Lawrence to the railroad, and this will include the deepening of the main ditch, so as to bring it to about four feet deep at the upper end of the farm, which will altogether settle the question of the "mouron," i. e., chick-weed, which was a terrible sight in the root-harvest of 1894, though, this year, there was not a bit of it to be seen.

To sum up, we are rather proud of our pupil, and as a friend, a French Canadian who knows farming down to the ground, says, in a letter lately received.

"It must be very gratifying for you to see the good work of your pupil at Sorel. What bosh to talk of English farming methods not being adaptable to Canadian farming.

When I have finished reading a number of contradictory scientific reports from experimental stations, I always sigh to myself "cui bono," and think of Dundreary, and his pill-box of soil from his farm, and long to back, at any odds, the scientifically unaided and uneducated British farmer, who nevertheless can cultivate his farm, in a manner quite unapproachable by any other farmer, of any other nation under the Sun."

As for the prizes won at the County and Parish Competitions by Mr. Guévremont and his brother Baptiste, "nomen litis legio", they are what "Uncle Remus" would call "scan'lous!"

DESERTED FARMS.

Deserted farms in Maine—Reclamation sheep—Rape—Rotation.

We hear, from Bingham, Me., that in the district surrounding that town there are a "great many deserted farms. Whole settlements, a dozen farms in a place, are given up to bushes and rabbits!" We were really in hopes that the New-England farmer was beginning to see that a cure existed for this complaint. How long ago is it that we heard of a wealthy patriot having bought four of these deserted farms, thrown them altogether, and devoted them to sheep-breeding and fattening? A full account of this will be found in the October number of the Journal for 1892, p. 154. The reclaimer of these farms, Bennett, by name, did not take the Merino for his "foundation stock", but as the well known correspondent of the "Country-Gentleman", Mr. Webb Donnell, writes, "stocked his farm with "Hampshire-downs," in the sensible attempt to obtain mutton, with a fair average clip of wool thrown in. Mr. Bennett is on the right track when he takes a mutton breed as the base of his operations. Wood may fluctuate and even rule permanently low, but lamb and mutton, provided they are of extra quality, will keep up in price for many a long day."

Unfortunately, we have never been told how this wise plan was eventually managed. Sheep are, no doubt, the proper reclaimers of worn-out land, at a distance from towns; but, then, sheep will not grow their own food; provision must be made for them, and the cheapest and most easily grown food for sheep is rape.

Had we to conduct an enterprise of this kind, we should divide the farm into five parts, and work it, as most of our S. E. of England farms used to be worked, some fifty or sixty years ago:

1st year——roots and rape;
2nd " barley;
3rd " half-clover; half pease;
4th " Oats.

In the first year of the rotation, supposing each limb to consist of 100 acres, we should grow 75 acres of rape, with bone-dust and a trifle of nitrate of soda; and 25 acres of mangels and swedes, for the winter use of the lambs and ewes of the first year.

The clover and pease, of the third year, would do wonders for the in-lambed ewes, and the oats, with their straw, and the barley-straw might be reserved, in part, for the horses. The barley itself would sell for enough to buy timothy hay, if the horses needed it; but, on a farm of the size in question, one would hope the greater part of the ploughing would be done by steam. Ohlif we were forty years younger, how we should like to go into such an undertaking! It would pay, in Maine or in this province; we are sure of it.

FARM-OPERATIONS FOR NOVEMBER.

October begun badly; too much rain for ploughing the heavy land of the province; but fine weather for all sorts of out-door work after the 8th of the month up to the 16th. A great deal of bad will be laid up this fall, thanks to the pressing instances of Mr. Macfarlane and others. Even the Sorelois are at last being convinced that their light soil is all the better for a winter's exposure in the furrowed state. And, while fall-ploughing is going on, pray do not imagine that your horses can do without oats. The weather, at its best, is not agreeable. In November, but too often cold and wet. As soon as the horses are on hard food alone, do not forget to give them each a bran-mash every Saturday night, if you are not intending to take them out the next day. The mash, like a dose of physic, opens the pores of the skin, and renders the animal subject to catch cold.

As Mr. Guévremont said to the editor on the afternoon of the 1st of October: "Look at those cows, Sir. How much milk will they make standing out this raw wet evening?" He very wisely took them into their comfortable house, and gave them a warm "mess of moulée," composed of oats, pease, and linseed, ground up together, and, I have no doubt, they testified their gratitude in a day or two by yielding additional pounds of milk. How much better prepared for the winter are cows treated thus, than those poor wretches that we see every day shivering knee-deep in mud at the gate of the pasture upbraiding with their meek eyes the cruel master who, while he himself is smoking his after-supper pipe, is entirely forgetful of the pressing wants of his unfortunate servants.

HOGS are getting ripe; remember that pease will make lean meat and corn fat. Push on the last April litters, and have the August, or September, pigs ready for the Montreal market soon after Christmas. Plenty of buyers for young, tender pork at that time and place, but very little really good pigs of from 70 lbs. to 80 lbs., carcase weight to be had. No one knows what pork really can be made, until he, or she, has tested the boiled leg of a 16 weeks old, well bred pig, that has never eaten any thing, since weaning, but skim-milk, or whey, and barley meal. The "hand," or shoulder with a small piece of the fore-rib or neck, is almost as good as the leg. A week to ten days, according to size, in plain salt—not a particle of salt-petre, please—is sufficient; and, if the cook has sent up the joint not quite done enough, cut a few slices out of the thickest part, and send them back to be broiled, you will thank us for the suggestion.

THE FLOCK requires plenty of fresh air, and complete protection from the wet: this is the true secret of shepherding in the winter in this country. Cold, sheep do not do not care about. If your ewes are with the ram, feed the latter liberally, though, as here, the Sultan has rarely more than a dozen or so Sultanas, his fatigue will not be very great, even if they all "come" on the same day. As we have often said, in this periodical, if we had pease-straw and timothy-hay at our disposal, we should give the pease-straw to the ewes, and the timothy to the horses. If ewes get no food containing a full supply of nitrogen, their lambing time will not be satisfactory.

Whatever repairs are needed in the barns, etc., make up your minds to get them out of hand before spring: you will not be able to find time, then. We shall never forget the muddle a farmer was in at Beaconsfield, two years ago, in the middle of his harvest; doing work in the barn, to the neglect of pressing work in the field, that ought to have been done six months before.

TIME IN PLOUGHING.—According to the calculations given in "Stephens", most ploughing, including turning and time spent in occasional stoppages, is done at the rate of about a mile an hour; and "a ridge of no more than seventy-eight yards in length requires five hours and eleven minutes out of every ten hours for turning at the landings, with a ten-inch furrow-slice; whereas a ridge of two hundred and seventy-four yards in length only requires one hour and twenty-two minutes for turning—making a difference of three hours and forty-nine minutes in favor of the long ridge as regards the saving of time" in one day's work.

SIR JOHN LAWES ON THE ENGLISH WHEAT CROP.

We publish to-day, fully a month earlier than usual, Sir John Lawes's letter on the wheat crop. He first remarks upon the favourable character of the season for wheat, and upon the earliness of the harvest. In both respects the season has strikingly resembled that of 1868, one of the best wheat years of the century; but Sir John appears to think that premature ripening was more common in that year than in the present one, the summer temperature having been considerably higher than it was this year, while the harvest was even earlier than that of this season. At Rothamsted wheat-cutting began on July 14th in 1868, and on July 18th in 1896. Judging from the yield of wheat at Rothamsted, it might be concluded that the latest crop is a greater one than that of 1868; but we shall be surprised if it proves to be so, because we believe that in some of the best wheat-growing counties the crop was not as stout as it was in that year of abundance. On the unmanured plot, which has grown wheat yearly without manure since 1844, the yield this year is no less than 16¾ bushels per acre, or nearly 4 bushels over its average from 1852 to 1895 inclusive, and one-eighth of a bushel above its yield in 1868. The farmyard-manure plot yields 44 bushels, or 9 bushels, in excess of the average for forty-four years; while the mean yield of the three artificially-manured plots is 39¾ bushels, or 4 bushels more than the average. The mean of all the plots is 33½ bushels or 5¾ bushels above the forty-four years average. Ad these figures represent measured bushels. But the grain is so much heavier than usual this year that 33½ measured bushels, averaging a fraction over 63 lb., in weight, are equivalent to 35¼ bushels of 60 lb., or 7½ bushels more than the average yield of forty-four years reckoned in the same way, and five-eighths of a bushel more than the yield in 1868. Of course this would be too much for the United Kingdom, and the 33½ bushels by measure would probably be beyond the mark. Sir John Lawes apparently estimates the average yield of the kingdom at 33 bushels an acre, or a fraction less, as he puts the home produce from 1,731,876 acres at rather more than 7 million quarters. The mean population for the cereal year is put at a little over 39½ millions, and the consumption, including seed and wheat given to live stock, at 6 bushels a head, or nearly 30 million quarters in all. Thus the imports required during the twelve months are estimated at nearly 23 million quarters. We believe that these calculations will be closely verified.

EXPERIMNETS.

Superphosphates—Potash—Rape-cake—Dung—Sulph. am.—Ni. soda.

If any farmer wishes to try experiments with artificial manures, he must bear in mind that perfect equality in the several plots is an absolute condition of through comparison. To attain this end, a piece of land, pretty well worked out by a few years successive cropping without manure of any kind, should be selected. Otherwise, all sorts of anomalies will occur, such as may be seen in the following:

In some experiments on turnips at Ripon, noticed in the Report of the Agricultural Department of the Yorkshire College for 1895-6, 8 tons of farmyard manure alone gave an increase of more than 15 tons an acre over the produce of the unmanured plot, while the addition of 5 cwt. of dissolved bones alone gave 8 tons more than the unmanured plot. Again, the addition of 5 cwt. of superphosphate to the farmyard manure resulted in a decrease of 3 tons per acre of turnips, although 6 cwt. of superphosphate alone increased the yield 8 tons 8 cwt. 84 lb. over that of the unmanured plot, and the increase cost only 2s. 2d. a ton—the cheapest increase of any in a long list of results. In this trial, it may be mentioned, the greatest success was a crop of over 31 tons, or nearly 16¾ tons more than the produce of the unmanured plot, at a cost of 4s. 1d. a ton for the increase, obtained by the use of 8 tons of farmyard manure, 5 cwt. of superphosphate, and 3 cwt. of rape dust. In other experiments on turnips, carried out at Stainton, the addition of 5 cwt. of superphosphate to 8 tons of farmyard manure gave less produce than the former alone, although 6 cwt. of superphosphate alone gave within 1 cwt. of the produce of the farmyard-manure plot. In this set of experiments kainit greatly increased the yield in several instances, as in one, for example, in which 2 cwt. of it gave 1¼ tons more than ½ cwt. of nitrate when added to 6 cwt. of superphosphate. The greatest increase