

Despite the many advantages, Arkansas has some disadvantages, the greatest of which, as it appeared to us, is the lack of the Union Jack floating o'er its capital. If that flag should ever wave there, and it never will unless the inhabitants of the States become more enlightened—and that light is now plain to some already there—their laws would be better administered. The laws of the State are good, but there is a laxity in the administration of them; there is a lack of a higher tone of honor and justice. Even the State purposes repudiation, and the inhabitants think, or try to think, it is right. With such an example, what will they not tolerate for money? There are many millions of acres of good land that we believe British farmers would save from floods and would make most valuable; but the credit of the State and of the country is not such as to be able to raise sufficient funds to bring the land into proper tith. Grass does not grow either on the high or low lands with the density or vigor that it does in Canada or in Europe. In many places there are immense valueless hills to pass before obtaining good land. The long continued summer of nine months takes the vim and pluck out of the inhabitants, and tends to make them shiftless.

Schools are far apart and meeting houses sparsely attended, where they have any. The meat in the market is of a very poor quality; vegetables are scarce and dear, fish of poor quality, and fruit not as plentiful or as cheap as it should be.

The prices charged to travelers in the Western and Southern States are higher than in any other part of the world in which we have traveled, taking the accommodation into consideration; for instance, we often paid 75 cts. and \$1 for a meal of dishes, with not as good food as we could get at a dozen farmers' hotels in this city for 25 cts.; beds from 50 cts. to \$2.50; a cup of chickory coffee, 15 cts., not half as good as we have had in London, England, for 2 cts.; for a transfer ticket from one station to another 50 cts. is charged at Chicago and St. Louis, and the distance is under one mile; it is more than double what it should be, but companies make monopolies and charge extortionately.

Poor, penniless whites, or what they term "white trash," are not wanted. Colored labor is cheap. No one should think of taking a family there before examining and selecting a location or business.

All who go to the West or South will not be satisfied. There is some good land and a large quantity that is worthless. Never think of purchasing land in any State without personal inspection. There are millions of acres in Pennsylvania; also in Missouri, Arkansas and Texas that are not worth one cent an acre for agricultural purposes, and we doubt if they ever will be. Deeds of good land are sometimes given that are not worth the paper they are drawn on.

The Month.

The weather during the past month has been very favorable for the winter wheat. A few frosts have checked its luxuriant growth very materially. The present prospect indicates the best wheat crop ever harvested in Canada.

Growers of small fruits complain bitterly of the damage done to strawberries, currants, cherries, &c. The injury to these is more than counterbalanced by the good effect on the wheat. We have heard of one man that turned his stock on his wheat immediately after the frost; but we do not consider that man's head level. Timothy, clover and barley may have been touched on undrained lands; but to a good farmer, that has his land in good tith and well drained, the frost has not done any perceptible injury, while on undrained

and poorly-cultivated farms some injury may have been done.

We hope there may be a large crop of apples, despite the quantities destroyed.

The Provincial Exhibition Directors of Toronto had promised to furnish the necessary accommodation this year; but the inhabitants have voted against giving the necessary money, thus there is a deadlock. Whether the Exhibition may go begging, or whether Toronto will make some arrangement contrary to the voice of the people, remains to be seen. Torontonians consider that bankruptcy is inevitable unless the constant demands for cash are stopped.

You will now be agitated about the elections. In selecting a candidate, take a farmer, if you can find one, with ability and independence of character that cannot be bought to sell you. We have too many offices and office seekers, and too high salaries are paid to half of them. Our country and credit are safer in the hands of men that have wealth, honestly gained, than in the hands of poverty-stricken legislatures. They must beg, steal or starve, and must be only tools. A higher standard of wealth and a higher rate for franchise should be inaugurated. The poor hungry office seekers of the United States have already destroyed confidence in many of the States, and bankruptcy is rife. We should in time try to avoid the rocks of danger, and copy England more closely. Debts incurred should be promptly paid. This system of white washing defaulters is wrong. They should be compelled to disgorge every cent—no gift to any person or to an heir should at any time be legal, to defraud creditors of their just dues. There are far too many living in luxury in our country that have not obtained their money honestly.

Hay cured in cocks is much better than that cured by the sun. There is less danger from wasting or burning if this plan is adopted, and less danger of the hay being destroyed by heavy rains.

Now is the proper time to destroy the ticks on the ewes and lambs. It takes less wash than when the wool is long.

If you have any vacant ground, and want more feed, Hungarian or Millet may be found profitable. Or, if for fall feed, Rape will be found beneficial. Every good farmer should have a piece of Rape. Cattle, sheep and hogs will fatten on it as fast as on grain, and at a tenth part of the cost. Sow a piece somewhere, even if after you take off your pea or barley crop.

Hay Making.

Experienced farmers are well aware of the superior value of hay that has been cut when the grass is in its prime, and well saved; the bright green color, but little paler than before it was laid down in the swath, and the sweet fragrance it retains in the mow and the manger bear testimony to its excellence. But many farmers are sadly in need of that best instructor—experience, and the consequence is we often see hay fed to stock that is only fit for litter. Hay that has ripened its seed is less nutritious than straw that has been cut when the grain is still not too ripe. Canadian farmers can have hay for their stock fully as good as any saved in England. There the moisture of the climate that is so favorable to the growth of grass, renders it often very difficult to save and have hay in prime condition. Here the hay making season is all that we can desire, and yet with regard to the quality of the hay, the English is unquestionably the best, having been mown and saved in the proper season, and hence more nutritious.

The only reason given by those who defer mow-

ing till the grass is fully ripe is that by so doing they can have a greater quantity of hay—more tons to the acre; but the greater quantity is dearly purchased by the inferior quality. Were the bulk of hay increased even one-tenth, we must bear in mind that bulk does not necessarily imply nutrition, and that there would be less flesh-forming and fattening qualities in the increased quantity of dry over ripe hay than in the less quantity mown and saved in the proper season and manner.

We need hardly give one word of caution against cutting too early. This is an extreme people are not apt to fall into, but such a mistake might possibly be made, and would entail no little loss. Not only would the quantity, when being mown, be less, but the shrinkage would be much greater. As with grain, there is a proper state of maturity in which it should be reaped, and there would be a loss in cutting earlier or later, so is it with grass. When grass has attained its full growth and not yet hardened, then is it in its prime and ready for the mowing machine. It is very important that when this state of growth has been arrived at the grass be cut and saved with as little delay as possible. This state is indicated by the wilting of the blossom, just having passed its greatest perfection, and the seed almost fully formed, and the ripening of the most forward grains having only just commenced. There is no other time in the whole life of the plant in which it so abounds in saccharine juices as now. The object is to preserve those juices. They, and not the woody fibre into which the matured grass would soon be converted, are the true flesh and fat formers in feeding, and their presence is indicated by the bright color and sweet flavor of the hay.

The Canadian farmer can with less labor make hay of prime quality than the farmers of other countries. The soil and climate are well adapted to the growth of some of the most valuable grasses, though not giving so heavy a yield as countries having a more humid climate; and here the great labor often required in hay making is unknown. A few hours or days see it safe from the mowing machine in the rick or mow. But this, too, has its evils. The grass is often too much exposed to the sun; hay is often dried in a day, thereby evaporating too much of the saccharine juice, when it should be dried by turning and scattering, with less exposure to sun. One day's tedding in our ordinary hay-making weather will dry hay sufficiently to be put into cocks, where it should remain till it sweats a little, instead of being carried to the barn from the swaths, as is too often done.

Successful Treatment of Worn-Out Land—Sheep, Clover, Gypsum.

It is, if we may judge from general observation, much easier to impoverish land than to renovate it when run out. Despite manure and good cultivation, land has a tendency to lose its virgin fertility by continual crop-bearing. As plant food becomes exhausted the produce from well-cultivated fields becomes in proportion less. How much more is this the case when the land is compelled year after year to bear crops of wheat or other scourging crops, till at last exhausted of every atom that would give any return, it is no longer worth the labor.

In Britain the impoverishment of the soil from cropping is in a measure counteracted by the incessant application of fertilizers, by the feeding of stock, more especially sheep, and by a suitable rotation of crops. In America the more general custom is, when land has been exhausted, to leave it so, and seek fresh land. By reason of the an-