

made those large? The same custom that made them strong can make the weak ones strong.

It is perfectly right for a man of limited means to use all his energies to buy to the best advantage, and sell to the best advantage also; but wrong in the eyes of some for ten, twenty or thirty to unite to do the same thing.

Farmers at the present time deal just where they can, or think they can, do best. We now expect to have one another's experience, and be able to compare notes.

We, as Patrons of Husbandry, are by no means at enmity with any branch of business. It is a free country this, and those who have by united action been benefited will be slow to return to their old habit of remaining out in the cold alone.

Yours, &c., A GRANGER.

Mr. J. Shier writes also to us, combatting the objections made against the Grange system. Our having already given so much space to the subject must be our apology for merely referring very briefly to his letter; and those objections are already taken up in order by our Napanee correspondent. Mr. Shier is, we believe, right in his expectations that "by farmers uniting in the Grange, that union so desirable for the promoting and maintaining of farmers' interests will be best secured."

Correspondence.

SIR,—In the FARMER'S ADVOCATE I see an enquiry from a subscriber, desiring to know whether tamarack posts will last well or not. I cut them green 15 or 16 years ago, and put them in the following spring. The fence is still standing. I think such posts, when used green, last longer than dry ones.

West Flamboro, 1875.

SIR,—In sending you the subscriptions of three new subscribers, at their request, I send the names of the office-bearers of the Louth Agricultural Society for the present year:—President, John Renton; 1st Vice-Pres't, F. M. Carpenter; 2nd Vice-Pres't, Jacob V. Spohn; Secretary-Treasurer, Jonathan Davis; Directors—Frank Gubel, Joseph Oliver, Wm. McCauley, Alex. Young, Wm. Brown, Arch. Jarvis, F. S. Jarvis, A. N. Taylor, James Jardine, sen'r; Auditors—Jos. Rymal, M. P.; W. Findlay, jr.

JONATHAN DAVIS.

Mount Albion, Feb'y 5th, 1875.

SIR,—Will you be kind enough to give me some information as to the best wind-break for orchard or field, and the best time to plant them.

THOS. FOSTER.

Humber, Feb'y 6th, 1875.

[We think the common white cedar is, on the whole, the best for Mr. Foster's purpose. It is very hardy, grows readily and rapidly, and is at all seasons a good wind-break. They are easily procured, and at very little expense, as they can be had for the trouble of digging in many parts of the country. We have planted them at different seasons, and have generally been successful. In May and early in June we have transplanted them from the bush, and they grew freely. Last August and September we transplanted some, and they appear very promising. We always mulch them to protect them from the summer and autumn droughts and the frosts of winter. A strong sod lapped over the roots, the green side turned under, we now use for such mulch, and we find it answers very well.—Ed.]

An amateur gardener, of Kings Co., N. S., wishes to know the method we would recommend for preparing scions for grafting cherry trees, and a recipe for grafting wax. The wax we have used is made as follows:—Take rosin, 3 lbs.; tallow, 1 lb.; beeswax, 1 lb. Pulverize the rosin, and dissolve it over a gentle fire; then add the tallow

and finally the beeswax. Stir well and pour it into cold water, and work it so as to take the water out of it. When using it, it is well to grease your hands.

The scions for grafting we cut in February or early in March, and store them in a box placed in the cellar, till the time for grafting.

SIR,—As a farmer who has followed the business all my life, and as a reader of your valuable monthly, I drop you a line on the agriculture of this country, which, I think may be interesting to some of your readers, as it is seldom that any communications reach you from this quarter.

The winter of '73-'74 was a very severe one on grains and meadows in consequence of the scarcity of snow, and the yield has been very light in this section. Spring grains have succeeded well, and especially barley, of which a large amount is grown.

What we want here is a railway to transport our grain to the St. Lawrence, and also to eastern and western markets. We have a line running from Perth to Smith's Falls, there connecting with the Brockville and Ottawa Railway, but the cost on freight is so high that there is no inducement to visit our market. Barley sells in Perth at 80 cents per bushel, and in Kingston, only 60 miles distant, the price is \$1.10.

I would like to see the Grange system adopted in this county; I am confident that we want something of the kind to help the farmers. If you will, I will try to keep you posted on general matters in this county.

Yours respectfully, T. D.

Perth, Feb'y 17th, 1875.

E. Whitby, Feb. 11th, 1875.

Mr. Editor,—I receive your paper regularly, and am glad to see so noble a work for the benefit of the farmers. Many farmers think they know everything, but they are greatly mistaken.

I sent you three subscribers last year, and we are so well pleased with it that I send you now eight subscribers additional.

Send the ADVOCATES right on to Raglan P. O. Wm. Thompson.

Mr. S. Marshall, King Co., who is as he says one of our first subscribers, has sold his young bull Accident, for a high price to Mr. McCrea of Iowa, who is taking with him four Short-horned bulls and two draught stallions.

J. B. Isherwood Esq., Maple Hall, near Stockport, who has for some years subscribed for numbers of our paper, for his tenants in Cheshire, state that they consider it the best Agricultural paper they have seen, and are always anxious for its arrival.

We cannot give insertion to correspondence of parties who withhold their names from us. We have received a letter from Carlingford, and another from Lobo, and we have no means of knowing who the parties are. While thanking our correspondents for their communications, we must request of them to be brief in all their letters as our space is not without limits.

The value of the ADVOCATE as a medium of correspondents on topics of interest to farmers is more recognized every issue of our paper. From almost every part of the Dominion we have contributions, and even beyond its limits. We insert to-day a communication from a gentleman of Adrian Michigan, U. S. whose name we have had the pleasure to place on our list of regular correspondents. Our paper is now rich in the correspondents of practical men, and will be happy to insert correspondents from others who have not yet written for us. It is only necessary that they be succinct, practical, and to the point.

We need scarcely say that we do not hold ourselves responsible for all the opinions of our correspondents.

The high price of farm hands in this county Lenaure, is agitating the farmers a good deal, and has been a matter of discussion by some of the

clubs. It was the question under consideration at the last meeting of the "Lenaure Club" and the following are some of the leading arguments, for, and against the price paid.

Mr. Edson Walker, was the first speaker, and said his opinion was, that the farmers had paid too much for the quality of help hired. There was not discrimination enough between good and poor laborers. Two men will often claim the same wages, because it had been made a sort of standard price; yet there might be and often was \$10 per month difference in the value of their labor.

There were men to whom he would be willing to pay \$25 per month, while then in many others who would hardly earn their bread. With some of the farmers it was about all they could do to pay their hired helps, and taxes from their seasons farming.

W. J. Jones said it cost a large amount to support the fashions, and style of the day, and our young men and women, who work but for their living, must have high wage so they can keep up with those who have money.

He argued with Mr. Walker that there was not difference enough in the price of skilful and unskilful labourers; and that too much had been paid for the quality of labor received. W. H. Colvin said; he thought if we were all expecting to hire out by the month on the farm; there would be a little different argument by most of the speakers, and the effort of the clubs cuts down the wages of their helps was bearing down a little hard. If any man earned his money, it was a good farm hand, who was called in the morning at 4 o'clock, and put fourth till 9 o'clock, at night and all for \$20 per month. The trouble was not so much the price paid, as it was the management of the farm, that men could not make farming pay.

Mr. J. A. Rodgers, asked why it was that we could hire only *drones* to work on the farm? It was because all active energetic young men, could find other employment that would pay better.

Hired girls in the house, have to work hard all the time and practice close economy, to earn enough to cloth themselves, with no hope of laying up a cent.

Mr. C. W. Jones thought the trouble was, that farmers paid too much the going price, without requiring a certain standard of work to earn a certain price. Laborers should be encouraged to qualify themselves for their business and earn promotion by an effort of success. He would not lessen the wages but improve the helps.

Mr. Martin Bowerman believed also as Mr. Colvin did, and that wages were low enough for good men, but he did not mean these "tramps" that came along. It costs just as much to breed a poor hand as a good one; while one earns his wages, and the other does not earn his bread.

C. W. Holmes said he too thought there was not distinction enough made, between first and second class helps. The president said he had paid last year \$27 per month for one hand, and found him a cheap hand at that. He knew his business, was trusty and faithful, young men should be encouraged by good wages to become efficient workmen. A high standard of labor should be required, and so long as other enterprises offer greater inducements than the farmer, we shall be troubled to get good helps.

Adrian, Mich. Feb. 9th, 1874.

The Apiary.

Wax and the Honey-Comb.

Comb is made of wax, and when new is very white, and pure wax. The wax is a secretion of the body of the bee, and formed only when the bee is richly provided with food, like fat in the higher order of animals, but with this difference, that while the fat grows upon the animals without their knowing it, the production of wax is entirely optional with the bee.

It is fully in the power of the bee to make wax or not to make any. But if they are put into a new hive have without any comb before they can store away any honey, in order to produce wax the worker-bee takes in considerable more pollen and honey, but of which constitute their food, than is necessary to appease hunger. These materials are thoroughly digested and pass into the blood, from which it is secreted of wax, in form of thin white scales, between the segments of the abdomen. As soon as the secretion of wax has commenced, the bees begin at once to use the wax

flakes for the building always the centre of the hive, they will they are usually build

Now, if the ready-made comb only clean out commence filling and brood. By you assist them in a short

It takes about one pound of wax ought to be worth twenty-three cents per more than 2,000 same time but

I save all the bees; if it is worth If it is worth the frames, I the sunshine, bees carry it to reason to believe building.—Colvin

Voices

An acquaintance Bee and her tention to her lieve that I within this h but these rep much as wha

How cold t a perfect co this season. lessness, if warmth, and together. O temperature, outright. If they could e keep one an these few b must be in a another muc heat enough weather of t the more the colder the w those on the ever they m unless they c on the inside below them and as soon they change the cluster, colder it is t animal heat, we must cha share. A combs, gene by the hive, us, provided much milder ture is such we keep in p of course, l low, much o through the tion is evac are in healt tinues. Th sanitary sta the hive; if crement, he and if ther among us, f portion to th me that the than low te is large eno the hive, th treme cold the most tr You who ha