

Leicestershire buck, which the Society found it inconvenient to keep more than one year, and when they were sold at auction, I secured the bull, by which my stock and that of the neighbourhood has been much improved, and I recently procured a full-blood short-horn bull, bred by Captain Rhodes, which promises well, and will do much for this vicinity. My stock of horses is mostly of the Canadian breed, being fully convinced that for the work of this country there is no horse that, for the same value and keep, will perform so much service.

My sheep are the Canadian, crossed with Leicester; they are well adapted to the climate, and give good wool and good mutton. My swine are a cross between the grass breed and Berkshire, and answer well. Poultry is the common dunghill fowl, which lay well, and, when fat, are excellent for the table. I keep geese and ducks, and they have a fine creek to swim in. I have surface and subsoil drains, the latter filled with stones, and covered with straw and brush, and then with sods (the grass downward), to prevent the earth from sinking and obstructing the water, and of sufficient depth not to be interfered with by the frost and not to impede the plough.

I regret that there are no tile drain machines yet introduced to this section of country. My fences are made of heavy cedar logs, well capped and staked, and when I have stone to draw from the fields, I have made half wall, and put on two rounds of cedars, with caps and stakes; these form a protection against pigs, sheep, and unruly cattle. My buildings consist of a good stone house, with a verandah around it, an excellent cellar under the whole of it, a part of which forms a fine dairy room, with a door towards the creek, gowing out on a level with the ground, and well ventilated; an excellent wood house and a carriage house, a stone ash house and smoke; one fine barn, two stables, and one hundred and fifty feet of shed connecting the stables and barn, and completely enclosing the farm-yard.

I fully agree with your remarks in reference to every member of the Agricultural Society, being furnished with a copy of the *Toronto Agriculturist*, and this should be rendered imperative by statute, and I fully endorse your views that every farmer should grow his own timothy and clover seed.

My business has not been purely agricultural, for having generally a large amount of produce, and not always a remunerative market, I have turned it into lumber, and I have been rather fortunate in choosing favourable years for these operations, and if I have been successful, it has been in a great degree owing to these circumstances.

I have a son, who is just setting out in life as a farmer, on a farm that has been cleared of stumps and stones, and which is well fenced, and I have recommended him to adopt the system which you have condensed in your offer of premiums, and the making of a chart of his farm, and the keeping of a strict account of his farming operations—are things I will urge him by no means to omit.

Should you think that these observations may be of any service to the public, you are at liberty to publish them. Thanking you for your liberal premium of five pounds,

I am, dear sir, yours most respectfully,

(Signed)

JAMES CROSS.

Charles P. Treadwell, Esq., &c., L'Orignal.

TRIAL OF PLOUGHS—REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

Toronto, 30th May 1856.

SIR.—The undersigned having been requested to act as a Committee to test the efficiency and ease of draught of the several Ploughs entered at a trial which took place near York Mills, Yonge Street, on the 29th April, beg to send you the following remarks, as the result of their inspection:—

Five Ploughs were entered, namely, one made by Modeland, of Brampton, Co. Peel; one by Bingham, of Norwich, Co. Oxford; one by Gray, of Haddington, Lanarkshire, Scotland; one by Howard, of Norfolk, England; and a Lap-furrow Plough, made by Ruggles & Nourse, Worcester, Massachusetts.

As the Committee considered that the merits of a Plough consist not merely in the quality of the work done, but also in the small amount of force or traction necessary for working the implement, they applied, as a test of this, Small's dynamometer, a very simple and excellent instrument. The result was as follows:—