

of the judicious cultivation of our lands, and having a suitable stock, and farm implements, as without all these, we need not expect that the products from our Agriculture will be excellent in quality and abundant in quantity. It is absurd to expect abundant and profitable crops from land not in a proper state of cultivation and fertility to produce a good crop, and inferior stock, and badly managed, will be equally unprofitable. A good crop will generally pay all expenses and a profit, while an inferior crop will neither pay expenses nor profit, and the land may actually be said to give no return, and be useless, when it only refunds the expenditure. This we regret to be the case with a large portion of the land cultivated in Canada, if farmers were to charge for their own labour at the same rate that is paid for hired labour. It is no wonder then that our Agriculture should not be in a prosperous state, with results that will not refund the expenditure. We do not make this assertion on insufficient grounds, as it can be proved without difficulty, by a simple debit and credit account for three-fourths of the farms of Lower Canada, for the last dozen years. Under such circumstances, is not the time arrived, that every possible effort should be made to introduce a better system of husbandry, and a more profitable one for the farmer, and for the general good of the country?

Every experiment lately made in England on stall-feeding cattle, has proved that cooked or steamed, and mixed food, is the best, and most successful in fattening, and we are convinced it would be found so in Canada in every instance. We have in former numbers of this Journal, stated the proportion of each variety of good mixen for stall-fed cattle, but the farmer can vary the mixture according to the food at his disposal. The food, though given warm, should never exceed the ordinary heat of the body of the animal, but common sense will show us that in our cold climate the food given warm must be better than given cold, because cold food will have to be heated in the

body of the animal, after it is received into it, which must cool to a considerable degree the heat of the animal body, and make it uncomfortable. We admit these things cannot be done without trouble, but this will be compensated for, by the quicker and better return of the animal for the quantity of food consumed, as we have no doubt the difference between cooked warm food, given to an animal confined in a stall, and feeding it with cold raw food, would be fully one-third, both in time and quantity required to produce the same degree of fatness in favour of the first. This would pay for the additional trouble and expense of fuel. Cleanliness, regular feeding, sufficient warmth, and good ventilation, are also most essential in stall-feeding. Box-feeding, we think an excellent plan, though some might object to the great accumulation of litter, and the length of time allowed to remain in the box under the animal. It has been found in England that allowing the litter to remain for weeks in the box provided the animal has constantly a fresh supply of straw to keep it clean does not produce any bad effect. The animal is considered more at its ease in this way than tied up, as it can turn about at pleasure, and change its position, without taking too much exercise. In this country, this would be an excellent plan of making manure, and having all the urine in the manure, without the trouble of a tank. This manure being taken from the boxes to the field, and properly piled there for use, it would keep without much wasting. We recommend the matter to the consideration of farmers.

In the stall-feeding of cattle in this country, no cheaper food can be employed than oats, when at one shilling the bushel, or under. They should be coarsely ground, and given to the animals, mixed with warm water, as a mash, three times in the twenty-four hours. From half a gallon to a gallon at a time, according to the size of the animal. If the farmer has roots of any description they might be boiled and mixed with this meal, diminishing the lat-