

The Indian Head Farm.

The following report has recently been issued from the Dominion Government experimental farm for the Territories, at Indian Head, Assiniboia:—

On the Indian Head farm the grain crops have been better than at Brandon, but the forest and fruit trees have not succeeded so well, owing to the very strong drying winds which prevail during most of the growing period and the lack of sufficient rain.

Some very instructive experiments have been conducted in order to demonstrate the best methods of treating the soil in preparing for crop. Grain grown on large pieces of summer-fallowing land has been compared with that grown on fall and spring ploughed land, and results are gratifying in favor of summer-fallow. By this thorough method of preparation, the soil is made capable of retaining moisture, and also of absorbing moisture from the air during the cool nights, which carries the crop through even in the absence of rain in a remarkable manner. At the time of my visit the grain was all harvested, but the difference on the stubble on the fall and spring ploughing being so much thinner.

A close examination was made of both fruit and forest trees, especially of those varieties which were planted in the spring of 1888, and hence had stood the test of two summers and one winter. There was obtained from Prof. Bodd, of the Agricultural College, of Ames, Iowa, in the spring of 1888, a collection of Russian apple trees, numbering eighty-six in all, of twenty-six varieties, of these fifty-four are alive, and some of them are doing remarkably well, seven have died at the top, but have sent up shoots from near the base, and twenty-five have died entirely. Ten pear trees were obtained of two varieties, these have all died. The collection of plums, included thirty-four trees of seven varieties; of these there are eighteen living, seven have died at the top and sent up shoots from near the bottom and ten died outright. Fifteen cherry trees were obtained of three varieties, two died at the top, but sent up shoots from the bottom, while eleven died entirely. These were entirely all of Russian origin.

Another collection of Russian trees was purchased from Stone, Wellington & Morris, of Pontill, Ontario, and consisted of thirty-nine trees of sixteen varieties; thirty-one of these are alive and eight have died. A selection was also made from among the hardiest of the named varieties in general cultivation in the eastern provinces: Apples, 65 trees of 18 varieties, of which 41 are alive and 24 are dead; crab-apples, 12 trees of 4 varieties, 10 are living and 3 dead; plums, 10 trees of 5 varieties, 1 living and 9 dead; cherries, 14 trees of 4 varieties, 3 living and 11 dead. Hence out of a total of 202 apple trees planted of 64 varieties, 135 are living, 7 have died at the top, and sent up shoots from the bottom and 60 have died outright. Pear, 20 trees of 7 varieties, 1 living, 10 dead; plums, 44 trees of 12 varieties, 22 living, 7 dead at top with shoots from bottom, while 16 died entirely; cherries, 29 trees of 7 varieties, 3 living and 22 dead. The proportion of deaths among the Russian trees was less than one-third, while among the hardy named sorts grown in the east it was nearly one-half.

Further collections have been secured and planted during the past season, some of which

have grown in Minnesota, some in the Province of Quebec and some at the Central Experimental farm, these include a number of varieties not before tested.

The gooseberries and currants, numbering between two and three hundred of the planting of 1888, have made fine healthy bushes with vigorous shoots, and plenty of them, from 1 to 2 feet long. The raspberries have also made fair progress. Of the strawberries many have died, but those that have survived look healthy and have made a quantity of runners, but not many of these have rooted on account of the very dry condition of the soil. Of 64 grape vines of 17 of the hardiest varieties, none have survived.

In 1888 nearly twenty thousand young forest trees and shrubs were planted, and during the past season over thirteen thousand more have been sent from the Central farm at Ottawa, besides which there have been planted a considerable number of seeding of native trees raised on this spot. Some of the trees have succeeded very well, while others have failed almost entirely. From the experience thus gained, the following are among the most promising sorts of the Indian Head district. Of deciduous trees, Manitoba maple, American or white elm, white ash, green ash, European and American mountain ash, wild black cherry, yellow birch, canoe birch, European alder, Norway maple and black ash. There are also several species of Russian poplars which may be safely added to this list. Of evergreens, Riga pine, Scotch pine, dwarf mountain pine, bill pine and white spruce. There are several ornamental shrubs which have done remarkably well, such as the Siberian pea, Caragana arborescens, Russian olive, Eleagnus angustifolia, several varieties of lilac, and the barberry. The farm building, now nearly completed, will afford excellent accommodation for stock, and it is expected that a sufficient number of animals will be forwarded in the spring to lay the foundation of useful herds of cattle, which will in future prove an important element in the general improvement of stock in the Northwest.

What Glycerine Will Do.

Few people realize, says the *Scientific American*, the importance of the uses of pure commercial glycerine, and how it can be used and made available for purposes where no substitute is found that will take its place. As a dressing for ladies' shoes nothing equals it, making the leather soft and pliable, without soiling the garments in contact. Where they sweat, burnt alum and glycerine—one of the former and two of the latter—is rubbed on the feet at night, and a light open sock worn; the feet washed in the morning with tepid water will keep them during the day free from odor so disagreeable to those persons who are sufferers.

For bunions and corns, cannabis and glycerine, equal parts, painted on the bunion or corn, and bound around with cotton flannel, adding a few drops of the liquid to the flannel where it comes in contact with the affected parts, will soon restore it to health.

As a face lotion, oatmeal made in a paste with glycerine two parts, water one part, and applied to the face at night, with a mask worn over, will give in a short time, if faithfully pursued, a youthful appearance of the skin.

As a dressing in the bath, two quarts of

water with two ounces of glycerine, scented with rose, will impart a final freshness and a delicacy to the skin.

In severe paroxysms in coughing, either in coughs, colds or consumptives, one or two tablespoons of pure glycerine in pure whisky or hot rich cream will afford almost immediate relief; and to the consumptive a panacea is found by daily use of glycerine internally, with proportion of one part of powdered willow charcoal and two parts of pure glycerine.

For diseased and inflamed gums, two of golden seal, one part of powdered burnt alum, and two parts of glycerine, made in a paste and rubbed on the gums and around the teeth at night, strengthens and restores the gums to health, provided no tartar is present.

Eastern Business Changes.

ONTARIO.

Hy. Glauser, shoes, Elmwood, has assigned. Chas. Malone, hotel, Aylmer, has sold out. C. A. Parson, grocer, Otterville, has assigned. Thos. Orr, saddler, St. Catharines, is burned out.

James Dean, hardware, Dundalk, has assigned.

H. S. Battram, fruits, etc., Hamilton, has assigned.

T. J. & W. Cox, merchants, Lakefield, have assigned.

J. R. Brooks, grocer, West Toronto, has assigned.

Wm. Lalonde, hotel, St. Eugene, has assigned.

Wm. Kane, blacksmith, Essex Centre, has sold out.

Grimes & Co., grocers, Essex Centre, are selling out.

John Horsman, hotel, London, is advertising to sell out.

D. E. McGuire, liquors, St. Catharines, is burned out.

R. W. Douglass & Co., books, etc., Toronto, have assigned.

Parker & Co., commission dry goods, Toronto, have assigned.

Jamieson & Hanna, carpenters, Welland Port, have sold out.

P. Bogart & Co., general store, Chesterville, have dissolved.

Andrew Meekison, grocer, London, is advertising to sell out.

Morrow & Co., fruits and confectionery, Cobourg, have assigned.

Albert Brinston, general store, Brinstons Corners, has assigned.

D. B. McRae, general store, Gore Bay and Meldrum, have assigned.

Chatham Harvester Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of agricultural implements, Chatham, have assigned.

QUEBEC.

Edward Clement, grocer, Montreal, has assigned.

Warren Scale Company, Montreal, have dissolved.

Alex. Taillefer, pumps, etc., St. Polycarpe, have dissolved.

R. & R. W. Fraser, plumbers, etc., Montreal, have dissolved.

Lenoir & Frere, shoe manufacturers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Chas. Marin & Co., patent medicines Montreal, have dissolved.

R. Millard & Co., railroad supplies, etc., Montreal, have assigned.