Paints and Oils, for sale at the LOWEST MARKET RATES, by

JAS. S. NEILL.

July 9

GEO. HATT & SONS.

JUST RECEIVED. 1 case Bird Food, Canned Apricots, Peas, Pigs Feet; 5 barrels Cider Vinegar; 1 sack Almonds; 1 sack Filberts; 1 cask Golden Syrup; 1 bbl. Boston Sugar Cured Hams; 10 doz. Boston Parlour Brooms.

GEO. HATT & SONS.

July 2

ALSO CURES

Sciatica, Neuralgia, Headache, Earache, Cramps, Toothache, Bruises, Sprains, Coughs, Colds, Quinsy, Erysipelas, Colic, Croup, or Rattles, Hoarseness, Burns, Bronchitis, Numbness of the Limbs, removing Dandruff and producing the growth of the Hair, and as a Hair dressing is unequalled.

$500.00 REWARD

offered for a better article, or the Proprietors of any remedy showing more Testimonials of genuine cures of the above diseases in the same length of time. There is nothing like it when taken internally for Cramps, Colic, Croup, Colds Coughs, Pleurisy, Hoarseness and Sore Throat. It is perfectly harmless, and can be given according to directions without any injury whatever.

Minard's Liniment is For Sale by all Druggists and Dealers. Price 25 Cents.

SUMMER BARGAINS.

Men's Tweed Suits,	$6.00 to	$12.00
Youths' Tweed Suits,	4.00 "	7.00
Boys' Tweed Suits,	2.00 "	4.00
Men's Worsted Suits,	9.00 "	11.25
Youths Worsted Suits,	6.00 "	8.50
Boys' Worsted Suits,	4.00 "	6.00

Coats, Pants, Vests, Reefers, Jackets, etc., very low. Cloths all sponged, and warranted equal to best Custom Made Clothing. Please call and examine.

HATS and CAPS,

Fur, Felt and Straw Hats in great variety, at greatly reduced prices.

HOSIERY AND GLOVES.

Josephine Kid Gloves, black and colored, every pair warranted. Silk, Lisle and Cotton Gloves, all colors, Stockings all sizes and colors, very cheap, Men's Socks in Cotton, Merino and Wool, Men's Underclothing at reduced prices, Collars, Scarfs, Ties, Handkerchiefs, Braces, etc.

Ladies' Corsets, Hoop Skirts, and Bustles. Best value ever offered.

The above, with a large stock of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, will be sold at prices sure to satisfy the closest buyer. All goods marked in plain figures. Terms Cash.

SIMON NEALIS,

Corner Wilmot's Avenue,

Queen Street, - - Fredericton.

July 30, 1884

JAS. D. FOWLER'S

Is the cheapest place in the city to buy

Gold and Silver Watches

GEM RINGS,
SIGNET RINGS,
SCARF PINS.

Elegant Gold suits of Jewellery, Fine Gold Necklets and Lockets, Rolled Plate Silver and Jet Jewellery.

The finest stock in the city of

SILVERWARE

All new patterns, in

Tea Setts, Pickle Jars, Cake Baskets, Card Receivers, Jewel Cases, Toilet Stands, etc.

Call and examine before purchasing elsewhere

JAS. D. FOWLER,

Successor to John Babbitt,

Opp. New Post Office, Queen Street.

Fredericton, Dec 12

FRANCIS DOHERTY

HAS NOW IN STOCK THE

Finest Assortment

—OF—

HATS and CAPS

ever seen in the City.

CALL AND EXAMINE

Prices to suit the times.

Fredericton, April 30 1884

OIL STOVES

Cheaper than Usual, by

JAS. S. NEILL.

July 9

Advertising Cheats!!!

"It has become so common to begin an article, in an elegant, interesting style.

"Then run it into some advertisement that we avoid all such,

"And simply call attention to the merits of Hop Bitters in as plain, honest terms as possible,

"To induce people

"To give them *one trial*, which so proves their value that they will never use anything else."

"THE REMEDY so favorably noticed in all the papers."

Religious and secular, is

"Having a large sale, and is supplanting all other medicines.

"There is no doubting the virtue of the Hop plant, and the proprietors of Hop Bitters have shown great shrewdness and ability * * *

"In compounding a medicine whose virtues are so palpable to every one's observation."

Did She Die.?

"No!

"She lingered and suffered along, pining away all the time for years."

"The doctors doing her no good;"

"And at last was cured by this Hop Bitters the papers say so much about."

"Indeed! Indeed!"

"How thankful we should be for that medicine.'

A Daughter's Misery.

"Eleven years our daughter suffered on a bed of misery.

"From a complication of kidney, liver, rheumatic trouble and Nervous debility,

"Under the care of the best physicians,

"Who gave her disease various names,

"But no relief,

"And now she is restored to us in good health by as simple a remedy as Hop Bitters, that we had shunned for years before useing it."—THE PARENTS.

Father is Getting Well.

"My daughters say:

"How much better father is since he used Hop Bitters.'

"He is getting well after his long suffering from a disease declared incurable."

"And we are so glad that he used your Bitters.'—A LADY of Utica, N. Y.

None genuine without a bunch of green Hops on the white label. Shun all the vile, poisonous stuff with "Hop" or "Hops" in their name.

Agriculture.

Adaptation of Sheep to a New Country.

BY PROF. BROWN OF THE GUELPH AG. COLLEGE.

(*Continued.*)

Here I wish to make several assertions, that to some may seem overdrawn, if not largely untrue. There is no country in the world that is capable either of establishing or maintaining so perfectly, different breeds of cattle and sheep as Britain. All the wealth, intelligence and enterprise that have been displayed in the upbuilding and maintenence of her herds and flocks, have not been more than, if equal to the same things in other countries. There is no prominent breed of either cattle or sheep, according to modern standards, the history of which is not practically on this side of 1780, and this is not much more than the same thing in the United States of America. Why is it that more of the cattle and sheep of Britain can be maintained in all their original virtue in any other land, or why is it absolutely necessary to obtain systematic importation of new blood from Britain in order to uphold this virtue? Wealth overflows, intelligence on the average is superior, and enterprise and experience are great fields, yet Englishmen in a foreign land cannot do what Englishmen at home have done and can do. It is simply because physical conditions are unpropitious for such maintenance. I know of no examples on this continent where a herd or flock is not indebted to an infusion of new blood during the last decade. It is not a thing of choice, of fancy, or of fashion on the part of the American and Canadian breeders; it is a pure matter of necessity or order to uphold *character*. Not even so, but I hold it is a simple impossibility in the present physical condition of this immense land to *make* a breed of cattle or sheep that will be equal in all essentials to what Bakewell, Collings, Bates, Booth, Ellman and others have handed down to us. I cannot allow anyone to point to the Merino sheep as evidence of permanent adaptability here or elsewhere, because they are not what we want in these times of high pressure and no waste. Wool value is but one thing and one thing is not enough. I have no desire to underate the capabilities of the American continent; it is not foreign to my subject, and at this stage of it, to say that as there is no land with so many physical varieties, so there is none where health of live stock can be so easily regulated, and where so little troubles in order to require regulation. Practically, sheep diseases are comparatively unknown, particularly north of 40°, a circumstance following naturally the special physical conditions. It is a humbling reflection upon man's work in this regard that his science and practice in the adaptation of the best animal and plant life to the physical conditions of either an old or a new country, are sure to be accompanied by what are called "drawbacks," what are, of course, the natural concomitants of propitious conditions of one life for those of other lives. I know of nothing to man the almost unlimited first-class production of beef, mutton and wool in the western hemisphere, but I do see some things in the way of maintaining *blood and character*. Thus, then, my subject opens up a great field of enquiry Irrespective of artifical food and man's modification of the laws of nature, the adaptability of certain grounds and their associations to a particular development of carcas and wool, are, of course, the great starting point in sheep husbandry. The nature of the soil, drainage, rainfall, vegetation, attitude and temperature regulate the breeds.

It is no matter of contention, therefore, that in order to secure the best possible results in the production of wool and mutton on the American continent, it is absolutely necessary to place the respective breeds among physical conditions as alike as possible to those that had the making of them. Exact agreement is likely impossible, but under the immense range of *altitude soils, temperature, rainfalls and vegetation* that we possess, no other section of the world could do more than we can, as there is every possible combination of these on both sides of the equator. A physical map of the United States and Canada, showing every feature of the country as applicable to our subject, would be of great national value, and which, being colored according to the known habits of the leading breeds of sheep, would guide the outside flock-master as well as the resident.

As a general rule the granite rocks claim the alpine pastures, the limestone and its associates the uplands, and the sandstone the lowlands. If we take these as representations, and make allowance for geographical peculiarities of districts, we have set down pretty correctly, distinct base for the sheep grounds of Britain. Each of them is distinguished by striking physical characteristics besides that of soils. Their very outlines, for example, at once indicate each, and of course their main features as to temperature, rainfall and herbage—all being more or less regulated by altitude.

While convinced of the general adaptability of Britain for sheep stock in its natural state, we are aware that much, both of the suitability of the sheep's constitution, and even the applicability of the several grazings to them, have been brought about by improvements. There has been an agreement of these points in this state of things—the natural disposition of sheep previous to man's modern breeding of them, and his keeping this up to the time in conformity with the altered circumstances of the country and cultivation, and the various zones, have all blended to make the present stock of Britain.

Now I have said that these physical conditions are the great starting point in sheep farming, and thus it is not too much to say that management depends entirely on *breed and the character of the ground*, yet it is too much to affirm that any examination of a new country, however minute, will enable anyone to decide as to the number and class of sheep which any particular run will best maintain. The party long in possession of a sheep ranche knows by an accumulation of circumstances—ordinarily called experience, so far how to economise the various conditions of his subject. In the majority of cases he has acquired the knowledge by practical facts brought home to him—things which he could not overlook, because they appealed directly to his purse, for and against. These are just other names for scientific deductions which the purely practical man has had to purchase by a long experience. The best judge of sheep and their belongings may not be the most successful grazin; the purely practical man cannot be so well prepared for emergencies, and able to take such an impartial and safe view of matters as he who combines with practical knowledge a judicious use of the deductions of science.

In arranging, therefore, for the growing of wool and mutton on a large scale on the American continent, it is obvious we have only to consider the two things—breeds and physical conditions—the market, of course, being a point of no doubt.

In the choice of locality, then we are first of all guided by grographical position as indicated by latitude and longitude, because these materially affect temperature, rainfall and vegetation. Indeed, there are parts, such as California, British Columbia and Nova Scotia, where inside of a range of fifty miles from the seaboard we have a complete copy of these physical conditions, yet in other cases one thousand miles do not limit the range of the diagram.

Altitude regulates temperature, rainfall and pasture; and pasture is also of course affected by the nature of the soil, which, in turn, varies according to geographical formations either near or at a higher elevation. Over this great range of physical conditions there are annual, millions of dollars in wool and mutton still untouched, and suitable for all types of sheep of acknowledged merit.

Lovers of Leicester and Lincoln will find everything to suit the well known habits of the heaviest sheep of the world upon the low rich lands between the sea and five hundred feet inland, where much food can always be had within small space and easy conditions, even much moisture is not objectionable so long as the bed is dry.

A lady whose leg was bent at the knee and stiff for six years, by the use of three dozen bottles of "Minard's Liniment" can walk as well as ever. In cases of longing standing perseverance and quantity is required a single bottle will seldom cure in obstinate cases.

Cost of Meat and Milk.

Dr J. B. Lawes has been figuring upon the comparative cost of making meat and milk, particularly the draft each makes upon the soil of a pasture, and gives the results of his calculations in the English *Chambers of Agriculture Journal* as follows:—

I have a dairy of about 30 cows. For the last two months each cow has consumed daily a little over 100 lbs. of food, consisting of cake, bran, hay, and straw-chaff, and mangels. The dry weight of this food is 28 lbs., while the average daily product of milk is a little over 28 lbs.; but if we call it 28 lbs, it will very much facilitate our calculation, as we shall thus have 1 lb, of dry food producing 1 lb. of milk.

Milk contains about 13 per cent of dry substance, 1000 lbs. of dry food will therefore produce 130 lbs. of dry milk. If I had fed oxen with the same food, I should have expected about 85 lbs. of increase in light weight, containing 63 lbs. of dry matter. The 130 lbs. of dry milk will contain about 7 lbs. of nitrogen; the 63 lbs. of dry animal will contain hardly 1 per cent. The 1000 lbs. of dry food will contain about 20 lbs. of nitrogen, therefore the milk will abstract 7 lbs., or about 35 per cent, while the meat will take only 5 per cent.

In dealing with these figures it appears to be the fairest way to show the loss of manure generally upon the whole of the food equally. If I were merely estimating the meat or milk produced by the foods, such a proceeding would be evidently unfair; or if I were estimating the separate manure value of the different foods, a different course would have to be pursued; but here we have to deal with a certain number of ingredients contained in a mixed diet—part home-grown, part purchased—and it is required to know what amount of these ingredients is abstracted by a dairy cow as compared with the amount abstracted by a fattening ox.

If we assume the manure value of one ton of linseed cake to be 60s. before feeding, it would be worth 56s. if fed by oxen as against 38s. if fed by dairy cows; these figures representing the value of ingredients removed in the milk and meat, though making no allowance for the waste or loss of manure.

If, instead of changing the loss of the manure upon the whole of the food consumed, we charge it upon the cake alone, it will require all the nitrogen in 4 lbs. of cake to furnish the quantity contained in two gallons of milk. Under these circumstances, a cow receiving a quarter of a cwt. of linseed cake per week, and yielding 14 gallons of milk, would reduce the manure value of a ton of linseed cake to a very few shillings. It is quite evident, therefore, that the popular idea of dairy farming taking much more out of the land than grazing, is fully borne out by the figures given, and unless the loss is compensated by imports in the form of foods or manures, pasture land will soon deteriorate.

Let us Stop Grumbling and Farm Better.

For those of us who do not propose to leave home is it not time to stop this constant complaining about the poverty of our soil, and the unprofitableness of agriculture? If our soils are poor from previous management, why not go to work and make them better? If our present methods of farming are not as profitable as we could wish, then let us learn how to improve our methods, or adopt others that will bring us more satisfactory returns. That farming here in New England is profitable, no one can deny, when he looks around among the successful farmers that may be found in every township. But our successful farmers will be found to be intelligent men every time, and just so fast, and just so far as intelligence is brought to the cultivation of our soils, just so fast, and so far will their cultivation be found profitable. But he is a mistaken man who supposes that the time is not past, when farms can be carried on here now as they were carried on a hundred years ago. It is the sticking to old customs beyond their day of usefulness, that keeps so many of us from attaining better results from our efforts. We need to cultivate our land a great deal better, though it requires us to cultivate fewer acres. Our most successful farmers at the present time are those who endeavor to make each acre do all that it is capable of doing. We could point to a farmer in Massachusetts who has two large farms on his hands, but who has found out that he can make more money from a half dozen acres well cultivated and devoted to a special crop, than he can make from the whole of both farms managed in the ordinary methods prevailing in the vicinity. His specialty is the cranberry, to the growth of which he has found a portion of his farm is particularly well adapted. Others are turning portions of their farms into market gardens, and are putting as much manure or fertilizer on to a single acre annually as they formerly applied to five or ten acres, and they are making money by it too. One of our young farmers last year expended a large sum in digging wells and erecting windmills and steam pumping apparatus for ensuring his crops against injury from drought, and he claims that the money expended was fully returned by saving his crops the first year, so that the investment really cost him notthing. But he did not do all this blindly. He had learned his business so thoroughly that he knew the outlay must pay him every dry year. We complain to much and two little.

A famous veterinary surgeon was summoned by telegram to Scotland a few days ago by a well known lady to meet the local adviser in consultation on the case of her favorite pug. He had to travel nearly 500 miles to reach his destination.

Make the Most of Life.

While nature teaches us to be provident and frugal, she also teaches us that the highest pleasure of living comes from continued activity. This popular idea of quickly accumulating a large property and then sitting down to enjoy it, is one of the most foolish ideas, as it is one of the most unnatural methods of living. Idleness never was and never can be conducive to the highest degree of happiness, for to be idle is unnatural to any living being. The farmer's idea of a competency too often has been to make enough at farming so that he can sell out and go to the village or city to end his days in a sort of independent state of leisure, while on the other hand the ideal of the city merchant is to make enough in trade so that he can retire on to a farm, and spend his declining years in making and seeing things grow. Both often fail of getting what they aim for, but we are inclined to believe that the city man more often succeeds in his new position than the farmer in his, for the aim of the former is the more reasonable of the two. Now the great mistake the farmer has been making, is in putting off too much of his enjoyment to some distant day when his work shall be ended.

A much better way for the farmer to live, is to endeavor to get all the good possible from each day as it passes, for our to-days are the only days that any of us can be sure of. Our severest criticism on that class of farmers often styled "Well to do farmers" is, that in their eagerness to increase the sum of their possessions they too often overlook some of the prime objects in living. They plant more corn that they may sell more hogs, to get more money, to buy more land, to raise more corn, to feed to more hogs, and so on. A great many too, put their surplus gains into the village savings banks, when it should be expended for home comforts, fruit trees and shrubs, better carriages, better furniture, greater conveniences for the kitchen, running water at the sink and at the stables, ice in an ice-house, more stoves in the chambers for the comfort of children, guests and hired help more books and magazines of a refining and elevating tendency, and a hundred other things that wives and children have so many times rightfully asked for, but without getting. Farmers who hurry off with every spare dollar to the savings bank, should remember that their dollars are largely loaned out to parties who use those dollars for building up the cities and large towns, thus giving these increased power over the country from which that wealth has been drawn, or, it is sent directly West to aid the pioneer farmers and railroad builders in increasing that competition of which many of us now so bitterly complain. Let the well-to-do farmer then, he who has a little surplus to invest from his annual savings consider well whether he had better intrust it to strangers to be used in building up cities and improving distant lands, or whether he had not better invest it in his own farm home or in some way in his own neighborhood, for making better roads, building better schoolhouses and lecture halls, establishing libraries, lyceums, magazine clubs, and rural improvement associations, and thus make the difference between city and country life less unfavorable to the latter.

Put in the Horse's Place.

"It is worry and not work that kills." Let every owner of a horse think, when he brings his team to the stable at night, how much vital force has been expended in work and how much in worry, and then strike a balance. And let him consider himself to be put in the horse's place, so that he may better know how it is himself. As thus:

A man goes out to work in the morning after having all night fought flies of the most pestilent kind, breathed hot, foul air, reeked in the sweat and dust of the previous day's work, eaten a breakfast in haste, without any sufficient cleansing of his skin, and with boots ill-fitting and galling the tenderest spots upon his person.

He is then, from the filthiness of his body, exposed all day to the venomous attacks of flies, which he fights with hands and feet, but which, from the exigencies of his work, he can only drive off for the slightest moment, after which a cloud of them settle upon his face and exposed parts and sting him severely.

He works on from hour to hour in the broiling sun without water to moisten his mouth or to quench his raging thirst until midday, when he rushes home, swallows a drink of dirty water and hastily eats a dinner in the foulest-smelling and worst ventilated part of his premises.

The afternoon is like the forenoon, and after this has been occupied in the same way, the man, all foul with gathering dust and sweat, eats his evening meal as he dined, and lies down to rest (?), if he can, on a filthy floor, in an apartment that is hot, close, and swarming with flies, which he vainly fights as he catches an odd wink or so of sleep.

And so, *de novo*, from day to day, he fights it out on this line all summer. Then how much of the resulting wear and tear is due to the worry and how little of it to the work?

Something like this is the weary condition of the average farm horse. No note is taken of the cruel lashing, the injudicious feeding and watering, the torment of check-reins, the hindrances of blinders, the bad treatment of the feet by the blacksmith, and other mistakes while produce actual disease, nor of the truly horrible nostrums and poisonous stuff which are made use of as "remedies" for these complaints.

Thinking of all these things, who can wonder that the average farm horse, whose useful life is naturally twenty-five or thirty years, gets into a hole in a corner of the farm and is consumed by prowling dogs in less than one-half his allotted term of life?

Sheep Improvement by Selection.

To improve a flock of sheep up to a certain standard where wool and mutton are the primary objects, it is not necessary to pay high prices for breeding ewes. Ordinary healthy ewes that have thin light fleeces, bred to a well developed oily heavy-shearing Merino ram, will make an astonishing increasing in weight and quality of fleece, and also in the carcass of the sheep, and by a few crosses in this direction and selection of rams, a desirable flock can be produced that will yield heavy fleeces of long wool that will bring the highest figures in the market. Such flocks, where wool and mutton are the primary object (and not for breeding purposes) are as profitable for the average farmer as full-blood Merinos.

It may be safely said that a well-bred ram is more than half the flock, and if vigorous and well developed, impresses his likeness on the offspring with more force than the ewe that is of a lower grade. Many flockmasters make a small income on wool when they might have made a much larger one had they been more particular and liberal in purchasing good rams. The difference in the use of good or poor rams makes wool growing either a losing or a profitable business; for it takes more to keep a sheep that shears seven pounds of wool than one that shears only four pounds, and if it barely pays to grow the four-pound fleece, you have the three-pound clear profit on the seven-pound fleece.

The selection of rams for different flocks and grades of sheep requires more judgement than many are aware of. Many a farmer who raises a few sheep pays no attention to the selection of rams, and would use a scalawag, if he could get him for $3 or $4, that would not increase the weight of fleece one ounce, rather than pay $10 or $15 for one that would increase it two pounds. It is an easy thing to let sheep run down, but a difficult think to keep them up to a certain standard, or to improve on that; but there is no other stock on the farm which can be improved more than sheep, by judicious selection.

Rams should be selected with reference to the ewes. Short-wooled ewes, with heavy oily fleeces, should be bred to long-wooled rams with drier fleece, and vice versa; and the long legs of either sex should let down in the same way; but the flockmaster should always bear in mind that the greater improvement at the least expense is made in the choice of good rams. High feeding and forced growth in rams has a tendency to barrenness and sterility. Such pampered rams as are sold sometimes for large prices are in many instances a disappointment, because not so strong and robust as others from rams of slower growth and with more bone and muscle.

Butter Tests.

A writer in the *Country Gentleman* makes a sensible suggestion in regard to testing cows for the amount of butter they will yield. He says that what faamers want is a cow that will give a large yield, not on extra feeding and stuffing, but simply on a grass diet, the natural food of cows in the summer time.

The general farmer had come to this conclusion, that all the improvement there is in the dairy cow is in the extra feeding, and they have got it from such tests, as reported, and that is not what they want. They want a cow to produce from pasture, and if they cannot see any improvement on the native cow of twenty years ago, from the same care and feed, then they will give the breeder no encouragement, and at the same time will laugh at him and tell him they want none of his stall-fed animals. Not until it can be shown that there are cows which will produce more butter of better quality, on grass alone, will the general farmer believe there is any improvement by investing in such cows.

If the breeders or owners of those large record cows which have tested such large amounts, will put their cows right down to what they get in pasture, with plenty of good water, then they will get at the right starting point or proper foundation for a dairy cow. This extra feeding of the cows for a test does not meet with favor any longer, and we, as the general farmers of this country, want to know what the dairy cow is, as she is, and not as a stall-fed animal.

The potato rot has appeared in some sections of Massachusetts and is causing serious damage. Some fields are already nearly destroyed. The long continued rain and fog with extreme heat coming just at the present time of full growth, and before the stalks had ripened off, were just the conditions favorable to the introduction of the malady. So far as we can learn at this date no rot has appeared in this State As a precaution, potatoes should be dug as soon as ripe, be well dried, and stored in a cool cellar in not very deep piles. Close the cellar from the heat of the day and give frequent examination. The conditions here have been so favorable for the introduction of the rot, that it will be a good fortune if it does not appear.—*Maine Farmer.*

A writer in a well-known agricultural paper recommends the feeding of peas to hogs; says they are superior to corn, because they supply all the wants of the system, and make a firmer, more healthful flesh. He says that a crop of forty to sixty bushels per acre may be raised.

Forests at the surface of the earth do not bring rain down from the clouds any more than do meadows and cornfields; but they hold longer the water which falls, keep it for more regular discharge, and prevent it from drying up as in open fields,

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