

a Mr. Davis" The bull, from the famous *Vaurbellets* herd, had not met with a purchaser when Mr. Gylling wrote.

Superphosphate.—Messrs. Downes & Co. write to me saying that they have just sent out, to order of the Bank of Montreal, 175 tons of superphosphate. This is to all of us a most interesting price of information, as it betokens, I hope, a future supply of this invaluable manure at a reasonable price. I have not yet found out the real consigne, but I hope to do so shortly. The price free on board at Liverpool was, according to Messrs. Downes, £2. 4s. the gross ton, equal to £1. 19s., or \$9.36 the ton of 2,000 lbs. I have just discovered that the importing firm is Messrs. Lomer & Co., Montreal.

Linseed.—I see by the reports in the *Sorelois* that linseed is selling in the Sorel market for 75 cents a bushel = 60 lbs. This is about \$24.00 a ton, the present price of linseed-oake at Montreal being \$34! The manufacturers of linseed oil must be making a good thing of it. Now, of all butter-making food crushed linseed is the best. A very extensive use of it enables me to state positively that, if properly used, the cows will benefit amazingly in health, the butter will be of the finest quality, and the manure will astonish the farmer by its effects. Compared with linseed cake, 3 lbs. of linseed is equal in the production of good milk, to 9 lbs. of cake, and I see by my English papers that in Ireland Canon Bagot is supplying ground linseed to the farmers who send milk to his dairy-factories.

To use linseed properly, whether for milch-cows, fattening-beasts, or sheep, it must be crushed in some way—at all events, the skin must be cracked.—As we have none of the handy little crushers used in England, we must be content with grinding it between the mill-stones, with the addition of some cereal or other to prevent the oil from choking the mill. In my opinion, as I have stated a dozen times before, cooking, except for cows furnishing milk for sale, is a useless piece of extravagance, so I should give the mixed meal to the cows, at the rate of not more than 1½ lb. of linseed a day, combined with any reasonable amount of chaff previously damped. Should the linseed have a relaxing effect on the stock, as it probably will if given alone, the addition of a little pease-meal will set every thing to rights, but to say the truth, linseed, pease, and oats should be all ground up together in the proportion of 4 bushels of pease and oats to 1 bushel of linseed, and then there will be no fear of the beasts being affected.

On Monday, September 10th, I paid a visit to my old friends at Sorel, to see how they had been getting on in my absence. I found that a great change had taken place in the general tone of feeling among the farming population. Instead of regarding, as they used to do, all things new as fanciful, the desire of most of them seemed to be to imitate as nearly as possible the practice of those who had taken advantage of my instruction during the time of my residence at Sorel, and I must be allowed to say that I never in all my life met with such outspoken gratitude as was evinced by those whom I had been enabled to assist by advice and practical example.

My young friends, Séraphin and Baptiste Guévremont, bought last spring a farm of 140 arpents = 118 acres, near the Catholic church, for which they paid \$6,000. The land was in a rough state, having been woefully treated during the preceding ten years by the previous proprietor. No internal fences, though the boundary fences were good and sound. Entering into possession on the 20th of May, the natural conclusion to which one would be led would be that very little could be done the first season, as no fall-ploughing had been done, and no dung carted out from the yards, though the brothers had been hard at work all the winter drawing dung from the

town, where it can be bought for ten cents a load. Altogether they managed to get together about 700 one-horse loads.

On May 24th and following days, 20 acres of oats were sown on a 4 year-old ley. Judging from the crop as I saw it on Sept. 11th, the harrowing had been thoroughly done, but unfortunately the pressure of work was so great that the rolling was neglected. Still, I could not estimate the crop at less than from 45 to 50 bushels an acre; in fact, it was the best piece of oats I saw this season.

Of the root-crop there were:

Potatoes	9 acres.
Swedes	6 "
Turnips and cabbages	1 "
Mangels and sugar-beets	1½ "
Carrots and parsnips	1 "
Corn	0½ "

19 acres.

With the exception of 3 acres of early potatoes, the tops of which had died and allowed free scope to the weeds, the whole of the root-crop was perfectly clean, the land thoroughly stirred with both hand- and horse-hoe, and it is not going too far to say that it was impossible to find a miss-plant all over the field. After the horse-hoeing was completed, the head-lands were re-ploughed, dunged, and sown with yellow-turnips, which will fetch their price at Montreal, the Sorel turnips and carrots being unequalled for sweetness and juiciness. Thus, every square-foot of land was under crop, and the sight was indeed a pleasing one to me, considering that when I first went to Sorel, in 1884, there was not an acre of roots in the whole parish, and the cultivation of the potato-crop was a disgrace to any place.

Twelve acres of buckwheat at the upper end of the farm had been slightly touched by the frosts of the 6th and 7th of September, and as I am no judge of this crop as far as its probable yield is concerned, I can only say of it that it was thick enough on the ground.

Thirty-nine head of cow-stock, at \$8.00, and eleven horses, at \$10.00, have been taken into graze this season = \$422.00, which alone will more than pay the interest of the purchase-money of the farm even at 7%! Prudently, no cattle are taken in to graze until the money is paid.

Two very striking features of the root-crop are, 1. that the mangels will yield at least twice the amount of bushels to the acre that the sugar-beets will yield; 2. that the outside rows of sugar-beets and mangels as well as the plants at the end of the rows of those roots, are strikingly superior to the inner rows and plants, particularly in the case were the adjoining piece is in carrots or parsnips. Does not this clearly show that, as in the case of alternate rows of tobacco and cabbages which I have so often spoken of, the alternation of high- and low-growing crops must be advantageous. The carrot and the parsnip dive down deeply into the subsoil and feed on what they find there; the mangel gets its food nearer the surface. Besides, the free admittance of air and light owing to the 4 feet intervals between the high-growing plants must be of some value. I remember an experiment, conducted by the Duke of Beaufort's steward at Badminton, in which long-red mangels and Belgian carrots were grown in alternate rows. The yield was enormous, but I have not the figures to refer to.

All the roots were sown with the *Planet Jr.* seed-drill, and most beautifully regular was its work.

Altogether my visit to "my children," as the *Sorelois* calls them, was highly satisfactory. When I first undertook their instruction, four years ago, I little thought they would arrive at so high a degree of practical perfection in such a short