

About eight years ago two worthy young Scotchmen from Glasgow, came to Canada and established a rope walk on my farm. They have gone on steadily increasing their business and wordly goods, so that they are now comfortably off, give employment to many hands, and pay out a great deal of money in a year for foreign hemp. I never once heard of them having been offered a pound of Canadian hemp for sale, though the price was remarkably high during the war with Russia, when they were excluded from the markets of the world.

A few years ago Mr. Widder of the Canada Company, placed ten pounds at the disposal of Agricultural Association, to be given in premiums for Hemp and Flax, which sum has been liberally continued by that Company ever since, in addition to their twenty-five pound prize for wheat. To assist in the encouragement of the growth of hemp and flax, the Association offered other prizes, and a diploma with the first prize, which I was so fortunate as to win the first year, on flax. Cordage made from that flax has won the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes at the Provincial Fairs, and the cordage sent to France, from Canada, was made from the same crop. I now feel inclined to try for the prize and diploma on Hemp, and enter into friendly competition with the "Correspondent of the Niagara Mail."

Yours, &c.,

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#### WHAT SHALL WE RAISE IN PLACE OF WHEAT?

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##### *From Correspondence of the Niagara Mail.*

The destruction of the wheat crop for the last two years has demonstrated to the farmers of this part of Canada, the necessity of looking for something else to take the place of this profitable cereal, something that will bear exportation and yield a remunerative return for our labor and expense. The cultivation of roots and vegetables, unless for fattening stock, will not answer, as the consumption of them must be local, and the demand limited. If every one raised large crops of potatoes, turnips, &c, for market, it would soon be glutted, and the prices fall below what it would cost to raise them. Besides this, there is a risk in keeping and great danger in transporting them during the winter season.

With a soil and climate well adapted for the cultivation of fruit, it would be well for us to devote a good portion of our best land for orchard purposes. An orchard well managed, is a good investment, and one that constantly increases in value every year, throughout the natural term of one's life, and is a fine legacy for posterity; yet years must elapse, from the time of planting, before we can hope for our reward, so that it will not answer for our present relief.

There are some farms that are admirably adapted for grazing purposes, such for instance as have a living stream running through them. These could be advantageously turned to the raising of sheep and mutton, and cattle for beef and dairy purposes. The products of which are largely imported into this province, particularly the Western portion of it.

The importation of animals in 1857 amounted to £114,007; of butter, £9974; of cheese, £33,066; and of green fruit, to £39,210; all of which in a country peculiarly agricultural as we are, should have been produced within ourselves. Even in the article of eggs alone, there were imported in 1857, £4664 worth, and of meats the enormous amount of £225,716 for one year alone. Here is a field open for the enterprise of our farmers, for with the exception of green fruit alone, all these articles can be produced in comparatively limited time. Many thousand pounds are sent away for other things that might as well be produced at home, as for instance in 1857, over £120,000 were paid for seeds and tallow, which we can as well produce as our neighbors over the river. The amounts mentioned above were all sent to the United States, and form but part of our importations. There are some farms not so well adapted for grazing, but which are rich and fertile, as most lands are in this country, where they have not been impoverished by bad cultivation. Upon these I think that hemp would be a profitable crop, as much so as wheat has ever been, and not subject to such fluctuations of prices. I do not think there would be any difficulty in finding a market for all that could be raised, as we now import largely of hemp and hempen articles, especially in the shape