

The Canady Farmer.

REMARKS BY SLICK JIM, THE REFORMED HAY-FORK MAN.



I hain't no college student, ner deeply lerned in books— I 'spose most folks wou'd rank me with the fakirs and the crooks—

But I've studied human Natur' a'd took a high degree In the school of Ole Experience— Life's University.

An' I ca' kilate I'm posted, if any feller is, On the subject of the Farmer and the entire farmin' biz., An' I jest procee! to menti n that them comic paper chaps Is 'way off in their reck'nin' when they make them funny scraps.

I read 'em in the papers— 'bout ole Hayse d from the farm, Who goes to town a-visitin' an' allus comes to harm ; How bunco-steerers tack'les him and 'peers to be quite thick, An' gits his money from him an' fools him with a brick.

An' sometimes they hev picters showin' Hayseed lookin' green, An' wearin' go-fō-meetin' clothes, the wust you ever seen ; With big top-boots and duster, an' ole-style carpet bag, Or drivin' through the city with a raw-bone, bobtail nag.



Them funny men an' artists seems to hev jes' one idee— That the Farmer is a bloomin' chump and greenhorn jay, you see ; But that is where they're off their base and gives theirselves awa) — I'll back the av'rage farmer 'gin them smarties any day !

You understand I'm speakin' of the farmin' man I know— Which lives right here in Canady— all through Ontario. If the farmer over yender in the States, 'bout which I read, Is the fool they make h m out to be he's quite a different breed.



I reckon I'm no sucker or I'd never got the name— "Slick Jim"— what I was knowed by when I worked the hay-fork 'vame — Or, ruther, tried to work it, a couple of years or so, But had to give it up because the racket wou'dn't go.

If farmers was the idiots them funny writers say, The'd be money in the hay-fork fake, an' I'd be rich to-day ; But here I am a-peddlin' tins and livin' straight and fair, 'Cos why ? The's eddication an' knowledge in the air !



Wot chance hes fakirs got to thrive on pluckin' rural geese In a country where sound knowledge continners to increase? Where they hev Travellin' Dairies and Farmers' Institoots. They've got no use fer lightnin'-rod or hay-fork scheme galoats.

The Canady farmer mostly takes the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, And gits posted on the markets and about the rates of freight, An' 'ou every new invention an' all the latest frauds, So the fakir's got to git, you see, or work 'gin fearful odds.

An' then, agin, them comic chaps gits up some measly jokes Along another 'line of thought about the farmin' folks— They hev thegall— them city d. des, who never does no work— To picter farmers settin' round, their labor fer to shirk !

Jes' look at this here picter to show you what they do— I clipped it from a paper, and them there verses, too. I'll stop till you hev read it—



"NOTHING MUCH TO DO. "Thar's nuthin' much to do, yer see, Nuthin' much ter do. Th' shingles mostly off th' barn An' let th' rala right through. Thar ain't no use o' stowin' hay Right whar 'will milder every day. 'Twould be good labor throwed away, Thar's nuthin' much ter do. "Thar's nuthin' much to do, by gee! Nuthin' much ter do. Th' fences all down in th' lot, An' let the cows' right through. Thar hain't no use o' sowin' wheat Th' neighbors' cattle fer to eat. I'd sooner sit and rest my feet— Thar's nuthin' much ter do." —Judge.

Now, I make bold to say, The' hain't a farmin' man like that in all of Canady !

If I was huntin' lazy folks, I'd 'speat 'em to be found Wher' comic paper writers and artists most abound— A lot of long-haired, shiftless coons, with nothin' more to do Than git off thing's like the above, that's neither fair ner true.

The farmin' man's a worker from cradle into grave. Inste'd of bein' a idler, he's nigher to a 'lave ; An' I only wish thet things was fixed so, after doin' his best, The farmer wou'd get decent pay and time to take a rest.



God bless ole Agriculture ! As every man alive Depends upon the farmer, so, may the farmer thrive ! And tho' I've tri'd to "work" him in hay-fork days of yore, I've saw the error of my ways, and won't do so no more ! Toronto, Canada. J. W. BENGOUGH.

Poor Man's Farm Power.

SIRS,—I notice in the last number of your valuable paper quite a number giving their experience and opinion of power for the farmer's use. Those powers that have been recommended are all good, no doubt, but they are too expensive for the average farmer. I have a horse-power made on the same principle as the cut in your last issue. I built it in my straw shed, the post running down into the manure shed, the horse working there. I made the wheel 14 feet in diameter; the pulley connected with this wheel is 14 inches, which is run by a small chain, such as a common binding chain, which costs about 5c. per foot. I have about eighty feet; the belt pulley is three feet in diameter, thus giving enough speed for cutting-box. The small pulley cost me 50c. to have it turned out of 3-in. stuff; the large pulley I made with hemlock lumber, three ply; had it cut with a hand saw; cost we 10c. Some of my neighbors use the drive-wheel of an old reaper for this pulley; they say it makes a good one. They have to knock off the lumps. Any handy man can make this horse-power. It will run a cutting-box, pulper, grindstone, and pump water. We get grain ground for 5c. per bag, so it would not pay a small farmer to put in a crusher. I run my cutting-box with one horse, giving plenty of power. I hope this will benefit some of my brother farmers. Grey County, Ont. JACOB LOUGHEED.

The Extension of Live Stock Rearing in Canada.

"Having in view the present numbers and condition of pure-bred as well as general farm stock, the peculiar adaptability of different localities for stock-raising, its vital importance in a successful system of farming, and the market outlook for (1) cattle (beef or dairy), (2) horses, (3) sheep, and (4) swine (or their products), is it desirable at the present time to devote more attention to this industry throughout the Dominion, and to what classes and types of stock?"

A careful study of the live stock industry in the Dominion, from personal observation and otherwise, inevitably leads to the conclusion that the present is a fitting time to institute a vigorous forward movement among farmers and stock-raisers all along the line for extending the sphere of influence of improved stock as the surest source of profit for the rank and file, as well as for the leaders in the great army of producers of farm products. In view of present conditions and future prospects, of the natural adaptability of our country to animal husbandry, and the present and probable tendency of markets for animals and their products, it seems to us safe to say that the rearing of live stock is bound to be more surely than ever the sheet anchor of successful farming and the secret of the expansion of our trade. The hearts of the great majority of Western farmers beat more quickly when the price of wheat approaches the century line, and they are apt to fancy they would be happy if that point were gained, but, as a matter of fact, to nearly all our Eastern compatriots it would mean little, since wheat-raising, as a rule, has been so unprofitable, the conditions being unfavorable; and we are further fully persuaded that even if wheat were to strike and keep the dollar mark it would not eventually mean so much for even Ontario and the West as at first sight appears, from the probability, amounting almost to a certainty, that many men would rush into wheat-growing, an uncertain crop at best, almost exclusively, sowing upon unsuitable soils, ill-prepared and overcropped, with the sure result that reduced yields would soon render their work unprofitable and unsatisfactory, the elements of production being drawn from the soil and sold. It ought to go without saying that failing to feed animals on the farm to supply fertility is folly in its most fatuous form, and will surely end in failure. The cheapest, most potent, and most readily available fertilizer for the average farmer is that made by the feeding of stock on the farm, and if our farms are to feed us, we must feed them. Favored with farming land in large areas naturally fruitful, and which responds generously to generous treatment, failure to furnish fertilizing elements by the most natural and easily available means we prove recreant to our own interests and lower the standard of our profession.

A COMPARISON

of the value of our exports of live stock and live-stock products with those of our grain crops shows at a glance how superlatively important is the former industry even in its present limited and unimproved condition, so vastly short of its best possibilities. Our exports of live stock and live-stock products in 1896 reached the value of \$34,708,183. The value of our exports of wheat flour and bran was \$6,602,239. The value of our exports of grain of all sorts, including oatmeal, in the same year was \$9,353,950, while our exports of all products of the farm outside of live stock, and including hay, fruits, and seeds, was \$13,982,551. These are startling figures, but if the value of products sold for home consumption were added the comparison would doubtless be even more striking. We have no statistics of the value of the live stock on the farms except those given in the report of the Bureau of Industries for Ontario, which give the value in that Province in 1895 as \$103,958,047. Granting that fifty per cent. of the stock in the Dominion is improved and nearly approaching the desired standard, the increase in the value of the other half which could be made by the use of pure-bred male animals in a few years, placing it at the low average of one dollar a head, would mean many millions of added wealth to the country and a proportionate gain to each individual farmer who raises stock to any extent.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

The Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, from their central position, the early introduction of pure-bred stock, and other favorable conditions, have assumed the position of a nursery or breeding ground, from which all the other provinces, as well as the United States, draw supplies of fresh blood for the improvement of their stock. That these Central Provinces are admirably adapted to the successful raising of all the recognized breeds of stock has been amply attested by the great displays at the leading exhibitions and by the record made by our breeders in competition with other countries at the International exhibitions in which