

tensively in wheat growing States. There were several stump pullers on the grounds and two or three ditching machines. A trial of the latter was had, under the direction of a committee, outside the Fair Grounds. We did not attend, but understand that the committee, of which John Stantoh Gould was chairman, decided that the work performed by the Heath machine was the most satisfactory. Kenyon's corn husker attracted a great deal of attention, and it seems to be a practical machine and adapted to rapid and perfect husking of corn. Farmers have long felt the need of such a machine, and many have been offered for public favor. The stalks as they come from the shock, are fed to this machine in like manner as to a feed cutter, the butts first, and the ears are broken from the stalks, and the husks and silk cleanly stripped off. The stalks are mashed in the process, by pushing between rollers and deposited in one pile, the husks in another and the corn in a third. With a power equaling two horses it is estimated that from forty to fifty bushels per hour can be husked. Among the multitude of minor things, we noticed Bishop's patent animal poke, for restraining both horses and cattle from jumping their enclosures. It is so constructed as not to be troublesome or dangerous to the animal wearing it and at the same time effectually checks its inclination to jump.

The implements and machinery on the grounds, taught plainly one truth, that, as compared with former days, farming is made easy. Invention has nobly aided labor in its effort to subdue the soil, and force from it the generous harvest. Labor is not only lightened and expedited but multiplied many times in power and efficiency, and when the Coming Farmer shall drive his plow with the breath of steam and sinews of iron, the one great stride which man has yet to make towards a perfect culture of the earth will be taken.—*Country Gentlemen.*

THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH.

Presuming that you have acted according to suggestions thrown out in previous numbers for the past two years, that your buildings are made as weather tight as circumstances will permit, and that the enterprising have all their stock under cover, that your fat hogs are nearly all slaughtered as they should be, early in the season, for pork made in cold weather is a dear article, even suppose you do give them plenty of bedding, it does not alter the fact.

Do not allow your stock to lose flesh. Keep them in condition now—the starvation policy is a poor one. A few hundreds of hay are easier earned now, than by lifting cows by the tail in the Spring. Give your stock feed and keep them. If you cannot feed them properly sell some, as the prices are good now. Don't let

your roots freeze up, and if you do not possess a root cutter procure one. Better pay for a machine, than break the teeth out of the sheep and cattle, and run the risk of having them choked. Get a feed mill in your neighborhood, and have your feed ground by a machine that does not hurt it. Send your children to the best school that you can afford. Get the best masters in your section. Attend to agricultural meetings, and form an agricultural Club in your section; discuss agricultural economy, policy and politics; find out who's who, and what's what. Don't sit about your club room like sheep in a pen—be attentive and have a voice. Do not let one or two monopolize, speak briefly and to the point, and give another an opportunity to express his views. One of the most important part of this month's work is the selection of papers for your guidance, and the instruction of your household for the ensuing year. If you are a farmer, get all the instruction you can in regard to your business; if a minister of the Gospel, take one or more of the religious publications; if a teacher take the *Educator* or publications of that class; if a doctor take the *Lancet*; if a lawyer you must have the *Statutes*; if a jockey take *Wilkes Spirit of the Age*; if a politician you must take two papers, one of each party, or you will know but little about the real state of the country, as there will be important questions in one that will be suppressed in the other, or even worse than that—it matters not how large or how small their circulation. We know of no exception, and each one supported by their political party, and against that party they dare not go. You have to consider which your bread and cheese is derived from, and can any one man, or small section have the same knowledge as when it is collected over the whole country, and a special business made of it, and the writing and experience of others are brought before your notice.

No farmer should be without an agricultural paper. Which is best for a young family, a paper treating on plants, shrubs, seeds, implements and animals, or one who searches the country for exciting murder tales, rape, divorce or something worse? You should first take an agricultural paper or two, and then one on each side of politics. You had better not see any, than to rest your entire belief on either. You should have a local paper. If you go from home you will find no papers that give a fairer account of things in general than the *Witness* of Montreal, and the *Telegraph* of Toronto.

FARMER'S CLUBS.

Merchants, mechanics, fruit growers, &c., have their Boards, their Institutions, or Associations. They hold their meetings and discuss the various subjects that are of importance to them. By these meetings they learn from each other, and combine together to

oppose anything detrimental to their interests, or to advance anything that is for their interest. They find great advantages derived therefrom. If there is one a little more enterprising than the majority in any section, he soon becomes discouraged by the numbers that oppose any new plan or scheme however beneficial. It might be the distance is such that it is difficult to assemble enough enterprising farmers in the majority of sections to form or keep up a farmer's Club. The lagards and disparagers are benefitted by these Clubs, but you cannot draw a cent from the pocket of many of them, unless compelled by law. Thus the expense falls too heavy on a few willing ones. Would it not be well to apply part of the government grant, or for County Councils to aid such establishments. The benefits are many to be derived from these Clubs. Do half the farmers in Canada know the name of the wheat or oats they cultivate? Do they know the adaptability of different kinds of potatoes to different soils? Have they a vine or strawberry plant on their premises? Do they know the value of different kinds of artificial manures? Do they know the advantages of the Little Giant Threshing Machine, or what advantage one reaper has over another? Would a quarterly or monthly fair be advantageous? Do they understand the new Agricultural Bill? Shall the old Board be returned to office? What do most farmers exhibit for? Is there no means of preventing horse-stealing? Any preventative against the numerous insects that are committing such ravages in the field, orchard or garden? These things might be advantageously discussed. We hope some of our readers may try it and send us accounts of their progress, and any useful information that may be gained and of benefit to the country. Speak to those that are most interested in improving their minds, their farms and their means. Appoint a place, say the school-house in your section, draw up your regulations, give out some subject to speak on for the next meeting, get as many to attend as possible, give all a fair opportunity to speak, and endeavor to make it as familiar as possible. Let improvement be your main aim. Perhaps the County Council might aid you in procuring agricultural works and papers. You would find your gains more and your losses less, if you would establish a good farmer's club.

NATIONAL BANK.

A correspondent after expressing his satisfaction at our advocacy of the financial interests of the country, joins issue on our views, concerning the severance of all connection between government and monetary interest. As a CLINCHER he encloses the following from an address to "the Wardens and Councils of Ontario." Discarding the prefatory remarks we present the substance: