

desirous of economising the seed. I, however, only saw one plant; this, with the dry weather that followed, might have been owing to the "only just" covering. The seed was planted 22nd May, and it was the 5th of September before it headed out, and consequently did not ripen. Can you inform me where a little seed might be had for the coming season, as I should like to try it again?"

FIELD PEAS, &c.—A "constant reader" and others write to us desiring information as to where to obtain the "Crown," "Daniel O'Rourke" Peas, &c. The latter variety cannot now be had for less than \$3 per bushel. Parties writing to us about seed grain, &c., should send us their names and address in full, not for publication, but to give us an opportunity of communicating with them if necessary.

SORGHUM SYRUP.—"Briar," writing from Carleton, says:—"From a communication at page 296, vol. 5, it appears that the growth of sorghum has been successfully attempted in the western part of the province. Considering that Indian corn usually ripens here, and presuming that the Sorghum would be fit for cutting before the ripening process had commenced, would it be unreasonable to expect to succeed in its cultivation here? Is it of slower growth than Indian corn? Do you know of any small treatise on its culture and on the manufacture of syrup? I cannot doubt that the making of syrup would be attended with some difficulty in the vicinity of an apiary."

NOTE BY ED.—Though in some favoured localities the Chinese sugar cane may be grown to a limited extent in Ontario, we doubt whether its cultivation can be at all generally introduced with any prospect of success. From our own experience with the crop in Central Illinois, we should judge that our Canadian summers are scarcely long or hot enough to mature the plant. The only work on the subject that we at present remember, is one written by Mcott, and published by A. O. Moore, New York. The price, some years back, was \$1.

HINTS TO LEARNERS.—A correspondent sends the following brief but sensible advice to young men, who come to Canada with their experience of the country and of farm life yet to learn. We commend the timely counsel to all whom it may concern:—"First of all ascertain what would be a fair price to pay for your board in the country, in order to gain a farmer's experience. Then take care that it is an experienced farmer you live with—one who has been in the country some years, possesses a good sized farm, and is practically acquainted with agriculture in all its branches—that you may profit by his knowledge in everything about a farm. Do not be made a drudge of by being employed in what a boy ought to do about the house, for if you do you will, on leaving, have paid your money for learning to be a servant, in-

stead of a farmer. This is certainly profitable to the farmer, but downright robbery towards the pupil. A young man, under the circumstances, can do as he likes about working on the farm. Of course, he need not pay so much if he does. There are so many unprincipled people that parents ought to be very careful when they send their sons to a distance from home, either from the old country or Canada, to find out if the farmer with whom they may reside has had experience, and whether their sons are to be made servants or farmers of."

ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE CANADA FARMER should in every case be sent in to the office of publication not later than the 7th of each month. Particular attention to this notice is requested, as advertisements received after the above date will be too late for insertion.

BOUND VOLUMES OF THE CANADA FARMER.—The bound volume of the CANADA FARMER for 1868 is now ready, and can be obtained from the office of the Globe Printing Company—Price, \$1 30. Each of the back volumes for the years 1864, 1865, 1866 and 1867, can also be procured at the same price.

The Canada Farmer.

TORONTO, CANADA, APRIL 15, 1869.

The Helping Hand.

It is quite possible, by injudicious assistance, to weaken a man's self-reliance and independence of spirit; but there are occasions in most men's lives when the helping hand is sorely needed, and when a little timely assistance will turn the tide, lift the descending out of hopeless misery, or enable the inexperienced adventurer in untried scenes and circumstances to avoid dangers and losses, and put him in the right track to ultimate success. In one way or another, this friendly aid is especially welcome to the man who has taken the important step of leaving his native home and country, when first he arrives, a stranger in a strange land, upon the scene of his new hopes and ventures. Help in such a case is at once most grateful to the recipient, and politic, as well as humane, in the giver. In this country, particularly, one of our chief requirements is "more labourers in the field," and on all hands it is felt that public influence and public money would be well expended in directing hither a portion of the surplus population of the "old country," and rendering some measure of assistance to the immigrant on his arrival.

This important subject has been constantly and forcibly urged upon the Gov-

ernment, but hitherto with most discouraging results. Continually we are told that something is to be done, but nothing seems to be accomplished, and public expectation, in this most pressing and serious matter, is doomed to repeated disappointment. The recent Emigration Conference of *lico*, about which we heard so much, appears, from all that we can learn, to have been as abortive as any previous show of action. But the matter is too important to be allowed to rest. The Legislature must still be importuned on the subject; yet we should not remain satisfied with complaint and clamour against the authorities of the land. Something may be done by individual and associated efforts among the people themselves. In many respects our neighbours in the United States show us a good example in this matter. Not only is the Government liberal and active in promoting immigration, but the whole community seem alive to the importance of the subject, and co-operate in the work. In Texas we hear of a corporate society to whom, in addition to the ordinary inducement of free land grants, the Government allows \$40 for every immigrant they introduce into the territory. In Wisconsin wide districts have been settled by Norwegians, attracted thither by the representations and friendly aid of their kindred, who have arrived before them. The Germans too, as well as the Irish, besides giving an immense amount of private assistance to members of their families in the fatherland, have formed themselves into societies for the purpose of aiding their countrymen to emigrate and join them in the land of their adoption.

A somewhat similar step, we are glad to learn, has been recently taken in Canada. The Germans in Hamilton have founded an Emigration Society for the purpose of aiding their brethren from Europe to come over to this country, providing for them on their arrival, and directing them to suitable employment. We commend the example to other nationalities amongst us, and believe that much good might be done in the same direction by such public bodies as the St. George's, St. Andrew's, or St. Patrick's Societies, or by the formation of altogether new organizations for this special object. Private individuals may also do not a little in disseminating correct information, and recommending this country to the favourable notice of those who are contemplating a removal from their old homes across the Atlantic, and are anxiously making enquiries whither they shall direct their steps.

Our vicinity to England gives us great advantages over other colonies of the Mother Country, and we certainly ought to absorb by far the largest proportion of British emigration. The United States are our chief rivals here. They are fully alive to the importance of the subject, and spare no efforts to attract new settlers within their lines. But we believe that if correct information