

Surely if this expected failure was known in our Southern and Eastern markets, there would be a change in the price for wheat now on hand.

Respectfully,
A FARMER.
Lonsville Journal.

Hinslow, April 1, 1843.

ICE HOUSES.

From the Dollar Farmer.

The following description of the manner of erecting ice houses we select from the Farmer's Gazette. Having ourselves witnessed the superiority of houses constructed in this manner, we can recommend them as far superior to the under ground houses, which are usually found in this section of country:

The most powerful agent we have to contend with in preserving ice is dampness, which arises from the gradual melting of the ice and that which the atmosphere naturally contains. There is more difficulty in excluding this than warm air from the ice. It is of the first importance therefore to locate your building in a spot divested of trees and exposed to a free circulation of air. It should not be in a cellar, nor sunk in the earth, nor walled up with stone, for such locations are inevitably damp, independent of the vapor arising from the ice.

Erect a plain wooden building of eight or ten feet, posts entirely above ground. Size according to your wants. The outside covering of boards and planks, placed perpendicularly with batt'ing over the joints. The inside boarded up, clapboard fashion, lapping on each other to prevent the water from running into the filling, which should be of charcoal if to be had, if not, well dried tanner's bark may answer, but will need renewing occasionally. The filling should be put in as the inside boards are put on, or as may be most convenient, leaving places for the purpose open. The floor of three or six inch plank, high enough from the ground to allow a free circulation of air, and descending enough to drain off the water which drips from the ice, with ribs of narrow boards to keep the ice above the water, and holes in the lower side to let out the water as it flows down, and a good drain to convey it away from the building.

Let there be a moveable floor above the ice, that there may be but little vacancy between that and the ice when the house is filled. Let the floor down as the ice is dissolved or removed. On the floor lay dry rye straw, two or three feet thick, make a hole in the center of the floor, with a trap door large enough for convenience to put in the ice, and to go in and out. Let two opposite sides of the building be boarded down to the ground, the other two open to admit a draft of air to convey off all the dampness.

Thus your ice is thoroughly shielded from dampness and warm air, which is all that is desired, and with proper care in going in and out during the summer, you will have this great luxury and necessity of life in perfection, provided you put up good solid ice.

The largest and most complete ice houses of which we have any knowledge, are those on the Hudson river, from which New York city is furnished with a most elegant article of Rockland county ice.

Blaikie's Portable Threshing Machine.

Worked with two, three, or four horses at pleasure.

THE SUBSCRIBER begs to intimate to the Agricultural community throughout Nova Scotia, and the adjoining Colonies, that he is prepared to receive orders for making *Threshing Machines*, either portable or stationary. He believes that he is justified in stating that his machines are equal in speed, if not superior to any now in use in the Colonies, or in the United States. With two horses, his machine will thresh 20 bushels of wheat per

hour, and a fourth more for every additional horse, when the grain is in fair working condition. With two horses it will thresh 20 bushels of oats per hour, and a fourth more for every additional horse. The horses move in a circle of 25 feet in diameter, at the rate of 2 1/2 to 3 miles per hour, and can work during the full day without fatigue. The portable machines can be removed from one field to another with ease,—are easily erected and put in operation, and are rarely subject to get out of order. From the low price at which they are made, and the rapid sale they have already received, whenever they have been tried, he has reason to believe that they only require to be known to come into extensive use.

Letters addressed (post paid or free) to the manufacturer, or to the editor of the *Mechanic & Farmer*, will receive every attention.

THOMAS BLAIKIE.

Green Hill, West River, February 1.

CERTIFICATES.

This is to certify that in December, 1841, I purchased one of Mr. Thomas Blaikie's *Stationary Threshing Machines*, and since that time by the great saving of time and labour resulting from the use of it, it has amply repaid me for the use of it. I therefore confidently recommend these machines to every farmer who may require such an article, and will venture to assure any person that if they purchase one they will never have reason to regret it, as an unprofitable investment of capital.

GEORGE McDONALD.

West River, January, 1843.

Having worked for some time with one of Mr Blaikie's *Threshing Machines*, with moving horse power, would recommend it as a superior article, and are certain, that no farmer could make a better investment than to supply himself with a machine of this kind.

SAMUEL FRASER,
JOHN FRASER.

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

I have had Messrs. Frasers' *Threshing Machine*, made by Mr. Thomas Blaikie, threshing for me two or three days, and found it to surpass my expectations. It done the work well, and thrashed clean, and I would recommend it as a very superior article, as regards saving of labour and grain.

B. L. KIRKPATRICK.

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

Having witnessed the *Threshing Apparatus*, made by Mr. Thomas Blaikie, in full operation, I give it as my decided opinion that it far exceeds, in usefulness, and saving of labour, any other of a similar nature which has come under my observation, and it is preferable to any other kind used in the Province.

JAMES CARDINALE.

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

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