

Carleton Place

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AT CARLETON PLACE, BY
JAMES POOLE,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

To whom all communications, remittances, &c.,
should be addressed.

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IN ADVANCE.

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PROFITABLE FARMING.
(Editorial Correspondence Country
Gentleman.)

Among the farms visited in Cayuga county,
the following, mostly of moderate size,
are given to show the "farming" will pay.
Doubtless there are many others in the
country equally successful, or more so—these
are only a few brief statements of some points
of their management which will be useful to others.

Isaac N. Sexton, of Venice, occupies 100
acres, which he bought seven years ago at
\$400 an acre, making the cost of the farm
\$40,000. He paid \$3,000 towards it at the
time; during the seven years he has
occupied it he has replaced the poor fences
with good ones, added to the building, and
paid the remaining \$3,000 in \$300.—
This success is the more observable when it
is stated that poor health has prevented
much active labor, and he has besides had
much sickness in his family. Everything,
however, has been vigilantly attended to.—
He showed me a 13 acre field of grass
that by estimate would yield this year at
least two and a half tons, and stated that
this was the lightest in five successive years,
having averaged previously about three tons.
His first crop on the land was corn, the
land having been cleared from the previous
autumn—a mode of applying the manure
which he regards as far the best, the rich
portions being thus ultimately diffused
through the soil. The corn was followed
by barley, which yielded 44 bushels per
acre, and both corn and barley being then
about \$1 per bushel, they netted about \$750
for two years, or twenty-seven dollars per
acre each year. The field was sowed to
grass after the barley. His fences are mostly
of rails, with vertical stakes covered by wire
or bored caps. All are made of the heart
portion of white elm; the stakes being from
near the centre of the log, are very durable.
He thinks such rails will last 50 years.

Peter Hume, of the same town, has 140
acres. Being a vigorous and energetic man,
he has accomplished much in the twelve
years that he has occupied the place. He
bought 100 acres at first, at fifty dollars per
acre, running in debt for the whole—he
literally began with nothing, but sturdy
hands and good judgment. He has erected
a barn costing \$1,200, and dug 21 miles
of ditch, three feet deep, and 12 feet wide,
from the product of the land, has now in
12 years paid for the 140 acres. He
keeps about twenty head of cattle, besides
other animals, and by careful saving, and
using plenty of litter, makes about 400 two-
horse loads of manure yearly. His principal
barn is 44 by 68 feet, with a basement under
the whole; furnishing wagon house, tool
room, and stable for his cattle and horses.
The horse stable is remote from the stone
wall, and is comparatively free from damp-
ness. All the stables are neatly paved;
those for the cattle have a broad gutter,
behind the animals for the droppings, about
five inches deep, the portion next to it on
which the cattle stand, being large flagging.
They do not dirty the stables, except by
occasionally stepping into the manure gutter.
All are furnished through opening from above.
The manure is wheeled out into the yard,
and formed into an even uniform heap,
by alternating well the horse and cow manure,
and the litter, instead of the too common
error of allowing straw to accumulate in one
place, and unmixing dung in another. A
wagon-way passes through the basement
and directly over it is a trap door through
which bags of hay or grain are passed down
with little labour from the granary. The
workshop is amply provided with tools, vice,
&c., both for convenience and economy in
making structures and repairing implements.
The best tools are kept locked in a chest,
and are not allowed to pass into ordinary
hands without the knowledge of the owner.
This barn is not large enough and he intends
to add to it, giving it a length of 100 feet.

The rotation observed on this farm is,
corn on sod, barley, grass two years old,
wheat after summer fallow, grass. More
than two tillage crops are not allowed in
succession, the owner remarking that three
always made the land "sleepy." A small
crop of oats is raised only for home use.—
The barley has averaged 33 bushels per acre,
the wheat about 30.

Alvin Freeman of Scipio, cultivates a farm
of 244 acres. He has occupied a portion
thirty-five years. He began with only \$100
which was the first payment for 40 acres;
he has made additions at different times, and
the 244 acres are now all paid for, exclusive-
ly from the land. This farm affords one of
the best specimens of mixed husbandry in
the country. It is on the high ridge of land
on the west side of Onondaga lake, and is about
800 feet higher than the waters of the On-
ondaga. The seasons are consequently some-
times shorter than along the borders of the
lake.

The first object which strikes the eye of
the visitor, is the fine range of barn build-
ings, all substantially built with vertical
boarding and battens, and covered with
three coats of paint. Spacious and cleanly
basements extend under the whole. Cattle
are kept in stalls in winter, and are fastened
in their places by chains furnished with snags,
similar to those already described. The
year that this shelter for his sheep and cattle
was completed, he was deficient in hay, and
expected to be compelled to buy twenty tons,
but so great was the saving effected by pro-
tection, that this was not only unnecessary,
but five tons were actually saved. His Scotch
Friesian sheep yielded at this time an
average of 24 lbs. of wool per head. But they
improved so much under the influence of

shelter, as to yield next year over 4 lbs., and
in subsequent years the average fleece ex-
tended upwards to five and six pounds.—
Last year he sold 111 ewes for four and a
half dollars each, after having sold their
fleeces at an average of six pounds at 50
cents a pound, or three dollars each, and re-
taining their lambs, worth each from one to
two dollars more, the ewes being 3 to 5 years
old, and some 8 or 9 years. The average
profit per head was reckoned at 9 dollars,
or nearly one thousand dollars for the whole.
He is satisfied that shelter affords a saving
of one-third of the hay otherwise required;
and that there is a gain of one-third from
the improved condition of the sheep.

A young apple orchard of 100 trees was
set out about three years ago, now in their
fourth summer stage transplanting, being
about three-fourths of an inch in diameter.
They now afford an average measurement of
three inches and half. "It is scarcely neces-
sary to add that the ground has been well
cultivated."

On being asked what departments of farm-
ing had proved most profitable and had en-
gaged him to pursue most for this year, he
answered, "It is a little of everything—
that has done it—mixed husbandry—I
sell some wool and some sheep; dispose
of a portion of my cattle as they increase;
raise some corn and wheat, so that if one
fails for a single season, I have enough of
the other to make up the deficiency. They
all help each other."

As a proof of what energy, judgment and
economy may accomplish, A. Freeman men-
tioned to me the case of a young neighbor,
Fayette Van Liew, who two years ago, with
only 1,000 dollars bought an 80 acre farm
on 65 dollars an acre. He paid but 300
dollars for the land being compelled to use the
other 500 dollars for a farm improvement,
&c., leaving him 5,000 dollars in debt. He
has now, in five years, reduced this to 1,500
dollars having paid a yearly average of 600
dollars from the 80 acres.

Two miles from A. Freeman's, a fine farm
of 150 acres is occupied by John Aitken,
who bought it six years ago for 10,500 dol-
lars, payable one-half down. He has since
increased his farm stock and improved it
heavily, and now has 2,000 more, besides
the interest, and maintains his family com-
fortably.

The successful farming of George H. Chase
of Springport, has been already mentioned,
who in seven years, with no previous knowl-
edge of farming, has doubled his profit from
his land. His success is owing to the follow-
ing, keeping a careful account of his success,
his failures, measuring his crops, weighing
his cattle weekly while feeding, seeking the
best information from all sources, and re-
ducing it energetically to practice.

TOADS AND BEES.—We have been watch-
ing the work of fifty toads of bees which
stood on the edge of a beech grove, as they
came sweeping down to their Tangroth
homes. "Wonderful workers!" said I.—
"Yes, they are—that and how they do it!"
—I believe they have a range here of a
circle of 100 to 150 miles, which they
clean. And yet you would hardly believe
that these lively bees, armed as they are,
are the victims of great clumsy, black, filthy
toads! "I have seen so," asserted, but
have no further evidence that toads eat
bees." "Well, they do," I did not believe
it; but I met an old gentleman at a fair
who told me to kill an old toad, and I
killed him, and he was indeed a toad. I de-
termined to know. Last year, at bee swarming
I was watching my bees, and saw a large fat
scamp of a black, warty toad near the hives.
There were good many bees on the ground,
about on the grass where I had just hived a
swarm. I determined to watch Mr. Toad,
though with little faith that I should prove
him guilty. Pretty soon I saw him show
signs of animation. He gave one or two
pretty good jumps in the direction of the
bees, then began to crawl like a pointer after
a prairie chicken, until he got within three
or four inches of the bees when snuck!
went his chops, and the bees were gone! "My
stars!" thought I, "Is it possible that fellow
took a bee then?" Now, I will say, I
just let me watch you a little longer, my
fellow." I waited and watched. Pretty
soon, snup! went, and another bee was gone,
and I saw the fellow take up another dozen
in that manner. I tell you, my dander was
getting up by this time, and I up with a
piece of board and headed the fellow over,
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