

Trip to New York.

Being desirous of still improving your paper, we took a trip to New York in quest of material for its embellishment and information in regard to seeds, &c. We left London on the 6th of July, per G. W. R. to Suspension Bridge. The crops along the line show a most wonderful improvement; spring crops promise a bountiful return. The country from Suspension Bridge to near Rochester is rather of a hard, cold, clayey nature; large quantities of beans are raised in this part of the country; spring crops look well; hay and fall wheat both light crops.

Rochester is remarkable for its beautiful flower gardens and for the quantity of fruit raised in its vicinity. Even in the city grape-vines are numerous, and the houses are more encircled with fruit and ornamental trees, grape-vines and flowers than in any place we have noticed.

We proceeded to Coldwater Station, and thence to Mr. Harris' farm, the celebrated writer whose able articles have appeared in the *Agriculturist*. We seen a little of his farm—of the Squire's and Deacon's; they appear to be a happy family. The Squire and Deacon are pleased to beat Mr. Harris in any part of his management; the Squire beats him in his barley crop and the Deacon beats him in his wheat crop, or at least we should judge so from present appearances. The Deacon has the Clawson wheat; Mr. Harris has the Diehl. But Mr. Harris beats them both in the quantity and quality of his hogs and sheep; he keeps fifty breeding sows—pure Essex, and has a fine lot of good pigs; he also keeps about a hundred Cotswold sheep. This is his principal stock. Mr. Harris was just prepared for a journey for his holidays, with his family; in fact, the carriage was in waiting at the door on our arrival, and Mrs. H. and family had their luggage all ready. Thus we only had a few minutes with him.

The land in this part of the country is of excellent quality, worth from \$100 to \$200 per acre, 6 miles from Rochester. The Squire has 700 acres; in one place he has 50 acres in fruit, which pays well, although at this time, perhaps, there might be nearly 100 bushels of cherries rotting because they would not pay to market. The reason is that the fine kinds of cherries will not keep any length of time after being gathered. We should have thought something could be done with them, as the same kinds that we saw spoiling in this part of the country were selling at wholesale in New York market for \$5 per 100 lbs.

We might treat longer on our observations in this section, but as Mr. Harris was absent, we concluded to call again at some future time. The Squire must accept our thanks for his great kindness in showing us through that part of the country.

We next went to Geneva and proceeded to the residence of Mr. J. Johnstone, the celebrated writer on draining, farming, stock fattening, &c., whose writings have been well known to the readers of the *Country Gentleman* and all agricultural periodicals. The old gentleman walked partly over his farm with us; he is now 84 years of age, and of course time begins to tell on him, but for his age he is remarkably active. We particularly wished to learn something of the seed wheat. Mr. Johnstone had been like Mr. Harris and thousands of other first-class farmers too favorably impressed with the Diehl wheat; on examining his crop he estimates the yield of the Clawson wheat at fully one-third more per acre than the Diehl. What appeared strange to us was that none of the farmers in New York State, as far as we could ascertain, know anything about the Scott wheat, which has been so successfully raised in Canada.

Mr. Johnstone had only three acres of the Clawson wheat. Some years ago he had a pupil to instruct in farming, named Swan; the pupil married one of his daughters, and purchased a large farm near by. He appears to have surpassed his instructor, for his farm is one of the best, perhaps the best we have seen in America, taking all things into consideration. He has it all under-drained and in the highest state of cultivation, and the crops were looking better on it than on any farm we have seen this year. His principal aim is to fatten stock. He comes to Canada and purchases sheep and cattle of good quality, and such as we should term fat, or nearly so, and makes prime meat of them. He has his scales, and weighs his stock and feed, and can tell just what he is doing. His residence and grounds appear more like those of an English nobleman than those of an American farmer; in fact, no farm that we observed in England surpassed this in exact management, good cultivation, beauty and neatness of its buildings, lawn, house and general appearance. It is a pattern for English farmers to see; they can learn from it and profit thereby. It is worth a trip to Geneva to see this beautiful farm. It is situated on the border of the lake; thus, not only is the farm itself handsome, but the scenery and surroundings are charming.

We shall give more about our trip in future numbers.

What Wheat Shall we Sow?

Seed time will soon be here, and the question will be with many—what wheat shall I sow? To answer this question correctly is not so easily done as many would imagine. Thousands expect this journal to furnish them with the information. To enable us to do so correctly, we must have more knowledge, and we respectfully ask our subscribers to aid us in giving correct replies to the above question.

We will now give you the results of our observation and experience.

We have examined several pieces of wheat in Canada and in the States. We are as yet undecided to which variety we must award the laurels as the most profitable for us to raise. One thing we are now satisfied about; that is, that there has been more money lost by sowing the Diehl wheat the past year than from any other cereal we have sown. We have seen no instance, where this variety has been sown in the same field with the Scott or Seneca wheats, in which it has equalled either of them. There has been more of it plowed under than of any other kind, although it is the finest wheat to look at of any we raise; the quality of the flour is inferior in strength to other varieties. In some parts of fields we have seen good crops of it.

The Soule wheat has been sown, but in small quantities: it has not succeeded better than the Diehl. The Michigan Amber and Midge Proof have not been largely sown. The Treadwell, Weeks and Mediterranean wheats have been preferred, and some good pieces of each are to be found.

The main trial is between the Clawson or Seneca wheat and the Scott wheat. We wish each of our readers that have procured the Clawson variety to report to us how it is doing; also, how the different kinds compare. We wish the reports to be in by the 15th of August. As far as we have seen, these two varieties will be most in demand by those who have seen them growing. They are both hardy and have stood the test of our winter and spring frosts as well as any in most fields. Even these varieties are considerably injured, but not as bad as other varieties. We have examined the crop about Rochester, Albany, Geneva and

other places in the States, besides many places in Canada, and feel safe in saying that these two varieties will yield a larger average return per acre than any other varieties procurable in any quantity. The Clawson being a white wheat, will be preferred by many on that account; its yield, we think, will be equal to that of the Scott. We do not know which will make the best quality of flour.

The American Shorthorn Herd Book of 1874.

Col. L. F. Allen, of Buffalo, will accept our thanks for this volume. This is the 14th volume, and contains 917 pages. It is very neatly got up, and embellished with about 70 lithographs of some of the most valuable Shorthorns, which have been drawn by the finest animal artist in the world; in fact, so fine has been the artist work, that we are almost led to believe that art in this respect almost surpasses nature. The great care and labor bestowed on such a work, and the drawing of a line to say which animals are to be entered and which rejected, has been an arduous task. This work is necessary for those who wish thoroughly to understand the pedigrees of the most valuable Shorthorns. Persons wishing to procure the Herd Book can address Mr. Allen, from whom former numbers can also be procured.

Prize Essay.

IS CO-OPERATION BENEFICIAL TO FARMERS?

Some time since a reader offered a prize for the best article on the above question, and it has been awarded to the following essay. This article appears to be very appropriate at the present time, as there has been a discussion at Washington with a view to bring about amalgamation with the Co-operative Society of England. The English society is not a secret organization:—

The principle of co-operation seems to be inherent in our nature—in fact very little could be accomplished without it. Even among insects and animals we find it existing. What is a colony of ants, or a swarm of bees, whether safely lodged in a hive within the limits of an apiary, or domiciled in a hollow tree in the bush, but a co-operative society in which every individual labors for the benefit of the community. A single beaver can accomplish nothing. A co-operative society of beavers constructs a dam, build houses and lay in a supply of food for the winter. If a beaver is unfortunately caught in a trap, and escapes with the loss of a leg, he is expelled from the community and left to shift for himself as he best can. The effects of co-operation on a large scale are still to be seen in the Pyramids of Egypt, and the still existing ruins of ancient cities, not only in Eastern lands, but also in the dense forests of Central America, which only await a visit from a Rawlinson, or a Champollin, to decipher their hieroglyphic records, and reveal to our gaze the secrets of extinct races on our continent. The first co-operative society of which we have any record is that which was formed for the purpose of building the tower of Babel, a purpose which, being inconsistent with the designs of Infinite Wisdom, was suddenly frustrated, and the members of that society scattered over the face of the earth. The next form of co-operation was probably the patriarchal, followed as mankind increased by the tribal and national, for what is a nation but a co-operative society on a large scale; but the question now to be discussed is whether co-operation is beneficial to farmers? Farmers' Granges are only co-operative societies, and I have not the least doubt but that if they carefully act up to their principles, they will be productive of much good. At present I will only consider the principle as applied to co-operative stores, and in this point of view I am not disposed to regard them with favor. In the first place, where are they to be located? There is not a town or village in the Province which is not already overcrowded with stores, and consequently prices are kept down to the lowest remunerative point. If such stores are established anywhere in the country, I doubt if the custom of all the farmers round for a distance of five or six miles in every direction would yield

sufficient profit to pay man would have to business, and the a secure the services manager would absorb establishment of such a way the attention or beget a craving for too general. I know country where farm were making money in their haste to get sold or leased their ness pursuits for w and modes of thought and, having failed, h to take sewing mach travel about the coun tions fail, as fail they they will find themse former occupation of either leave the coun situations where they for their daily bread tent to follow stead they would in all p lives in the enviable their way, and owe n end. For these reas the establishment of not likely to be of themselves. I adm successful in many manufacturing cent chance of being w many have failed, y always, been owing dishonesty of those management. A should choose one b Rothschild, the emi asked his opinion on a young brewer. H and you may beco brewer, a merchant soon find yourself in vice as applicable to

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