

Patrons of Husbandry.

The Grangers.

This organization is gradually increasing in numbers, and must continue to do so, as all those that have joined that body are fully satisfied of its utility and the advantages that will accrue. About the time of issuing our last journal, the Master of the National Grange and the Master of the Michigan State Grange came to this city with the expectation of enrolling Canadians in a state grange; but the members of the Canadian Grangers having established the Dominion Grange, did not not feel inclined to come under the American control. The American brethren were not quite satisfied in regard to Canadian independence in this matter. The officers of the Dominion Grange invited the American officers to a lunch, and matters were as far arranged as they can be at present, for fraternal relations between the National Grange and the Dominion Grange.

The Dominion Grange will hold its meeting in Toronto during the Exhibition week. We anticipate a lively discussion at that time, and general arrangements will be made for the extension of the Canadian Order.

Subordinate Granges established since our last issue:—

GREY DIVISION GRANGE.

Division Grange No. 2 was organized Aug. 10, 1874. The following is a list of the officers:—M. Gardner, Master; J. Petch, Lecturer; J. C. Whitelaw, Steward; A. Gifford, Secretary; Wm. Laycock, Treasurer; Sister Leader, Ceres; Sister Gifford, Pomona; Sister Bowes, Flora. Bros. Gardner, Gifford and Leader were appointed an executive committee.

39.—RICHMOND GRANGE.

Robt. Thompson, Master, Napanee; Lydia Coton, Secretary, Napanee.

40.—MOULTON GRANGE.

Robert Green, Master, Attercliffe P. O.; John Green, Secretary, Attercliffe, P. O.

41.—WELLAND GRANGE.

Robert S. Garner, Master, Welland P. O.; Jonathan S. Page, Secretary, Welland P. O.

42.—PENNIVILLE GRANGE.

Thomas Phillips, Master, Bond Head; Wm. Hill, Secretary, Bond Head.

The name of Grange No. 26 is WESTERN STAR.

The name of Grange No. 31 is BRANT.

Land Agency.

We would call the attention of the public to the advertisement of G. B. Harris & Co., of this city. Many of our subscribers are desirous of either purchasing or disposing of land. Messrs. Harris & Co. have an extensive correspondence both in Europe and Canada, and persons might save themselves much trouble in procuring lands, and might dispose of those they are willing to sell to better advantage by corresponding with them, as much time and money is expended by purchasers in hunting up lands to suit, and many farms would be sold if they were only known to purchasers. Whether you wish to buy or sell, give it publicity, and the desired result will be obtained. All business men find it necessary to let their wants be known. This agency does the advertising and corresponding, and receives no pay therefor unless the sales are actually made.

Scott Wheat.

When this wheat was first imported into Canada it had a few grains of bearded wheat with it. We know of no one who has taken the pains to pick them out, and thus the grain shows a little mixture when growing. We did not grow quarter enough to supply our orders this year, but supplied the best we could procure. There were a few grains of chess and even cockle in some lots, but we were careful to select from farms that had no bad seeds on them.

A New York baker advertises biscuits so exquisite that persons "sigh as their flavor dies away upon their breath."

Guelph Exhibition.

We paid a visit to this Exhibition on Wednesday. The attendance was not as large as it was last year, and the entries were not as numerous, but, on the whole, the Exhibition was a good one. The best display of draught horses that has been made in Canada was to be seen; also the best display of poultry.

Very few sales took place of any kind of stock. There are too many of these large Exhibitions in the western portion of Canada to allow breeders time to attend them all. Four large exhibitions, each taking a week to attend them, are rather more than the large breeders are willing to attend to, and the small breeders cannot afford the time or money to attend all.

Trifolium.

Each purchaser of the Scott Wheat had a small quantity of Trifolium or French clover put in a package in one of their bags. This is for you to test; sow a little in the fall and trample or roll the land where it is sown.—It may be of value to you.

We also sent each purchaser a little of the Seneca or Clawson wheat; this is also for you to try. Great reports are sent about it, but we think it will not be found as hardy as the Scott Wheat. It deserves a trial.

Agricultural Items.

THE POTATO.

The crop is in danger, although neither fungus nor beetle have assailed it anywhere. The tubers have ripened prematurely, and, generally speaking, the crop is light, but good. Now, the danger it is in is this—that it is ready to start into a second growth in the event of rain occurring quickly and copiously. What is called "supertuberating," or the growth of new tubers above the old ones, is a destructive process, for the old tubers that give birth to their fecula, and become flinty and tasteless in consequence. To prevent supertuberating, the crop must be lifted and clamped in the coolest and driest place that can be found for it, and it will be safe for any reasonable length of time. To wait until it is dead ripe is not necessary. If done growing and begun to ripen, it is perfectly safe and prudent to lift, for the momentary exposure to the atmosphere, and separation from the succulent haulm will hasten the ripening, and render the crop less disposed to grow than if allowed to ripen perfectly in the ground.—*The Gardener's Magazine, England.*

STORING CABBAGE FOR WINTER.

Mr. A. H. Mills, Middlebury, Vt., writes to the New York Farmers' Club on this subject, as follows:—"Of the various methods recommended for storing cabbages, I have found none to equal the following:—Cut the cabbage off above the ground, leaving the roots behind; take them to the cellar and stand them up on the stumps on the cellar bottom, where they will keep cool without freezing. It is well enough to make a small hole an inch or two in depth to receive the stumps, especially if your cellar is a dry one; and, if very dry, moisten the ground a little. Treated in this way they will keep green and fresh all winter without growing, for the reason that they have no roots to draw nourishment from the earth. Some small fibres will start out from the stumps, but they will only serve to keep the cabbages green and fresh."—*Union.*

PROPAGATION AND CULTURE OF EVERGREENS.

As a general rule, it is far better for inexperienced persons to buy plants than to attempt growing them from seed. The constant watching and care required until woody fibre is formed, will seldom be given except by those who make a business of it.

The soil of seed beds should be composed largely of sand and well rotted leaf-mould or soil from the forest. It should be deeply spaded, and well pulverized; it is desirable to have this done in autumn; that the seed may be sown as soon as the surface of the ground thaws in spring, or even before, if sand is laid by for covering to the depth of twice the diameter of the seed. Four feet is a convenient width of seed beds. The seed is sown broadcast at the rate of two-thirds of a pound to the rod in length of bed, for seeds of the size of Norway Spruce, Scotch Pine, and one and one-third of a pound of European Larch—the latter requiring the same treatment as Evergreens.

Partial shade must be given. If only a small amount be sown, it is as convenient to have it one foot above the ground. Where there are several beds, it is best to elevate the shade high enough to permit standing erect beneath it. Brush or corn stalks may be used for the shade. If the weather be dry, occasional waterings must be given.—*Farmer (Eng.).*

SHORT-HORNS IN ENGLAND.

The demand among English farmers for short-horn bulls is greater this year than last. At the English sales there have been 74 more sold than last year, and at an average advance on last year's prices of \$10 each. Last year the total amount invested in young bulls at the sales was \$40,000; this year, \$55,000. This answers the question as to the country getting overstocked with short-horns, as some in our country have unwisely supposed it would. Short-horns are very much more numerous in England and adjacent islands than any other breed of cattle. What we call natives here are hardly seen there, their cattle being bred up by thoroughbred crosses. Though there are herds of thoroughbreds in nearly every neighborhood, still the increase is wanted, and there are but few English, Scotch or Irish farmers who are not well posted in all the advantages to be gained by keeping improved farm stock. They are particularly exacting as to the points of sheep and pigs, and are every year becoming more so as to cattle.—*Western Farm Journal.*

THE CROPS IN IRELAND.

Wheat everywhere will be a good crop, and early sown barley will also be abundant, but late sown barley is light. Oats are reported to be an average crop in some districts, although short in the straw, but in other parts this description of cereal will scarcely come up to the usual average. The lightest crops will be found where the seed is sown late, where the land is either poor or in bad heart. Rep'rs from the County of Down state that the flax crop has improved beyond expectation, but in some parts of the North it is a short crop. The hay crop, in general, has been light; but it has been observed that where suitable top-dressings were applied at the proper season, the yield is, on the whole satisfactory. Owing to the fine weather during the hay harvest, the quality is good. Potatoes are reported to be promising in all parts of the country, and the quality of the early kinds are first rate.—*Farmers' Gazette.*

TURN YOUR ILL LUCK TO ADVANTAGE.

Many farmers have been unable to sow and plant the amount of land they intended, the past spring, and consequently are much discouraged, that they have such small crops growing. It is perhaps inconvenient to wait, but this seeming ill luck may be turned to advantage. The ground you could not work in the spring, may now be worked at your leisure, and it is the testimony of every one who has tried it, that no outlay of the farm pays better than summer tilling; and the more the ground is stirred the better provided it is in proper condition to work. In the spring the press of work usually forbids the expending of time to get it just right for stocking down for the mowing machine; but now you may prepare a piece to your liking. Then there are other advantages: the chances for a catch are ten to one in favor of seeding in the fall; and if you have manure to spread on, you are sure of good and lasting results; whereas that which was applied in spring has already lost its elements of grass food. So much of the work is out of the way for next spring and in for the most necessary, least exhausted and best paying crop of the East. There are various opinions as to the best time for fall-seeding. Some say August, others say September and October; others again say about the time the ground shuts, or the first snow. This latter we consider the safest time. A still further reason presents itself in favor of this course, namely: it requires less than half the usual amount of seed—if evenly sown. If you sow the usual amount of good seed it all comes, but will do nothing until the larger part has died out.—*Ex.*

WHEAT CULTURE.

A distinct proof is given that common salt has the power of liberating ammonia from soils that have been highly manured from rotten dung, Peruvian guano, and other am-

monical manures, which in sandy soils especially, exist in feeble combinations, that really undergo decomposition when brought in contact with solution of salt. In the case before us, a portion of chloride of sodium (salt) acted upon these feeble ammonical combinations, producing on the one hand soda, which became fixed in the soil, and on the other chloride of ammonia, which passed into solution.

This analytical result throws light on the function of salt in agriculture. It is well known that salt is most beneficially applied to light land after a good dressing with barn-yard manure, alone or in conjunction with Peruvian guano, and that its application under these circumstances is particularly useful to wheat crops in general. Practical experiments on a large scale have shown, indeed, that by salt alone a large increase of grain was produced off land in good heart—that is, had been previously well manured. In this case the application of salt evidently has the effect of liberating ammonia, and rendering it available for the immediate use of our crops, which we know from experience are much benefited by it. On land out of condition salt must not be expected to produce such favorable effects, and as this manure no doubt is sometimes put upon land exhausted by previous cropping, in which, therefore, it does not find ammonical compounds upon which it can act, one reason becomes evident why salt is inefficient as a manure in some cases, while in others its beneficial results are unmistakable.

Peruvian guano and salt is a favorite dressing with many farmers, and justly so. It has been supposed by agricultural writers that the benefit resulting from this mixture are due to the property of salt to fix ammonia. I have shown, however, elsewhere, that Peruvian guano does not contain any appreciable quantity of free ammonia. While theory has erred in ascribing to salt a power that it does not possess, the practice of mixing guano with salt is one that can be confidently recommended. So far from fixing ammonia, salt rather tends to liberate and disseminate through the soil the ammonia contained in the Peruvian guano applied to the land, which becomes fixed by the soil.—*Prof. Voelcker in Royal Agricultural Gazette.*

THE ONION MAGGOT.

The maggot is the onion grower's worst foe, and those who endeavor to crush the power of an enemy before it becomes troublesome, are wiser than those who endeavor to put a stop to its progress, after it has become formidable. It is generally admitted that the maggot is the onion fly in its larval state, or in its first state after leaving the egg. It is in this state of its existence, and no other, that it can be styled an insect injurious to vegetation; and if we can destroy the eggs, or prevent their being deposited in the onion fields, we are at once rid of the enemy.

Having noticed some of the habits of the onion fly, I am inclined to the opinion that they select, as far as possible, partially decomposed onion tops in which to deposit their eggs. When onion tops and scullions are allowed to decay upon the surface of the ground, in process of time they become a natural breeding bed, and attract flies from the surrounding country in larger numbers than can be accommodated by those beds. They next attack the weaker plants, and sometimes those which are making a strong, luxuriant growth, to puncture and deposit their eggs in the stalk. If the weather is warm, these eggs hatch in a few days, and the maggots commence their depredations upon the crop.

It has been my own practice carefully to turn under all refuse matter upon the onion field, late in the autumn, dress liberally with well lined manure, leaving it upon the surface exposed to the ameliorating influence of the winter's frost, and the drenching rains of spring time. Sow early in thoroughly pulverized ground, and attend carefully to the after culture. With this treatment the crop usually gets an early start, makes a vigorous growth, and is able to withstand all attacks of the enemy or changes in the weather. I think damage by the maggot in this vicinity would not amount to five per cent. of the crop in the most unfavorable years.—*Ex.*