

## THE HEXALL FLOUR.

The flour produced by this process is finer and whiter than the flour generally made by the gaist mills in the country. This flour commands \$7.50 per barrel in Montreal, and the best common flour \$5.80 to \$5.90. Some sharp Americans got a patent for this process, and many years after the Snyders had established a good market in the States for this superior flour, some Yankee served a notice on our German millers not to ship any of the flour made by this process into that country, unless they paid them a royalty or purchased a right from them. The Messrs. Snyder, wisely preferring not to waste their hard-earned cash in testing by a law-suit, shipped their flour to Montreal, and have now established a name there that gives them \$1.60 per barrel more than the best brands from other mills can command. There are only three other mills in Canada that are making the Hexall flour.

The German Mills are owned by T. B. & A. B. Snyder; they are enterprising young men, and have set another pattern deserving to be followed by progressive men in other localities.

## GERMAN MILLS SHORTHORNS.

Having a farm near the mills, they have established a fine herd of Shorthorns, known as the German Mills Herd. This herd has been selected and bred with the idea of having large, well-proportioned animals of a kindly nature, and such as produce a good flow of milk. The pedigrees of the animals have not been neglected, but no person need try to sell the Messrs. Snyder an animal for pedigree alone; they must and will have quality. First among the numerous fine animals in this herd is the 20th Duchess of Gloucester. Athelstane 6th, a very fine animal, will be the principal stock bull used with this herd this season. They have lately imported two Magie swine, and have a good lot of Berkshires; if there is one kind better than another they desire to have it. They have a few good cows that they would dispose of.

The Germans are all fond of good, useful horses. In this particular the Messrs. Snyder also intend to excel others this year. They have imported what we consider the best Percheron horse we have yet seen; at least, we are most pleased with him. At one time we thought Anglo-Saxon the most useful and most valuable horse for the improvement of stock in our country; now we give up the palm, and if we were to act as a judge on these two horses, to decide which would do the most good in the country, we would give our decision in favor of this Percheron.

We were so much pleased with this Percheron that we give an illustration of him in this paper. We consider this horse has the greatest width of bone, the best feet, the best action, the most compact form, the best temper and the cleanest legs of any heavy horse we have yet noticed. The Snyder Bros. paid \$1,900 for him last autumn; the carriage and keep to the present time cost \$300; this brings his total cost to \$2,200. We think him the cheapest horse in Canada at that price. He will improve the stock of Waterloo County, and is worth for stock purposes more than 1,000 of those weedy, used-up horses that are to be seen at too many of our cross roads.

## THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND ARTS.

We had heard that a meeting of the Board was to take place at Toronto on Wednesday, the 20th of March, and we went to Toronto with the intention of making suggestions and propositions to the Board for revising the prize list on cereals, as we consider the prize list as it now stands rather an injury than a benefit. The highest prizes are awarded to wheats that are not as profitable to the farmers or to merchants as many varieties that are of real value to the country. For instance, the

Deihl wheat, which is the whitest fall wheat, is not hardy, is very liable to rust, and makes the weakest and least nutritious flour of any fall wheat. Still it carries off the Canada Company's prize, and a special class is also made for it. No prize is given or class made for the Treadwell wheat, which makes a better flour than any other fall wheat. Neither is there a prize for the Scott wheat, which has for many years superceded the Deihl or Mediterranean varieties. The Clawson and Silver Chaff wheats, both more valuable than the Deihl, are unnoticed.

In spring wheats, the Egyptian variety has a special list of prizes. This is the most dangerous wheat that a farmer can touch; it rusts worse than any other variety, and makes the poorest quality of flour. The Redfern wheat, which makes excellent flour, is hardy, stands against the attacks of rust and insects better than most varieties for which special prizes are awarded, is omitted.

There are many other varieties of wheat deserving prizes more than those to which prizes are given.

The President and some of the Directors were there. We suggested the alteration to the President, who said he would bring the subject before the Board. It might be well if the Board were to let the public know when and where the meetings are to be held, as this meeting, instead of being held in Toronto, was suddenly changed to be held in Ottawa.

## FERTILIZERS—LAMB'S FACTORY.

Many of you would like to know something about the manufacture of our fertilizers. We made an inspection of Mr. Peter R. Lamb's Factory, in Toronto. It is situated near the north-eastern extremity of the city, on the edge of a deep ravine that runs into the Don. The works are extensive, but the vile odors from decaying matter, the steaming of bones, grease, scraps of hides, &c., render the vicinity very disgusting. We consider it the most disagreeable district and most unsightly, filthy place we ever saw inside of about half an acre—covered with parings of skins, car loads of hoofs in various stages of preparation, perhaps hundreds of tons of bones and cuttings of meat from factories, combined with the steaming of bones and grease and the making of glue and blacking, squeaking of rats, &c. Well, well, don't go there unless you want an emetic!

But it is a very useful establishment, and shows how true it is that the dirty hands make the clean. To these works we are indebted for the whitest sugar that we consume in our coffee, tea and confectionery, and our wives, daughters and sweethearts are also indebted to them for their "bonnie blue ribbands."

Bones, cuttings and refuse meat and parings from hides are sent here from all parts of Ontario; teams are constantly going and coming. The stench did not appear to act injuriously on the health of Mr. Lamb, as he appears about as healthy as any man in Toronto.

The sinews and skins are made into glue; the hoofs are made into Prussian blue; the fat is used for soap grease, and the hardest bones are picked out, burned to a particular stage, and then in a black, lumpy state are sold to sugar refiners to cleanse the brown sugar and turn it out white. Some of the bones are burned and make lamp-black and blacking to polish our boots. The horns are cleaned and sold to comb and button manufacturers. Many of the fancy imitation tortoise shells and neck ornaments are made from the hoofs.

Now for our share of the products. The soft bones are crushed and ground by powerful machinery, and sold to farmers and gardeners to increase the fertility of the soil and produce our nicest fruits, vegetables and cereals of the best

quality. A farmer named Hill, living near Norway, about five miles from Toronto, has made a good sum by the use of Lamb's superphosphate and bone-dust. He raises large crops of potatoes and produces them of a good size, while other farmers have only small scrubs of things about the size of marbles. He purchases a large quantity of this manure every year, and is filling his pockets by its use. There are but few of our farmers who know the real value of it. It is found by many to be cheaper than hauling manure from the barn. It must come largely into use in Canada.

When we were leaving the grounds we counted twenty-three cats by the side of the ravine, the largest number we had ever seen together. They appeared as happy and contented as they could be. We expressed our surprise at such a sight and asked Mr. Lamb what he fed them on. He said: "We never feed them; we have about a hundred here; they live on rats and cannot kill them all."

It appears rather strange that superphosphates and farm manures should be shipped out of our country to foreign ports; but nevertheless this is a fact. We have heard of one American planter who expends \$10,000 annually in artificial manures. The superphosphate is made by dissolving the bones with sulphuric acid.

## THE BYRES.

This is the name under which the large cattle stables are known in which the refuse of the grain is fed from the distillery of Gooderham & Worts, Toronto. These sheds are situated near the Don bridge, on the edge of the large marsh on the borders of the Toronto Bay. The Byres contain over two thousand five hundred head of fattening cattle. The slop is conducted in pipes from the distillery, about a quarter of a mile from the stabling. The cattle are fed at regular intervals. A slide is raised, the slop runs along the troughs, and the cattle soon fill themselves and lay down again. A small quantity of hay is fed daily. Should any animal refuse its food through sickness, or not appear to be thriving, our informant said they gave it a feed of the Devonshire Cattle Food; sometimes they feed in one stable 100 lbs. of this food in a day, and find it amply repays them and that the cattle average 50 lbs. more a head by using this mixture than feeding without it.

They are put in the Byres or stables in October, and are turned out in April. The price paid to Gooderham & Worts is \$13 per head for the use of the stables and the slop; they have all the slop they require; sometimes there is too much, and then it is run into the lake or bay. The stock fed is principally three or four year old steers; there are some large oxen. In one stable there were two hundred bulls feeding, most of which were good looking animals. The cattle, when fat, will be shipped to England.

The questions that suggested themselves to us were these: Can this slop-fed beef be as good as beef fed by farmers? Can this beef be distinguished by butchers? Should this beef be sold so as to represent Canadian beef? If so, the feeders of good beef and farmers must be the losers. Surely one is worth more than the other. It would be better that all the slops were run into the lake than that a bad name be given our beef. Should not these cattle be branded and sold as slop-fed beasts?

## Land Drainage.

Draining is one of the farm works that is brought before the owners of the land every season of the year, though it is more especially suitable to the fall and autumn, and whenever the standing water indicates the places most in need of draining and the fall for carrying it off.

Heavy tenacious lands are more than any others