

COST OF THRESHING.—A correspondent of the *Northwestern Farmer* claims that the cost of threshing by large eight horse power machines, causes to farmers a great less. His estimate, from a practical acquaintance with the work is as follows:

"We will admit that with a good Thresher, and stout horses, a full complement of men to handle grain and stack the straw, and with good weather and favorable wind, there can be threshed and *partially* separated, in a day *two hundred and fifty bushels of wheat.*

The cost of this day's work I estimate as follows:

the Thresher, [he furnishing machine,	
4 horses and 3 men] 4c per bush.	\$10.00
3 hands exclusive of above, 75c per day.	9.75
horses furnished by farmer, 50c "	2.00
ward of 16 men, 30c "	4.80
one for 8 horses, 25c "	2.00
threshing 250 bush. through Fanning	
mill at 1½c. per bushel,	3.12

Total, \$31.67

leaving a small fraction less than *twelve and a half cents per bushel*; leaving out of the account all contingencies, such as changing position of machine and horse power, breakages of machinery, rainy weather and adverse winds, which in a majority of instances would swell the cost very materially. It is evident, therefore, from the foregoing estimate, that there is a balance of just *five cents per bushel* in favor of the old mode, as compared with the modern improved, Eight Horse-Hower Threshers."—*Michigan Farmer.*

Horticultural.

Cobourg Horticultural Society.

We received some time since a Report, which unfortunately got mislaid, of this young and flourishing Society, whose operations have extended over only two years. The Directors say:

"It is with great pleasure we congratulate this Society on the continued success which has attended it during the second year of its existence; we would not attribute this success to our management, but to those spirited members, who, at great sacrifice of time and much personal exertion have by their example, stirred up that spirit of emulation which is the life-blood of all such societies as ours, and without which failure would be the inevitable result.

Our Fall show was remarkable in one particular, which we would here chronicle. *The Vegetable productions were astonishing.* Several of your directors had an opportunity of comparison by being present at the Provincial Fair

at Hamilton and other local societies' Shows, and they certainly feel called on to say this much, that the display made by the Cobourg Horticultural Society, in this particular department was altogether the best they had been privileged to see, affording proof that our particular locality is peculiarly adapted for growing the *most profitable* garden products.

The number of members, each paying a dollar for the past year, was 88, and the financial condition of the society is good, the Treasurer having a small balance in his hands. We shall be glad to hear of the continued prosperity of this young and energetic society, and trust that Horticulture is destined to receive similar encouragement as Agriculture has long experienced in the old Newcastle District, and that the anticipation of the Directors will be fully realized "in obtaining a very large membership for 1861, especially as they see so many evidences that the dark days of Cobourg are with the past."

Culture of Annual Flower Seeds.

The soil for these should not be over rich, and should be dug deep; the surface should be rendered smooth and fine before sowing the seed; *small seeds sown on rough ground fall between the clods and into the crevices and get buried.* Attention to this simple hint will save growers much disappointment, and seedsmen a great amount of blame; for, in cases of failure, the quality of the seeds is almost invariably impeached. Hardy Annuals may be sown from the middle to the end of September for spring flowering; the plants ought to be thinned out before winter, to prevent their damping off, and transplanted early in the spring, to the flower border, or, when more convenient, may be sown where they are to bloom. Many of the Hardy Annuals, especially the Californian, flower more profusely, produce finer blossoms, and remain longer in perfection during the spring months than at any other season of the year. For summer and autumn flowering, sow from the middle of March to the middle of June. A common error in the cultivation of Annuals is in allowing them to grow too close together; and many, of what would otherwise be an attractive bed of Annual Flowers, are ruined for want of thinning. We therefore say, thin early, and sufficiently to afford ample space for the perfect development of the plants left. It is also very important to afford support to such kinds as require it before they get broken or injured by wind or heavy rain; perhaps the simplest way of doing this is to place among and around the plants small neat branches, like pea stakes; the lateral shoots will extend among and hide the stakes, and the