

the *second* if not—in many temperate climates—the *first place* among insects depredators. A few weeks is sufficient to convert a handful of these viviparous and oviparous insects into countless legions, which, taking flight, *fill the air with their numbers.*" I must, before closing this already long letter, respectfully advise B. A. to extend his reading, before he again ventures upon unknown ground, to understand his subject.

As for his sneer about the chances of my being offered a fellowship in the society of Natural History, he will permit me to say that it is possible my chances are quite equal to those of the *armed delineator of the insect "grave digger,"* and would be Professor of Entomology.

I am your obedient servant,  
W. S. CONGER.

Peterboro, 26th August, 1862.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have seen my farmers, and regret to learn from them that the fears I expressed in my letter of the past, as to the probable damage the "Apple" or Plant-Louse, would inflict upon the crops in this part of the country, are likely to be more than realized, and persons who at that time considered their grain uninjured, have during the last few days, while harvesting, discovered that their oats and spring wheat have suffered seriously.

Yours,  
W. S. CONGER.

Peterboro', 30th Aug., 1862.

### Chinese Sugar Cane.

DEAR SIR,—In looking over the Prize List of the approaching Exhibition, I regret to notice that no prize is offered for an agricultural product now becoming one of the most important staples of the Western States, and which might, encouraged, become a most important addition to our provincial produce and manufactures;—namely, the *Chinese Sugar Cane or Sorghum*, which grows wherever Indian Corn may be cultivated.

I have seen it stated in late American News-papers that in one State, either Illinois or Indiana much has been raised of Sorghum during the present year, that the wants of the population, for Syrup, or Sugar, (or both) will not only be supplied, but that there will be a surplus for exportation. Throughout the entire west, during the year, no less than about 50,000 acres are to have been occupied by this comparatively new plant. I have tested its growth in this Province and am convinced we could raise it to advantage as well as our neighbours in the West. Syrup and Sugar are of universal consumption, and I have no doubt every farmer who raises Indian Corn, can raise the cane to supply his own syrup or sugar. We want the machinery for crushing the cane, and the apparatus

for evaporating the sap or juice, but these can easily be produced, as they now form ordinary articles at the west. I regret that this important product of the soil has escaped the notice, or failed to excite the interest of the managers of the affairs of the Provincial Exhibition.

I beg also to refer to some agricultural machinery or implements which do not appear in the List, but which seem to me of considerable importance to farmers generally.

1. A good cheap Horse-Power for one or two horses for ordinary farm purposes.

2. A simple machine for sowing Lime, or Plaster by horse-power.

3. A simple but effective machine for sowing Turnip, Carrot, Parsnip, Mangewurzel seed &c. in two drills at once, by horse-power.

The proposed erection of a Sugar Refinery in Toronto, by Mr. W. Molson, of Montreal, might, in my opinion, greatly facilitate the growth of the Chinese Sugar Cane in the County of York or the neighbouring counties, as farmers could conveniently exchange their home-made syrup for sugar, which I believe is commonly done in the west wherever there is convenient access to a sugar refinery. The sap of the Sorghum contains, I learn, about five times the amount of Saccharine found in the Maple, and the manufacture of the syrup is a rapid and simple process and from 200 to 300 gallons may be produced from an acre.

I am, my dear sir,  
Yours respectfully,  
JAMES LESSLIE.

E. W. THOMSON, Esq.,  
President Board of Agriculture, U. C.  
Toronto, 29th Aug., 1862.

### REMARKS.

[The Board of Agriculture is always glad to receive suggestions of the character of the above, and feel grateful for them. We shall be happy to receive communications from our readers who have had experience in the culture of the Sorghum, and of its conversion into syrup and sugar. The other subjects to which Mr. Lesslie refers shall not be lost sight of. It has always been the practice of the Board at the annual Provincial Exhibitions to notice and give extra prizes to articles of merit, although not enumerated in the prize list. Eds.]

### Woods at the International Exhibition.

(From the Mark Lane Express.)

One of the most extensive and interesting of the numerous collections now on view in the International Exhibition is certainly that of the woods, sent from so many countries and climates and from far separated districts. A complete