

Odd enough, severe frosts May 27th and August 27th ! My tobacco was too ripe to be affected last week, but the tomatoes suffered, and the just formed pickling cucumbers were every one killed, though the plants were not much injured—curious, is it not ?

The *Hungarian grass*, sown June 5th, was cut August 6th ; just two months. The land had borne potatoes the year before, fairly manured, and the grass-seed was sown on one ploughing, cultivated with the Noxon sowing-machine, well harrowed, and the seed covered with an iron roller. Quantity of seed, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a bushel per acre. There were about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons to the acre, which, cut greenish, took some 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ days to make. Immediately after the hay was carried, the land was ploughed, cultivated as before, 12 lbs of white mustard sown to the acre, and covered with the harrows. The mustard is now up ; looks thin but healthy. It will be fed off by sheep, unless the frost takes it, in which case it will be ploughed in.

In making hay of this grass, care should be taken not to carry it too soon, as it is very deceptive, and puts on an appearance of dryness when in reality it is quite prepared to sweat on being taken into the barn.

I observe that the farm-horses here do nothing after potato-planting until hay harvest, except, indeed, a little ploughing at buckwheat sowing. One or two farmers in the immediate neighbourhood of Sorel grow a few turnips and carrots for sale, but I do not think they make much by the trade, as for example, a man took 20 bags of swedes to Montreal and sold them for 35 cents the bag. Deducting his expenses, the freight, and, a thing that is never considered, the *loss of his own two days work*, there cannot have been much profit attached to the deal : Expenses \$1.50 ; freight \$1.00 ; two days work \$2.00, = \$4.50, leaving only 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents a bushel for the swedes. The bag holds 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels. It would have paid the person in question much better to have given the turnips to his poor cows—they, 9 of them, have been in the same six acres of *pacage* for the last two months, and a pretty fright I was in all August, lest, driven by *malesuada fames*, the evil counsellor, hunger, they should break into my root-crops, and do more damage in a night than they are worth. I wish people would learn that six cows well fed would yield more profit than 9 cows starved ; but it seems impossible to cram it into their heads. The cows in question do not average two pounds of butter a head per week ; they will be out shivering in the cold till the middle of November ; what little hay there is will be sold ; all the winter the poor things will only get straw to eat ; the sons of the family are making bricks in the States ; and the farm is actually in the town of Sorel, not four hundred yards from the Church, where no end of dung is to be bought at ten cents a load.

Harvest in England.

The average yield of wheat for the last 30 years has been 29 bushels per acre. This season's crop will, from all accounts, turn out 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre of very heavy wheat, samples already having been sold weighing 65 lbs the bushel, which is 2 lbs over the average, making, if sold by the usual weight of 504 lbs per quarter of 8 bushels, an additional bushel per acre, i. e. 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels. This is a great crop, and the condition of the grain is such that it is fit for immediate grinding. The price is low : from 4s 6d to 4s 8d a bushel, but wheat was at the same price in '52, when I bought my seed for 36s a quarter — I sold the crop from it at 84s ! Fall wheat of course.

COUCH-GRASS.

We are now burning the couch of seven acres. On this soil, all the earth has to be carefully shaken out of the grassy

clods, or else the fires go out after the exterior of the clods is burnt. It is an awful job, and I am only too glad to say that it is the last piece of really foul land on the farm. With a fine autumn, it will be, I think quite clean enough for a root-crop next year, and two drains of 30 to 40 rods each will make the seven acres pretty safe from water.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST.

Montreal, Sept. 9th 1884.

I don't know what is the matter with the usual exhibitors this year. Whether the exhibitions, as Mr McEachran and I prophesied two years ago, come round too frequently, or whether the very peculiar behaviour of the managing committee, as regards the judges of several of the classes, has succeeded in deterring many breeders from exhibiting, it is difficult to say. At all events, this year, there has been very little if any dissatisfaction expressed with the decisions—at least I heard only one complaint, and in this case, the judges were clearly in the right.

Still, the absence of such a number of breeders of the first rank was very striking. No stock was shown by Messrs Cochrane, Drummond, Rodden, Nesbitt, and Irving, and consequently, the stalls were sadly unoccupied. The absence of Mr Cochrane's animals was most unfortunate : his Shropshires alone would have made a vast difference in the appearance of the short woolled sheep class, and the struggle for the Jersey herd prizes would have been much more interesting had the Hillhurst herd been represented. As it was, Mr Reburn of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, carried all before him in the "*Jersey or Alderney*" classes, winning the following prizes :

- Old bull..... 1st and 2nd ;
- Three-year old do 1st ;
- Bull calf 1st ;
- Old cow..... 1st and 2nd ;
- Heifer two years old..... 1st, 2nd and 3rd ;
- Yearling heifer 3rd ;
- Heifer calf. 2nd and 3rd ;

and, finally, both first and second prizes for herds composed of a bull and five females.

The show of Channel Islands cattle suffered greatly, no doubt, in common with the rest of the classes from the fact of the Toronto exhibition occurring at the same, or nearly the same time as our own provincial show. This, however, is not likely to occur again, as M. Georges Leclère gave a sort of pledge on the last day of the meeting that the affairs of the exposition should be better managed for the future ; they need be, for the late one was, I regret to say, as regards the cattle, a complete failure. I was sorry to see that Mr Abbott still persists in withholding his fine herd of Guernseys from public inspection. Why he refuses to show I cannot understand. I have no hesitation in saying that if his herd was exhibited as a whole, the following year prizes for this particular breed *must* be offered by the committee of management. A great calamity has occurred to Mr Abbott : the sultan of his herd has been attacked with cancer of the jaw, and this fine animal, the pride of the Isle of Guernsey, and the finest of the breed I ever saw, is doomed to become butcher's meat long before his time. This is really a public calamity, as it will be impossible to replace him at any price. Let us hope, however, that he will leave behind him some offspring fit to carry on his work of regeneration. Talking to one of the largest breeders of Jerseys the other day, he confessed that, as a farmer's cow, the Guernseys were the best suited to the lands of this province ; and as a means of crossing, both as regards