

tried, also Italian rye-grass, and other herbage crops extensively raised for this purpose in Europe. Whether, and to what extent, these and other productions of a similar character would succeed in Canada cannot be satisfactorily determined apart from carefully conducted experiments. Our dairy system requires more to be done in this and other directions before its capabilities and extent can be reliably ascertained. Another system of keeping cattle much practiced by many of the more advanced agriculturists of Europe, but little known on this continent, designated "soiling," is well worth being practically tested in Canada. It is claimed for this mode of management that bringing green food to animals in byres and yards is more economical and effective than allowing them to feed in the fields, that they are more thrifty and comfortable, and their manure is prevented from injury and waste. Under such a system permanent pastures become considerably reduced, and large amounts of forage plants are cultivated. Perhaps it would be found, after thorough trial of this system in different parts of the Province, that a modification of it would best meet our situation and wants.

MR. CHADWICK'S ADDRESS

Mr. Chadwick, the former President of the Association, delivered an interesting address, in which he advocated the necessity of enlarged intelligence among dairymen, as the processes of their manufacture were not merely mechanical, but chemical, and required the nicest skill and adjustment. He explained the composition of milk, the changes which it undergoes on being separated from the cow, and the necessity of a thorough acquaintance with the subject, in order that the dairymen may, to a certain extent, regulate these changes. It was to the interest of the dairymen to increase as much as possible the quantity of milk from a given number of cows, and for this purpose a good breed, with special milking qualities, was required, as well as good food. Cheese making could not be carried on profitably with cows whose yearly yield was only 300 or 400 pounds, when it might be raised to 600 or 700 pounds. Dairymen must cease to fill up their herds annually from the culls of other farmyards, and give their attention to raising their own dairy stock. The Oxford dairy lands now held a foremost position, but to keep it up farmers and factorymen must avail themselves of the wisdom and skill that science and the practical experience of the most enlightened dairymen of the day have brought to bear on the subject. Mr. Chadwick urged the importance of a more thorough education of the farming community, contending that there was no profession or pursuit in which such enlarged knowledge and training were more needed. Agriculture is a growth like the plant it cultivates, and like the mind itself, the more it is developed the more it yields.

FLOORING FOR POULTRY HOUSE.—Bricks or pavement of any kind are the worst of all materials for the floor; they retain moisture whether atmospheric or arising from insufficient drainage; and thus the temperature is kept low where warmth is most essential, and disease too often follows, especially rheumatic attacks of the feet and legs. The flooring of a poultry house should be of dry gravel, and quite loose to the depth of two or three inches—nothing can then adhere to it; and it is not necessary nor right to sweep the floor of a poultry house. A broom may be drawn lightly over the surface, and everything offensive to the smell removed; but if turned with a spade twice or thrice a week, the earth deodorizes the dung and becomes a good fertilizer in the course of a few months, and ought then to be removed.

HOW TO PRODUCE GOOD MILKERS.—It is certainly to be regretted that more care is not taken to improve the milking qualities of our stock. Extra milkers should be kept to breed from, their milk not taken so long or in such quantities as to abort their calves; neither should their progeny be killed at such an early age that it is thrown on the dung-hill, in order that all the milk of the dam may go to the market or cheese factory. It is quite as necessary to raise the calves of good milkers as it is to raise the colts of fine trotters, in order to have fast horses. Extra dairy stock would bring fancy prices in the market if their milking qualities could be vouched for.

Lameness in hogs is caused sometimes by the large pores in the back part of the legs. Wash the lame legs with soap and lukewarm water, using a hard brush and rubbing hard till the pores open, and when they are washed open, the lameness will leave.

Communications.

We do not endorse all that is advanced by our various correspondents; but with a view to sift whatever may prove an advantage to agriculture, we are always happy to insert articles which will awaken an interest in the minds of those engaged in it, and solicit replies from those whose experience may be against the views of any of our correspondents. We want facts, and this is the way to get at them.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Komoka, Feb. 16, 1871.

MR. WELD.—You will find enclosed \$2 for my paper—the *Farmer's Advocate* for this year—believing that you do your best to instruct and advise the farmer for his good, and you have toiled hard and had opposition to wade through, and you say that the *Emporium* is out of debt, which I am glad to hear. But, Sir, there is no way we can show our gladness better than paying a double subscription for the *Advocate*, and I hope many will follow my example, and then it would enable you to do more good; but keep clear of politics. You know that both Conservatives and Reformers are farmers, and read the *Advocate*, and the farmer that dips deep in politics is apt to neglect his farm; so avoid it is my advice.

GEORGE THOMPSON.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Sugar Beet.

Dear Sir,—In reply to yours of the 9th as regards the raising of sugar beet, I might say that to raise a good crop the land should be ploughed in the fall as deep as you can plough it, and then again in the spring. If manured at all, it must be in the fall, if the beets are to be used for sugar, as spring manuring makes them unfit for that purpose. They should be sown early in the spring, the land to be ridged the same as for sweet turnips or carrots, the ridges about eighteen inches apart, and the beets about twelve inches apart in the ridges, so as to keep them clean from weeds, the same as for turnips. Instead of working the earth from the beets, they require to be moulded the same as potatoes, that is, if they are to be used for sugar, as the part of the sugar beet that grows above ground contains too much salt, and therefore cannot be used for that purpose.

In reply to Mr. Joseph Anderson as regards the manufacture of the sugar, it is useless to say much about it, as the business must be practically understood before a man can do anything at it, or with the machinery, which is very expensive. The smallest scale which can be started on is \$10,000. Still, if any one should feel inclined to start a factory in the Dominion, we are willing to aid them in erecting the factory, and will also learn them the process. It will take from three to four months to obtain that efficiency requisite to manage a factory. It would add to the prosperity of the country if one hundred factories were started. As two tons of beets per day each would be necessary to supply the wants of the country, and \$2,000,000 annually would be kept in the country that is now exported for this article, besides giving employment to thousands of poor people who are generally out of employment during the winter months.

I may further state that light soil is the best for the beet, and if any one wants to get the seed, we can supply it.

I remain yours,

MOSES KRAFT.

Bridgwood, Jan. 11, 1871.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Potato Yield.

Dear Sir,—I find the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* an excellent paper both for the garden and farmer. Therefore I have no hesitation in recommending it to all parties engaged in agricultural pursuits and gardening.

Last May, 1870, I purchased one bushel of the Harrison potatoes. I planted, on or about the 27th and 28th of May, three pecks of the same, and received a yield of 23 bushels and 3 pecks. These were planted in the garden, where potatoes have been raised for the last four seasons, on the bank of the creek in

Vienna. They are a fine cooking potato, have a good flavor, and are keeping well.

I also purchased half a peck of Breese's Prolific, planted 13 pounds, and received in return 7 bushels 34 pecks. They cook well, and they are a fine eating potato.

I purchased 4 ounces of the King of the Earlies, and paid an enormous price for them; had only 9 sets when I planted them. They showed a ripening appearance in five weeks. When dug I had 7 lbs. 34 ounces. Some were as large as hen's eggs, and of the same color as the Early Rose. They cook quick, and they are an excellent table potato.

If any parties require seed, I can spare a few bushels of the Harrison. I also raised squash weighing 104 lbs; sweet pumpkin weighing 56 and 70 lbs.

Yours respectfully,

JAMES F. WRIGHT.

Vienna, Jan. 30, 1871.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

How is This For High!

Mr. Weld, Dear Sir,—As many farmers and others are doubtful of the returns that are given from many of your correspondents who give in reports of the great yield of many of the newly imported kinds of seeds, especially of potatoes, and as some of them are also of the opinion that some other mode is adopted for the purpose of making the crops in these cases excel in productiveness, and that such methods are resorted to as are not at all practicable in the usual way of farming; to answer your enquiries, and to expel the doubts of those who may be suspicious of the accounts I gave you of my experience in raising these potatoes (mentioned in my letter, inserted in the November No. of the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE*) I take this opportunity of asserting that the returns referred to were perfectly correct, that the potatoes were raised in the usual way, having only the same treatment as I am in the habit of bestowing on such crops. That all may be convinced that such is the case, I will here state the cultivation bestowed on each, the kind of soil, and production of each sort.

First: a half-bushel of Early Goodrich was planted on sod that had not been ploughed before (in the same field and along-side of my other crop of potatoes), two sets in each hill, harrowed once and afterwards ploughed; produced 51 bushels.

Second: three bushels of Harrisons (planted on new sod, the same as the former), two sets in each hill, cultivated with horse twice, and ploughed. Yield: 200 bushels. Neither of the above were hoed.

Third: three pounds and a half of Early Rose, less one potato (given away), planted in the garden, two sets in a hill, hoed three times, crop: 83 bushels.

Fourth: one pound of Breese's No. 6, or Peerless, one set in a hill, cultivated twice with horse, yield: 54 bushels.

Fifth: one pound of Breese's No. 4, or King of the Earlies, one set in a hill, cultivated twice, crop: two and a half bushels. The two last were not hoed, and were planted in the open field beside my mangold wurtzel, which I was planting the day I received the potatoes. The ground was ridged the same as for turnips. My soil is bright sand.

That the returns made of the Harrison potato are not unusual, I may here mention crops obtained by a few of my neighbors:—

Mr. Wm. Graham from half a bushel raised 47 bushels. Mr. Daly from the same quantity harvested 60 bushels, and Mr. W. Patterson from one bushel dug 60 bushels. I could mention many others who obtained the same results.

The reputation for the earliness and productiveness of the Early Rose has been so fully established during the past two years, that I scarcely need offer any remarks. I may, however, say that I have not heard of any unfavorable report, or a single instance of their having deceived the persons obtaining them, when properly treated. As to its qualities as a table variety, I can endorse all that has been said in its favor, having fully tested it on my own table, and am using them every day. My family is so pleased with them that they will use no other. They find them to boil quickly and very mealy.

Breese's No. 6, or Peerless, is a very large potato, is nearly round in shape, with few eyes, very dry, mealy, well-flavored, of excellent quality, and yields a most abundant crop, is a more prolific sort than the Harrison or even the Early Rose, and I think will be the only potato grown as a field crop, when the agricultural community becomes acquainted with its quality and productiveness.

The Peerless, with the Early Rose, has been awarded Mr. Gregory's \$100-prize for fine quality as a fall, spring and summer potato for table use. Breese's No. 4, or King of the Earlies, is a large potato, rather long and thick, pink or rose in color, unsurpassed in quality, precedes the Early Rose nearly a fortnight in earliness, and I think equal in productiveness. The three last named will be the only potato I shall raise in future. Neither the Peerless or King of the Earlies rot with me. I would advise all who have not as yet obtained seed of these varieties to send to you as soon as possible and secure them, and I am very certain they will not regret it.

Some of your correspondents in the last *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* pronounced the Norway oats a humbug. This is not my experience, and I think if they had the genuine Ramsdell's Norway oats, they would say otherwise. I sowed 32 pounds of them and 40 pounds of the Prince Edward Island oats about the middle of June last, both in the same field, only on opposite sides, the P.E.I. oats on rather the richer ground. Both were beaten flat with heavy rain storms about the time they were coming out in head, so that neither filled as they would otherwise have done. I thrashed from the R.N. oats 25 bushels, and from the P.E.I. oats 10 bushels, which speaks considerably in favor of the R.N. oats.

Yours truly,

ISAAC FREEMAN.

Rodney, Feb. 14, 1871.

For the Farmer's Advocate.

The Dying Child.

Come nearer to my bed, mother,
Why sit you there and weep?
Come sit down by my side, mother,
Before I go to sleep.
I want to talk to you awhile,
(Dear mother do not cry),
Once more I want to see you smile,
I think I'm going to die.

Then sit down by my side, mother,
And list to what I say;
My voice is growing very weak,
But still I want to pray.
Then, mother, kiss me a "good-night,"
And if I wake no more,
You'll know I'm with the angels bright,
Safe on the golden shore.

Soon I must leave you, dearest mother,
No more on earth to meet;
But in the world of endless bliss
We shall each other greet.
The angels now are coming, mother,
I see them in the room!
They're waiting round my bed, mother,
To take me to my home.

My body in the grave may lie
And moulder with the clay;
But far above the starry sky
My soul shall soar away—
Shall join the heavenly hosts above,
With them my voice I'll raise,
And sing of Jesus' dying love
In sweetest songs of praise.

Good-bye, dear mother, I must go,
My Saviour bids me come;
Farewell to all things here below—
I see my heavenly home.
Hark! hear you not the music swell
In rapturous strains so sweet?
Adieu to earth; dear friends, farewell,
Till we in heaven shall meet.

JAMES LAWSON.

Elginburg, Ont.

Horse Distemper.

Wm. Weld, Esq.—In the last August number of your valuable paper I saw a communication headed "Horse Distemper," and in it the experience of your correspondent. Now sir, as you are constantly asking your subscribers for communications, I just give you my experience regarding horse distemper. I take half a spoonful of pine tar, and spread it on a linen cloth. With this I wind my horses' bits, two or three times through the course of the winter. During the last sixteen years I have had from two to five horses constantly on hand, and in that time have not had the distemper among them. Last winter was the worst for the disease that I ever saw. I often fed my horses in the same trough where diseased horses were fed, and watered them with the same pail, when travelling, without injury. My opinion is, if all horses were treated in this way, horse distemper would not be known. South Mountain, Jan. 13, 1871. R.S.

—Why is the sun like a good loaf?—Because it is light when it rises.