

The ordinary herbage of the prairie is generally sufficient for the fuel of the engine ; but after the first year the surplus straw would be more than sufficient for all fuel.

Wheat at 30 bushels per acre thus raised would cost $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents per bushel.

The product of wheat is put down in above statement at 30 bushels an acre ; but yields of 35 and 40 bushels per acre have been obtained at the Lowe Farm and other places in the vicinity.

The ordinary cost of breaking an acre of the prairie is \$2.50, by horse or oxen power.

The ordinary cost of raising an acre of wheat in Manitoba by the methods commonly employed is \$9.

The ordinary cost of raising an acre of wheat in Ontario, as officially stated by the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, is \$19.43 for fall wheat, and \$15.50 for spring wheat.

If barley were cultivated instead of wheat, by the Steam Plough and Traction Thresher, with the Gathering Attachment, the cost of binding cord, stooking, and two men's wages would be saved, taking from the above figure of \$3.71 per acre, 61 cents, making the cost \$3.10 per acre.

Counting the product of barley at 40 bushels to the acre, the cost would be $7\frac{3}{4}$ cents per bushel.

Larger yields of barley have been obtained at the Lowe Farm. Fifty bushels and over have been grown.

In oats 86 bushels per acre have been obtained.

It is believed that with careful cultivation a quality of barley may be grown in Manitoba suitable for the English market, with results more profitable than the growing of wheat.

(Signed) JOHN LOWE,

WM. STEPHENSON.

OTTAWA, April 17th, 1891.

STRAW AND PRAIRIE HERBAGE FOR FUEL.

One of the greatest difficulties and expenses for the settler on the prairie is to procure fuel for cooking and warming in the cold winters which prevail in Manitoba. In the early years of the establishment of the Lowe Farm, under the management of Mr. Asa Westover, the cost of procuring fuel for warming and cooking was found to be not only very onerous but almost ruinous. Mr. Wm. Stephenson, the present Manager, found such to be the fact during the first year of his occupation under his arrangement with Mr. Lowe. He, therefore, applied himself to overcoming this difficulty by the construction of a stove, suitable for burning straw and prairie herbage. He saw that if every farmer could grow or use his own fuel, or, in other words, use his surplus straw and the ordinary herbage of the prairie for that purpose, one of the very greatest, —in fact, the greatest—difficulties of prairie life would be solved. He accordingly invented a straw-burning stove which has been patented.