

read by ten persons—making the 50,000.

We again repeat the request: Write for your paper, and give us useful hints, and valuable information. Any one of you can give information which would be useful to others.

#### Lice, Gold and Legislation.

Why, what a nasty, filthy creature the editor of the Advocate is. He notices all manner of fifty things in the Advocate. My goodness gracious; it quite shocks me.

Never mind, fair friends; there are but few of you but know what a louse is; therefore it is unnecessary for us to give a full description of them. They are said to be very prolific,—being great grandmothers when 24 hours old—but that we don't know. We have seen one of these little insects on a ladies dress, who for wealth and position, cleanliness, beauty and manners, was quite equal to any person in this dominion; and this in a handsomely lined and cushioned pew, in a magnificent religious edifice, and far away from where we sat. Even admitting that some of our faculties may be weak, in eyesight we claim as strong and clear vision as any one,

(O gracious, take that paper away, or I shall faint!)

We have seen the emigrants, on the wharves and on ship-board, sunning themselves, but their hands would be kept pretty active; some would be picking at a child's head; others would be picking away at their stockings; or perhaps come on deck, with an old coat buttoned over their chest, to give the only shirt they possessed a good picking. Many of these poor creatures could not afford to purchase a comb, and not one of them knew of a remedy.

(We would recommend to Emigrant Agents, and owners of Emigrant ships, the following remedy for the effectual destruction of these vermin, and it should be always kept in their doctor's laboratory.)

Now we intend to give you information that ought to be of profit and value to every one in this Dominion; and a good smart chemist may make a fortune from it. One of our lady readers noticed the remarks made in this journal in regard to the poisonous effects of the common larkspur, gathered a handful, poured boiling water on it, and washed the head of a nine-year old child, that had its head full of lice, or fleas, as it called them. The little child had been sent to the sectional school, and got its head filled, as some others do, with more than their parents calculated on. The wash was applied, and every one of the insects were killed, nits and all.

Lice are not confined to the human family. They are found on cattle, sheep, horses, hens and hogs. They may be in different forms, but they are lice still.—Our animals are not in thriving condition when thus infested. How much loss does Canada sustain every year by lice alone? Quite sufficient to pay all our emigration expenses. Yes, or enough to pay all our legislators their \$6 or \$8 per pay. We are now using mercury and vitriol, in some cases with sorry results. Thousands of farmers do even worse; they let the lice and ticks have their own way: they have never reckoned the damage they sustain by the loss of growth, loss of flesh, loss of

wool and loss of life caused by lice. When this wash destroys lice, why will it not destroy ticks?

We believe it takes about thirty years to get old foggy farmers out of old grooves, and that has often to be done by their sons or grandsons. Unless the law compels them to make a move they would never move. Circumstances improve around them, which drag the most stubborn along—and they would fain think it was all due to their own forethought and good management. True, many are well off, but there is far more of their present position and wealth due to the progress made and caused by reasons they have never dreamt of. This little apparently insignificant fact may be the means of creating an immense amount of profit to the country, but who thanks the editor for giving you this information?

You may next summer beautify your gardens with larkspur, or even sow a small piece in a field, and make your louse wash for your stock. Or some of you may, perhaps, raise a quantity, and make a business of selling it to others, either in a powder or in a liquid state. Will any of you try it on any animal, and report about it. We have not time to test everything, and the Government has never aided us to test anything, but it ought to do so. We rather think a little decoction of larkspur would not do much harm in our Legislative halls. There are some very slow creepers there, that is towards doing any good for Agricultural advancement.

Some of you may think we had better sprinkle a little more about the Board of Agriculture. Some of the strong party political coons of this county have been syringing your editor for years past with their wormwood lotion, but it is not half as effectual as larkspur. If you wish to be sure of routing, or dislodging, or killing the enemy, just patronise the larkspur paper. Send it into every house, and it will be bound to rid us of more injurious pests than lice.

Perhaps this may make some scratch their heads where there is no itching.

#### To the President and the Board of Agriculture.

GENTLEMEN,—We think there should be no one on your Board but would be convinced that agricultural papers are of advantage to the farmers of the country.—You also should be aware that the editors of them have had great difficulty to contend with in the postal arrangement, and that the oldest established has been compelled to issue but one paper in a month instead of two as formerly. Also that another one would not be in existence at the present time if the Government had not materially assisted it, and that each proprietor expends as much as circumstances will admit to keep them up to the present standard. We do not pretend to say that either of you would, on due consideration, attempt to injure any of them; but we would wish to call your attention to the fact. You are expending the public money in advertising in one strong political paper, and the advertisement, although strictly agricultural, does not appear in any of the agricultural papers of the Dominion. If you really wish prosperity to

the agricultural press, it would be to the advantage of such papers that information over which you have control, such as the transactions of the general business, reports of delegates sent by your Association and paid for by the agricultural money, the transactions of the Fruit Growers' Association, and all such information should first be furnished to the agricultural editors. It would be but fair and just to them and to the country, because many farmers do not take political papers of one or the other party, and they should all take an agricultural paper. And the expenditure of your money and talents on political papers tend to lessen the power and circulation of the Agricultural papers.

#### Fall Seed, Wheat, and Postage.

To the Hon. John Carling, and to the Board of Agriculture.

GENTLEMEN,—There is a desire among our most enterprising farmers to know and procure the best kinds of wheat. The very short time which elapses between the harvesting and sowing of the fall wheat is such that it barely allows of time to collect current information in regard to the productiveness of the different varieties before it is necessary for the seed to be in the ground. On many fields the crop is removed and the land sown in the month of August. It is of much importance that farmers should be supplied with information in regard to the yield of the different kinds of wheat as quickly as possible. The great drawback to agricultural papers, and the preventing us giving such information, is the very high rate of postage that is charged to editors of agricultural papers. Our postage alone often amounts to \$50 per month. We might be able to give such information to our readers as might tend to the material increase of the wealth of the Dominion were it not so extremely high. We should issue extras, or even a weekly report of results, were the postage not such an enormous tax on us. We believe some great public expenditures are to take place to introduce agricultural education into our schools. Would not the facilitating of giving agricultural information to our practical farmers and their sons about the things they are most interested in, and are of importance to them, be of immediate advantage?

Perhaps you may think we are in error in asking agricultural papers to be transmitted through the post office at as cheap a rate as political papers of any kind are now passing. Is it not possible that by the reduction in the postal charges on agricultural information that as much good may be done to the farmers and to the country as will be done by a law that will entail on the country an expenditure of some millions of dollars to introduce the educational system in another form?

We have received the List of Premiums of the New York State Agricultural Society, by which it appears that the Annual Fair is to be held at Utica, Sept. 27th. The Exhibition is open to articles and animals from Canada, but proper entries must be made at the Custom House at Buffalo, Suspension Bridge, Rochester Plattsburg, or Ogdensburg, N. Y., and the owners must enter into bonds for export to Canada whence they came, or payment of duties in case they are not returned.

#### The Little Giant Thresher.

Mr. Vandyke Wemyss, of Amherst Island, sends us an order for a "Little Giant," and says he is an old thresher, and that he likes the Little Giant we sent into that section last year, better than any machine he has ever seen. We have not heard a single complaint about them.—Despite their cheapness, durability and efficiency, but few farmers as yet have become alive to their interest in keeping their land clean, and doing their work with their own hands; threshing just when they are ready, and such a quantity at a time as suits themselves. Hundreds of farmers that we know should have one of them, but the habit of employing the travelling machines has taken a fast hold of them, despite the inconveniences attending that system. But the most independent and best farmers will soon see the advantage of having a machine at their own command.

#### Hard-Milking Cow.

One of our subscribers inquires for a remedy for a hard-milking cow. We have read accounts of opening the milk-passages of the teats by forcing a knitting needle up them; also, by forcing a penknife up, but we have not tried either plan. If any of our readers have found from practice any good remedy, we should like to know the result.

#### N. I. C.

We have had something still later from Rodgerville, by N. I. C., and he has evidently used up his vocabulary of abusive epithets towards us, and on the other hand gone through the same process of finding expressions to let us know of what importance he is, and what he has, and what he can do for those who put their trust under his wing. But as he has not complied with our rule—applicable to all who write for information—we withhold his communication. We, however, have a poor opinion of the man who is ashamed of his own work, and will use his pen or his influence only when screened under an *in cog*. It is neither honorable nor manly. If he chooses to sign his name and give his right address we will publish his last communication, in which he endeavors to qualify himself and condemn us. N. B.—All communications or questions intended for publication should inform the editor of the correct name of the writer, and his address; but the name may be kept from the public if desired.

MR. JOHN SNELL, Edmonton, has recently sold to Mr. I. S. Armstrong, of Guelph, the short-horn bull calf "Welcome Duke," three months' old; sired by "London Duke," dam, "Welcome," by "Baron Lolway." Also, one Berkshire boar pig. Mr. Snell has also sold a Berkshire boar to Mr. Edward Jeffs, Bond Head, and one to Mr. J. Nichols, Newmarket.

We would call the attention of our readers to Mr. Stone's advertisement of his annual sale, to be seen in another part of our paper. Mr. Stone has done more good in supplying Canada with really valuable stock than any other importer. We saw his stock last week; he has some fine young bulls and rams which are deserving of the attention of breeders.