

The foregoing account of yield and profit might tempt some of our cultivators to reap a lucrative harvest, as well as our cousins.

We will send a bundle of cuttings by mail to any of our subscribers that will send us a new paid subscriber. They grow very easy, any one would soon have enough to plant an acre.]

Every Farmer His Own Gardener.

The Kitchen Garden deserves more attention from our farmers than it has generally received. The products of a good garden are worth all that they cost, for the single purpose of supplying the farmers table with that variety of food which the mind and body require. It is no uncommon thing to find the table of a well-to-do farmer very scantily supplied with vegetables. Beyond that great staple the potatoe, there is seldom any vegetable on the table, year in, and year out. Sometimes a little variety is obtained by cooking a few of the field peas when green or a few ears of corn, which the good wife gatherd, robbing the farm stock of their course fair, that she may give a little variety to the table. The delicious wrinkled varieties not only more palatable but more nutritious, are wholly unknown, and the same with all the other varieties of the well managed garden. A considerable variety of food best develops the physical part of our system. A well-stocked and well-kept garden is the means of more intelligent and more refined yeomanry.

Besides this, the influence of the garden—and the vegetables it yields—upon the minds and hearts of the children of the farm is fruitful of good. Too little is done to make home attractive. It should be the most lovely spot on earth to all its inmates. Be it ever so homely "there is no place like home." Is it not better to make things pleasant to the eye, and dear to the heart, that shall administer enjoyment to mind and body, and link the thought of it in the memories of his children with every comfort, and every joy. Who can wonder that the children of some of our cheerless farm houses have no pleasant thoughts of home, and leave it as soon as they are fledged? No wonder they seek their enjoyment elsewhere, no wonder that so many sons of farmers leave the farm disgusted with its labors, and all they have known of a farmer's life. There is no reason in Canada why our farmers should not enjoy every real comfort, live in beautiful homes, and have their tables supplied with all the leading vegetables grown in our climate.

Another thing is this, a well conducted garden is a paying thing. Vegetables may be grown in excess to the wants of the farmer, and the surplus will always find a ready sale in our city market, and as a general thing at very good prices.

Nearly every seedsman in Canada publishes yearly an illustrated and descriptive catalogue of field, garden and flower seeds, with full directions for sowing and &c., free to all applicants, so that no farmer need excuse himself for not having a good kitchen garden. Nearly every variety worthy of mention are quoted, so with a little practice every farmer can become a successful grower of garden products.

The soil which is best suited for the production of vegetables is what is called a rich loam fully a foot in depth, with a sandy or gravelly sub-soil through which the surface water readily filters. The above kind of soil is the best suited, but every farmer is in a better position to have a good garden, than many who live in the cities on account of having manure in abundance, which is the most essential for all garden purposes. When the land is very wet it should be well drained, and you will find by so doing it will repay you itself thrice over. Be sure and plow the land thoroughly, and then well harrow it until every clod is crushed, and the soil made fine and mellow. Be sure and manure with an unsparing hand.

Horse manure is considered the best, but it should be exposed as little as possible. Mix it with other manures, and cover it with absorbents as soon as possible. That of the hog comes next, and the cow is at the bottom of the list. The richer the food given to animals the more powerful is the manure.

Superphosphate of lime, or bone dust are very essential, both to the farm and garden. As it seems by the use of one kind of manure—constantly the plants fail to derive the proper nutriment from the soil, but by changing from one to another the fertility is better kept up. I have found ashes to be of a great benefit.

With soil thoroughly underdrained, deeply pulverized, and abundantly supplied with manures, the foundation is laid for successful gardening.

I am one of the many who have lived year after year upon field corn, field peas, in fact, everything from the field. But having catalogues sent me year after year, from different seed houses, I concluded to try a vegetable garden, and after giving it a fair trial, I now send my two dollars every year for a supply of garden seeds which supplies my family the year round, with the exception of potatoes; and I now look upon a kitchen garden as a pleasure, where I used to condemn it entirely. Now a few words to the

FARMERS WIVES.

Ladies should cultivate flowers as an invigorating and healthful exercise, both for the health of themselves and also for their children.

The desire to make one's home attractive and pleasant, is prominent in the mind of every right thinking person, not merely for his or her own enjoyment, but more for the sake of their children.

Long before a boy or girl is able to do farm work they could be helping their father or mother in the kitchen or flower garden.

As a general thing when you ask a farmer's wife why she don't have a nice flower garden the answer is invariably, "I have no time." Now the old adage is "where there's a will there's a way," and every woman could spare say two hours a day. Make a start and you will find by the end of three months that your labour is not all in vain. What is more delightful when a lady friend calls on you, you invite her to see your flower garden, and see how much pleasanter the time passes away.

A beautiful garden tastefully laid out, and well kept, is a certain evidence of taste, refinement and culture.

It makes a lowly cottage attractive, and lends a charm to the stateliest palace.

An English writer lately visiting our country writes:—

I can conceive of nothing more drearily than to live in the country and have no garden. To have no garden, is to take the poetry and nearly all the charms away from country life. To have a garden is to have many friends continually near.

I have little faith in American women becoming farmers—holding the plow, wielding the spade or the shovel, but I do know that all the rest of the work can be accomplished by women, if they possess a love for the beautiful.

There lies the trouble—few of our children are taught to garden. If they possess a natural taste for the pursuit, sometimes it is gratified, but not always.

The first thing necessary after well preparing the soil, is to purchase garden tools, a small set, comprising, a rake and hoe on one handle, a trowel and a spade are very essential. With their aid much light work can be accomplished.

A watering pot with a large nozzle, and a fine sprinkler is also required. With these implements every woman can be her own gardener, and not only raise all the flowers she may require, but also contribute a large share of the vegetables that are always welcomed at the table during both summer and winter.

Every morning dig one or two beds according to the size, and continue the work until all are cleared up. Then commence again, and this prevents the soil from becoming baked, and lets the air and moisture enter the earth and nourish the tender roots.

The next thing is the selection of seeds which is a very important matter and on the wisdom of the choice success or failure may depend.

Those who have had little experience should invest cautiously and in the more hardy and popular kinds, such as asters, balsams, stocks, petunias, zinnias, &c., with a few of a more tender kind just for trial. A half dozen of flowering plants well cultivated will give pleasure, when a hundred neglected or ill cultivated will be a source of pain.

Plant with care and kill all weeds, and you will never regret the small investments required to commence and continue a garden, but will become more and more enamored with the occupation and will yearly increase your stock and your pleasures.

Novelties in seedsmen's catalogues are frequent visitors, and often some varieties give satisfaction.

But my advice is to venture on one sort at a time, and don't feel disappointed should they fail to realize your expectation, and turn out contrary to what it is represented.

ANATUER.

Western Ontario Dairymens' Convention.

The thirteenth Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Ingersoll on 15th, 16th and 17th February. The Ontario Association has been divided into Eastern and Western Associations. The President, after referring to the history of the Ontario Association, stated that a debt of \$12,000 had been incurred by them in their efforts to have the dairy interests of the country properly represented at the Centennial Exhibition. This burden they are endeavoring to have the Government assume.

An interesting paper on the "Past, Present and Future of Cheese and Butter" was read by Mr. Real, of New York. Dairying he showed continued prospering while all other interests are depressed, and satisfactory results must continue if dairymen produce first class articles of cheese and butter.

In reply to a question by Mr. Weld of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, Prof. Arnold said, in his experience white oak firkins were preferable to any other in which to carry butter long distances to market; glazed crocks for short distances. Tin was objected to because it was almost impossible to get it pure. Firkins should be scalded in boiling brine, and the brine allowed to cool in them. The butter that took first prize at the Centennial was damaged two inches in depth at the bottom of the firkin. The timber was at fault. Good butter had been shown at the Centennial even four years old; it had been kept in a pure tin can.

The reason that some makers produced less cheese from a given quantity of milk was discussed—some producing a pound of butter from ten pounds of milk, others taking more than ten pounds. An instance was given when it took less than nine pounds of milk to make one pound of cheese, and that of superior quality.

Mr. Farrington showed that there was plenty of room for more dairymen to embark in the business, but it is only the best that will succeed. Some dairies, for a succession of years, have annually shown a continuous difference in the yield of milk per cow and per acre of fifty, and, in some instances, one hundred per cent. This must proceed from a difference of skill and energy; and the vast difference in value between a good cow and a poor one seems not to be generally understood. The average yield of milk in various dairies was about 4,000 pounds to the cow; the average value was a cent a pound. The best dairies were fully \$35 more to the cow than the poorest, and \$20 more than the average. We knew one dairyman produced \$10 worth of milk to an acre, and fifty produced \$5 worth. The difference was mainly attributable to—first, difference of milking qualities in dairies; second, difference in the milking and the care of cows; third, difference of water and pasture; fourth, difference in feeding, not only in the winter but in the fall and spring months. He showed that grain remained about the same price that we used to get twenty years ago, but our cheese brought about double what it brought then.

Prof. Arnold gave an address on cooling milk. He gave accounts of several artificial means by which milk might be cooled, but considered the natural cooling the best. Keep the cows cool, if not by shade trees by artificial shade.

Mr. Lossie provided all his patrons with a cooler—a trough with water. It has been found very efficient and has given a great deal of satisfaction.

A resolution, moved by Mr. W. Weld, seconded by Mr. Casswell, was passed, recommending that trees be planted along the roads where cows are driven, and in their pastures, as a means of increasing the value of dairy products.

Rev. W. F. Clarke delivered an address on

DAIRY BREEDS OF CATTLE.

He said that all breeds of cattle were in one sense dairy breeds, inasmuch as they all yielded the lacteal secretion which is the basis of dairying. The Ayrshires have always been bred to produce a large yield of milk. A good Ayrshire cow could be obtained at a reasonable price. The adoption of the Ayrshire for the dairy would give the following results:—1. A greater quantity of milk, butter and cheese for the food consumed. 2. Greater uniformity in the general character of the stock from its inherent or hereditary qualities. 3. Better symmetry and constitution, and greater ten-