

tleman in Montreal who had visited one establishment in Warrington, State of New York, that a Company with a moderate outlay in buildings and machinery were clearing \$150 per day. But we need not go beyond the mills of the Messrs. Perine, Bro. & Co for proof of the success of this new undertaking. Much praise is due to them for the enterprise they have shown.

It appears by the papers that the Linen Trade in Ireland never was in a more prosperous condition than now, and prices of flax are quoted from £70 to £100 per ton. During the last year from £30 to £40 sterling per acre has been paid on foot, before pulling.

Farmers need not be so frightened at the expense of pulling, (which seems to be a prominent obstacle in their way,) as they can cut it with their cradle as easily as they do wheat, provided they will only take the necessary pains in preparing the land when sowing. Care must be taken to have the surface well rolled, both before and after the seed is sown, and to pick off the stones that none may be left to interfere with the scythe. In all other respects I agree with the various hints given in your article.

The question is often asked, "where is our market?" To this I say most distinctly CANADA is the proper market, and if capitalists will only put up machinery such as the Messrs. Perine have done at Doon, &c., we will be able to manufacture all the farmers will grow, consume it at our own door, and save the enormous duties we are paying for such articles as shoe-threads, twines, ropes, cordage, coarse linen and brown Hollands, all staple articles and much wanted. I also maintain we can produce as fine an article of flax as they do in Ireland, and whatever is too fine for the manufacture of such coarse goods as I have just mentioned will meet a ready sale in either England, Ireland or Scotland.

JOHN A. DONALDSON

Spring Mount, Weston, Feb 17, 1864

Change of Seed Grain.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER.

SIR—In your valuable paper of the 15th inst., I observe an article written by Mr. Keefer, of London, desiring to ascertain the cause of so great a failure of the Spring Wheat crops. The aphid or plant louse unquestionably has done a great deal of damage throughout Canada. A too constant cultivation of wheat has also proved a great injury. But where is the farmer who will not agree with me in affirming that we need a change of seed? The want of this no doubt is the greatest cause of the failure in our crops, not only of wheat, but also of barley and other grains.

We need only look back a very few years and we find about half a dozen kinds of Fall wheat run it, and the same is true of Spring wheat. Some kinds of Fall wheat have come round the second time partially renewed. The same cannot be said of the Spring wheat, (in this part of the country at least). When it ran out there was something new, lastly came the Fife wheat, and that has been sown one year too often.

There was little or no barley grown in this part of the country till within the last four or five years, and as there has been no change of seed, we can now depend on little more than half a crop. The mild no doubt injured it considerably. Yet if we compare the heads while harvesting with those of former years, we find it lacking about one-third in length, and looking, as Mr. Keefer states respecting the wheat, as though it were blighted.

Our oats too are fast decreasing—they have been an average crop this season—yet the yield is not what was anticipated while harvesting.

Being impressed with the idea that we must have an importation of seeds, I resolved last winter to try it on a small scale. By the first steamer for Montreal I had wheat, barley and oats on the way from Scotland, three kinds of each, one peck of each kind. The invoice and bill of lading getting lost I did not receive them till this winter. Being aware of the fact that grains imported from foreign parts take a year or two before they become naturalized; what plan would you recommend to protect the Spring grains from the excessive droughts, also, the Fall wheat from our severe winters? Would you advise giving the ground a thin coat of half rotted manure after sowing, then go over it with a roller?

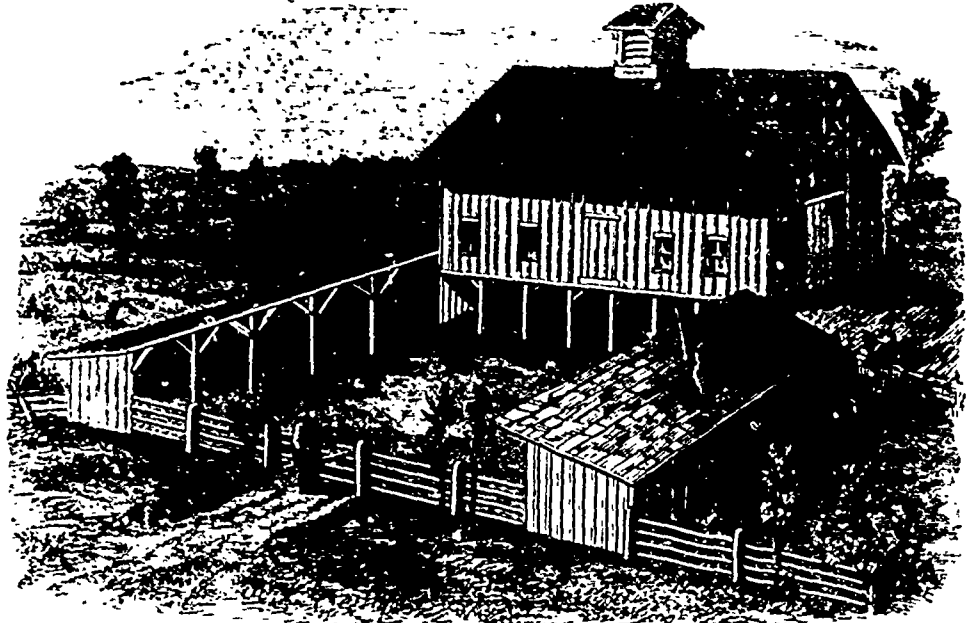
WILLIAM RENNIE.

Markham, Feb. 22, 1864.

NOTE: BY ED. C. F.—We should prefer well rotted manure. The roller would be useful; and better than anything else, would be thorough drainage and deep ploughing of the land.

Rural Architecture.

THERE is not only scope for the exhibition of neatness and good order in the erection of the farmer's dwelling-house, but similar qualities may be displayed to advantage in the buildings that girt the farm-yard. These should be spacious, convenient and substantial. Judgment is needed in the selection of the site and the arrangements both external and internal. We hope to be of service to our readers in this department of farm management, by publishing, from time to time, plans of barns and other structures, adding thereto such descriptions, hints and suggestions, as may help in the actual business of building. In the accompanying illustration, we give a design for a barn-yard of moderate size, and of simple arrangement. It is intended as a general outline merely, the details being left very much to the option of the proprietor. The barn has a stone-walled basement on three sides, which may be used for stabling or



cellarage. Twelve feet from the front of the building is a wall with doors and windows in it, and in front of the wall is a shelter for stock. Two sheds in the form of wings are run out to any desired length on either side. The body of the barn is built of wood above the basement, and is supposed to be 60 x 46 feet; the posts 18 feet above the sills; the sides covered with boards laid vertically, and battened with narrow strips 3 inches wide. The roof spreads 3 to 4 feet over the body of the barn; a ventilator crowns the ridge and is at once useful and ornamental; a circular-slatted blind window is in each gable; there are double large doors in each end, to admit the passage of a team and waggon, and there is a single door on the yard side. The interior arrangements can be modified according to taste. A main floor about 12 feet wide should run through the centre of the barn, and at suitable places in it there may be a couple of traps for letting hay, straw, or roots down into the basement. A bay for hay storage may occupy the greater part or all of one side of the building, a grain mow, granary, and storage-room the other. An ample passage should be left leading to the side-door, to throw out litter. If horse stabling is desired on the main floor, a portion of the space can be devoted to that purpose. Movable sleepers or poles may be laid across the floor 10 feet above on a line of girts framed into the main posts for that purpose, over which, when the sides of the barn are full, hay or grain may be stacked up to the roof. Similar accommodation may also be provided over the granary, storage-room, or stable. If the demands of the crops require it, after the rest of the barn is filled, a portion of the floor itself may be used for packing away hay or grain, a plan which, though it involves some trouble in getting a waggon in and out, is better than stacking out. In the basement much room for cattle, calves, &c., may be had, or if underground stabling is deemed objectionable, the basement can be chiefly devoted to roots, and a portion in a convenient place partitioned off as a manure cellar. The ample shedding will furnish space for a line of racks or mangers for outside cattle or sheep, as well as protection for the waggons, and other implements which ought never to be left exposed to the weather. The sheds may be carried higher than in our plan, and floored overhead, so that hay or other food may be stored in them for stock. A driving way is built up to the barn-doors at the ends. This need not be expensive, especially if the barn be located, as it is desirable it should be, if possible, on a shelving piece of ground, or a slope, which will admit of a basement without much excavation, and a roadway without a high embankment. Of course as it respects size, arrangement, and all the details, the proprietor can use his own judgment and taste. Our aim is simply to give a general idea, which can be altered and improved upon as circumstances may seem to require, and means permit.

FIRST-CLASS MAPLE SUGAR.—A hundred good sugar maple trees will usually make in a season from two to three hundred pounds of sugar, if well managed; and if every precaution is observed to ensure cleanliness, prevent souring, boil speedily and without burning, and to clarify properly, a larger quantity of sugar will be made; it will be more saleable, and command a higher price; or if intended for home use, the smiles of the farmer's kind wife, when she sees such a beautiful article make its appearance, will more than repay him for all the pains to secure such excellent success. The addition of a teaspoonful of salt to each 100 pounds of sugar improves the taste of the sugar. It gives it a fuller taste. Salt is also good when used in syrup.—*Pennsylvania Farmer and Gardener.*

COTTONIZED FLAX.—Some beautiful specimens of cottonized flax have been sent to the Agricultural Department at Washington, by manufacturers in different parts of the country. It is stated that the samples have a fine gloss, that its texture is stronger than ordinary cotton, and that mixed with wool, it can be wrought into elegant and durable fabrics for ladies' dresses, men's wear, and the various uses to which cotton is applied. It can be manufactured and sold at ten cents per pound and yield a fair profit, and some manufacturers are even sanguine that it can be sold at eight cents per pound. Cottonized flax now bids fair to become an important branch of national industry.—*Michigan Farmer.*