

factor of profit the proposition will stand unshaken. The farmer must always give the closest attention to cost of material, and what comes of feeding it. The balance he wants to make is a value of the product above the cost of producing it." Hear! Hear! say I, A. R. J. F.

#### Ensilage for Summer food.

Mr. C. D. Tylee, the progressive farmer and fruit-grower of Ste. Thérèse, near Montreal, wrote us some time ago mentioning his great success in feeding ensilage to his cows even at this late season. His cows are stall fed and receive cut grass and bran, but enjoy the ensilage twice daily, eating a bushel of it at each meal.

We have since seen Mr. Tylee's stock and found the cows particularly healthy and productive. Ensilage can therefore be counted upon as a *safe guard* against exceptional droughts, &c., in summer, as well as standard food for winter.

July, 1890.

E. A. B.

#### Standing Raspberries in Winter.

Whilst on a visit to Mr. C. D. Tylee's, at Ste. Thérèse de Blainville, we saw a new way of wintering raspberries, which answers to perfection, without any need of laying down &c. A strong picket is placed at each end of the row, with such additional pickets between as may be necessary. A small steel wire is then tied round the pickets, from end to end, encircling the raspberries, at about two feet from the ground. Another similar wire goes around the raspberry bushes at about four feet from the ground. The effect, strange to say, is to melt or break any ice forming on the canes, which with the least move from wind or otherwise are kept entirely free from icicles, &c.

The raspberry bushes we saw had been treated thus for several years back and never before had we seen such profuse bearing and such strong healthy canes.

E. A. B.

#### Permanent Meadows.

How long can timothy and alsike meadows last under full production, is a question which can be asked after visiting Mr. C. D. Tylee's little farm. Several years ago when the place was purchased it did not produce hay and grain enough to feed one horse and one cow later than the month of January. Yet an old meadow was there, in bare existence, for how long, even the oldest neighbour could not tell; manure was applied as a top dressing and now this same old meadow produces a full and, what is stranger, still a heavy, clean crop. How many meadows could be thus improved and preserved, after fall top-dressing and a good spring harrowing? Where hay is needed, this is probably the quickest and safest mode of securing a prompt, heavy crop.

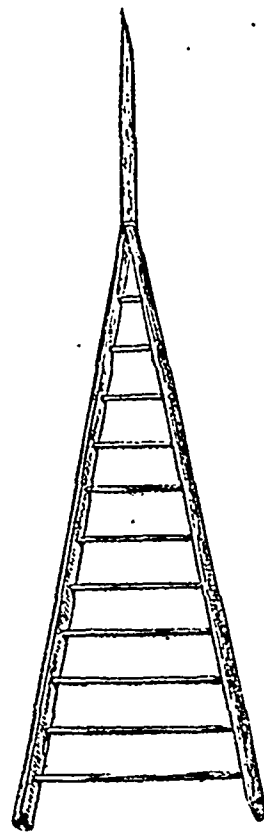
E. A. B.

#### A FRUIT LADDER.

There is scarcely a farmer who does not occasionally need a ladder in gathering his fruits; and I take pleasure in submitting a drawing and description of the best one I have ever seen. Take a pole of any desired length, but not of large diameter, sharpen it at the top to a slim point, and several feet from the top put a flat iron band about it, or in case a band is not at hand it may be securely wrapped with wire to keep

it from splitting. But the band should not be thick or with sharp edges, else it may cut or chafe the bark of the tree. If the grain is straight it may be split with wedges from the butt to this band, or it may be split with a rip-saw. Now spread it at the bottom to several feet in width, and if the ladder is to be quite tall this should be 5 or 6 feet or even more. Nail a brace temporarily across the butt ends to hold them apart, and bore holes at proper distances, and at proper angles; or if the spread is not too great they may be bored before the pole is split. Rounds of tough, strong material may now be inserted, beginning at the top, first removing the brace.

Such a ladder can be thrust upward into a tree and placed in a fork or against a branch without danger of falling or being unsteady, and it has the additional advantage of being very light at the top and easy to handle. If desired, a third leg or brace can be added by hinging it to the top round through a hole, thus making a step-ladder.



#### SOILING VS PERMANENT PASTURE.

BY HON. HIRAM SMITH, SHEBOYGAN FALLS, WIS.

INNOVATIONS IN METHODS.—I am well aware of the prejudice existing, and the suspicion felt, towards any innovation in the old established methods of farming. We have all been brought up to regard the pasturing of animals as the true way to keep them through the summer, cutting hay mainly on which to winter them, and many who do not figure very closely, or reason very logically, conclude that there is no better way of keeping animals than the way they were taught, but the competition existing in all branches of business and trade has forced many either to abandon the work they were engaged in, or devise some means by which they could increase the productions of their farms, and add to the animals from which they received their remuneration for their work.

MILK COWS REQUIRE NO EXERCISE.—It occurred to me some years ago that soiling cattle from the green crops that grew upon the land, could be done with less acres than to pasture the cattle. Of course, many will think that this is a poor way to keep cows, and we often hear the objection that they ought to have some exercise. It has been satisfactorily proved, by repeated experiments, that an animal that chews a cud requires but little of any exercise, and a cow that is producing milk does not require any exercise at all. I have tried it, and many others, and I think we are fully convinced that a cow that is giving milk does not need any exercise any more than a horse that works on a tread-power. The elaboration of milk is as great an exercise as the elaboration of power from the feed the horse consumes to apply to the tread-power. Therefore, the next question is a question of money. How much more stock can we keep? How much more food