

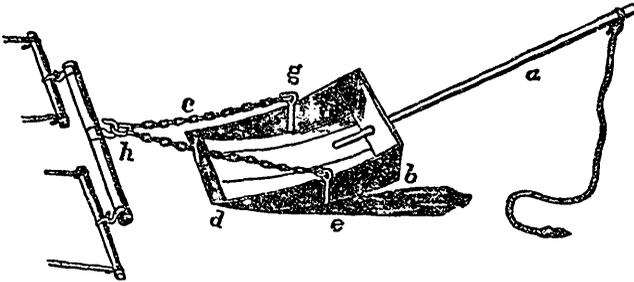
But to speak more in detail of Mr. Fortier's farm, we shall say it is divided into two distinct parts, in accordance with the nature and richness of the soil. The first part comprises the low lands near the river 5 acres wide by 15 acres in depth. It is composed of that soil called *argillo-silicis*, or "torre grise," it is the culture of this portion that we have already alluded to. The second part of the farm is a sand hill mixed with clay, originally covered with spruce when Mr. Fortier first took the farm, and it was of importance to put this part into a state of cultivation; it was at that time a succession of hills, and holes full of water and of aquatic plants.

Mr. Fortier here adopted the same rotation as before spoken of, modifying at the same time the choice of plants as culture or the land required; 1st year he ploughed it in the autumn, in the spring he levelled it by means of the horse shovel, an excellent instrument for the purpose. (See the wood

out.) The horses are harnessed to the whipple trees at *h*, a chain passing to *c* and *g* by means of which it is tilted over; it is guided by the handle *a*, and is elevated or depressed as circumstances may require. The soil thus levelled was left for about 15 days, by this time the weeds had sprung up which were covered by the second ploughing; in the autumn the manure was spread over it, and it received its last ploughing, and was then ready to receive oats, to be followed by meadow. Each year a new piece was laid out and the 1st year's product was really wonderful. After the 1st cut of grass Mr. Fortier applied the ley ashes which was followed by a yield of 300 bundles to the arpent for upwards of five years.

These are facts which we can confidently lay before our readers, and we shall no longer be under the imputation of only printing a Journal of theory.

We believe that the system adopted by



Horse Shovel.

the farmers of Quebec can be followed out here with certain modifications, without much manure or ley ashes, for instance, 1st year plough in green buckwheat; 2nd year sow oats and timothy seed; 3rd, 4th, and 5th years, hay; 6th and 7th years, potatoes upon old meadow; 8th year, oats; 9th year, pease; 10th year, wheat or barley according to the nature of the soil.

We shall continue in our next number some more observations on the Farm and Farmers in the District of Quebec.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

To the Editor of the Lower Canada Agriculturist.

Dear Sir,—Having now received the third number of the *Farmers' Journal* in its new shape, and having attentively perused the contents of each number, I must say it is a most decided improvement upon its predecessor. I felt much gratified on reading the several valuable agricultural reports,

particularly those of the counties of Missisquoi, Argenteuil, Beauharnois and the Island of Montreal. Reports of this kind must be of great benefit to every county. They show at a glance where improvements are judiciously carried on, and where merit is due. The systems that have been adopted by the above counties, contrast most favorably with those who spend their funds in holding a paltry grain and cattle show, such as the County of Quebec is in the habit of holding annually, in preference to giving prizes for well managed farms, growing crops, draining, &c. I shall explain a few of the abuses under the present system. For instance; why should prizes be given for such small quantities of grain as a bushel, or two bushels at most? The plan usually resorted to by the money catchers who compete for them (for I can call them nothing else,) is handpicking, rubbing, tramping, keeping grain from one year to an-