

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

"PERSEVERE AND SUCCEED."

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The Government Farm.

We paid another visit to this establishment in August. We found the flower department had been better attended to. Vegetables were in abundance. The crops of turnips and barley were good. We might speak in high praise of the crops, but we should err if we said that we noticed anything in the management superior to what may be found on hundreds of farms.

There is most unmistakable mismanagement somewhere. The profits to the country must be farther in the future than our spectacles will allow us to penetrate at present. Good may result in some future day and under some different management. The crop of turnips raised is about 30 acres; they promised a fine crop and were well cultivated. There is not stock enough to consume one-tenth of them. There is a large crop of barley and a lot of vegetables. We fail to see such great improvement as some can. We do not consider that the purchasing of stock at \$1000 per head or upwards, to consume the crop of turnips, would be to the advantage of the farmers, or will ever pay the farmers for the sum we shall have to pay for them. The buildings that cost so much are now considered totally worthless; in fact, one of the principal officials informed us that it would have been better if they had none on the premises. As it is, they are about to pull down strong, substantially-built buildings, and are erecting and altering others. Were we to fully explain all things in regard to it, we should be thought touching on political questions; this we avoid, and merely quote the words of one of the most practical and best farmers in Wellington, who has had a good opportunity of watching and noticing the expenditures.

He said: "If the farmers of Canada knew what was carried on there, it would raise a rebellion in the country."

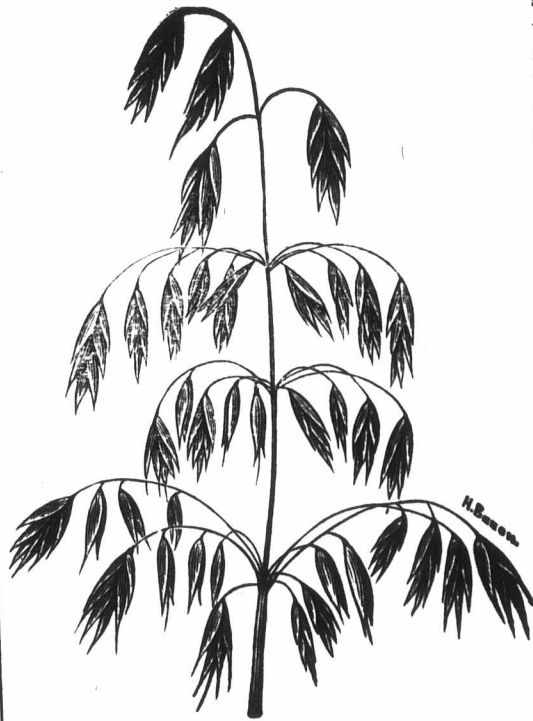
THE BOHEMIAN OR HULLLESS OATS.

This was the only new cereal, plant or shrub we saw growing on the Government Farm. We give the following illustration of it, having sent a head to our artist to have it cut. The peculiarity of this oat is that it grows in clusters, having from a single oat to five oats in a cluster, and also in not having any hull on the kernel, as other oats have. When we first heard of these oats we thought them a humbug; we would not purchase any, or have anything to do with them, as we had been humbugged so many times by wheat, corn, plants, etc.; this made us shy. The only price these oats could be obtained at was \$10 per bushel; the parties owning the stock would not sell for less. The Government paid \$10 per bushel for them. The crop looked well, but was not so long in the straw as other oats.

Now, for the information of the farming community and the country generally, we respectfully ask the Minister of Agriculture or any of the employes of the Government to furnish us with information regarding them. We will give you their report as soon as we receive it. We think if benefits are to be derived, we should at once be able to give reports, as a year's delay may cause profit or loss to the country.

We believe if the Government sets the example and uses more oatmeal porridge in this institution, and at their own private tables, the inhabitants of Canada would be improved in health and vigor by

following it, as nearly all doctors consider our wheaten flour less suitable for food than oatmeal or coarser diet. If farmers can raise their own oatmeal, without the necessity of being dependent on oatmeal manufactories, it would be a decided advantage, especially in newly or sparsely settled parts of the Dominion, and in localities where wheat does not thrive as well as oats. We hope to have the Government report of this cereal, and to hear from those who have had direct experience with it.



Agricultural Exhibition at Guelph.

We paid a visit to this Exhibition on Wednesday, the 15th inst. The Exhibition on the whole was a very good one, and highly creditable to the inhabitants of that locality. Each department was well represented.

The exhibitors were nearly all local, very few being from the east, west or south. The harvest not yet being completed in the north, tended to keep many away that would otherwise have attended. The Guelph Exhibition takes place too early; if it were a month later, we believe there would be a much larger attendance.

We have not space to enumerate the good qualities of the many fine animals exhibited there. To appreciate the merits of all the implements and the beauties of the art department, these exhibitions must be seen. Farmers and their families should by all means go to some one or more each year, to notice what improvements are made, to chat with their friends and gain profit and information they wish; to notice any new improvements made in implements, to find any new and valuable seeds, or notice any marked improvements in breeds of stock, or any thing that may strike us as of importance.

When examining the contents of the building devoted to field crops, we admired the classification of the turnips; but it is a matter for surprise that while the prizes were awarded to the numerous different varieties, our great staple article, winter wheat, was merely honored with

prizes for the best red and best white varieties. We therefore suggest that there should be a better

CLASSIFICATION OF WHEAT.

Wheat and other cereals are of very great importance to our country. New varieties are continually needed, as from some cause or other, wheat in particular, after having been grown for a series of years, yields much less and becomes unremunerative. The prizes offered for grain we believe require revising; encouragement might be given to persons who introduce new varieties, and the old system gives prizes for the best red or white wheats. The Diehl wheat has been the whitest, and carried off more prizes than any other variety. We believe this has acted injuriously to the farmers; it has given that wheat a much higher position than it deserves, as it makes but a very inferior quality of flour, being of a weak, chalky nature and containing much less gluten or saccharine matter than is contained in many other varieties. Would it not be judicious to award prizes to the different varieties of wheat? Prizes are awarded for the different breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, and is not wheat of as much importance to our country as any of the above stock? Perhaps the directors of the Provincial and other Exhibitions might add to their interest and to the wealth of the country by giving prizes to all good varieties of wheat, as some varieties are best adapted to light soils, others to heavy clay soils; some are also best adapted to the northern parts of the country, and some to the southern. The present system has excluded the Treadwell wheat from being able to take a prize; as it is an amber wheat, it could not compete against the red or white wheats. This wheat has been found as valuable to the country as the wheats that have carried off the prizes at exhibitions. The Red Fern wheat being a small grain, but of good quality, does not compare in size with the grain of the Rio Grande; the size of the grain generally draws more attention than the quality. In stock, the Merino and Leicester sheep should not be judged in the classes of the Lincoln and Cotswold; the Alderneys and Ayrshires are not classed with the Durhams and Galloways. There are just as distinct varieties of wheat and other cereals as there are of breeds of stock, and our cereals are as important to the country as our stock.

Mr. J. Anderson, the ex-President of the Guelph Exhibition, showed us some of the Bohemian oats he had raised. He said he sowed 7 bushels, and threshed 209 bushels of clean oats, weighing 50 lbs. to the bushel. He says it requires three-fourths of a bushel of seed for one acre; he measured one acre and found he had 42 bushels—this of real meal, such as it would require about four bushels of the common oats to make. He informs us that the farmers owning this variety of oats have combined to maintain an equal price, which is at present \$10 per bushel; none are to sell for less or in a less quantity than a bushel. Of course these high prices cannot stand very long, as they increase so rapidly. He speaks in very high terms of the variety, although he does not altogether believe in the high price charged.

We do not purpose offering these oats for sale.

A subscriber sends us by registered letter from Napance, \$1, without any name. Who is he? Give date of mailing, &c.