



Queries from a New Settler.

A CORRESPONDENT requests answers to the following list of queries:

1. Which do you consider the best farming districts in Ontario?
2. Can a first-class cleared farm be had on-lease, as in England, say for a term of seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years?
3. What capital would be required to properly work and stock a farm of 150 or 200 acres, and about what profit ought to be made on the capital after deducting expenses?
4. I spent, say the first fifteen years of my life on a first-class farm in England, have had experience in three counties in England, have a general, thorough, I don't profess perfect, knowledge of stock, arable and pasture farming. Would my previous experience be advantageous to me in this country, or not?
5. The style of farming I should pursue would be that of some of our best Canadian farmers, always keeping a sharp eye to the minor matters of the concern, purchasing my stock with a view of their growing into money, rather than keeping them for show, avoiding, at least for the present, anything like model or scientific farming, but rather endeavouring to conduct my business as a well managed mercantile concern ought to be conducted, viz: to pay for labour and capital. Do you think I should succeed?
6. What time of the year is the best to take possession of a farm?

Ans.—In offering our replies to the above queries, we must premise that the questions are so general and cover so much ground, that it would require a treatise on Canada to answer them fully. Moreover, he brings up the unsettled question as to which is best, the eastern section of Ontario, from its proximity to market, or the western section, from its supposed greater fertility.

(1.) Each section has its adherents, who think that nothing can equal their own homes. We must therefore recommend personal enquiry in the several districts. Each man applied to will probably urge the claims of his own locality, bringing forward the best arguments in its favour, and leaving out of sight perhaps its disadvantages. For these the enquirer must make due allowance.

(2.) First-class farms can be leased all over the Province on excellent terms for the tenant. Rents range from \$1.50 to \$4 per acre, according to the amount of cleared land, the value of the buildings, and the proximity to market.

(3.) Hundreds of tenants in Canada lease improved farms of 100 to 200 acres on a capital of from \$400 to \$2,000. In Canada, as in England, the more capital a man has on his farm (provided common prudence is used) the better he will succeed. There is no stated rule here as in England, stipulating for a certain minimum amount of capital in proportion to the number of acres to be leased.

(4.) Knowledge of English farming, and a competent judgment as to cattle, horses, and sheep, are always an immense assistance to a man commencing farming in Canada. Indeed, if his practical acquaintance with land and stock is yet to be acquired, he had better not buy a farm.

(5.) We cannot pass an opinion on this head without some personal knowledge of the querist. But we can see no reason why he should not succeed, nor why he should start with the determination of eschewing scientific farming.

(6.) The end of winter, or early in the spring, say 1st of March, is a common time to enter on a farm, but there are many advantages in taking possession in September or October. The land is often left

in poor condition by a tenant who does not contemplate remaining, and who does not therefore think it worth his while to fall plough or manure. The incoming tenant, if he enter in the fall, can attend to these matters himself, and has time to get settled in his new home before the hurry of spring work begins.

Caution to Smokers.

A Simcoe paper gives the following account of an accident from carelessness in smoking:—"A farmer in Windham, who was hauling in oats last week, while seated on the load with two little boys, used a match to light his pipe. The match was thrown away apparently extinguished, but directly after it was discovered that the load was on fire. The horses then ran away, a perfect stream of fire pouring from the oats. The farmer was thrown from the load, but the little boys clung to it. The horses were at length stopped by some parties on the road, when they were detached, and the boys rescued from the burning load."

To this our correspondent "Denizen," who sends us the above clipping, adds "another caution to smokers" from his personal recollection. He writes:—"About twenty-five years ago, a farmer driving down Queen street, Toronto, set fire to his load of hay by a spark from his pipe; he was driving pretty fast with a stream of fire in his rear. Passers-by called out and warned him of his danger; but the moment the horses came to a halt the whole load became enveloped in flame, so that he barely escaped with his life. The horses were both ruined by the fire, and could only be liberated by cutting the hame straps and leading them out of their harness. When I saw the place a few hours after, nothing remained to the poor farmer but his horses, and they dreadfully burned, with hardly a hair left of their fine flowing tails, and a pile of old tires and irons from the waggon and harness."

COMMUNICATIONS DEFERRED.—Several communications, received too late, or for want of space, are unavoidably postponed.

The Canada Farmer.

TORONTO, CANADA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1868.

New England Agricultural Fair.

[EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut,

Sept. 4, 1868.

THE fifth annual exhibition of the New England Agricultural Association, an organization embracing the whole of Yankeeedom, properly so called, commenced here on the 1st inst., and closes to-day. As this is one of the handsomest cities in the United States, and owes its beauty chiefly to its rural adornings, a brief description of it will not be inappropriate by way of preface to some account of the fair. New Haven occupies a beautiful plain, at the head of New Haven Bay, four miles from its entrance into Long Island Sound. It is 160 miles south-west of Boston, and seventy-six miles north-east from New York, being in a direct line between the two cities. The plain on which New Haven is built slopes gently toward the water, and is environed on all sides except in the direction of the harbour by hills, two of which, called East and West Rocks, are very rugged and precipitous, rising almost perpendicularly from 300 to 400 feet in height. Three small streams flow across the plain, emptying into the bay. They are bridged at several points, in one instance with a draw-bridge, which leads from the steamboat landing to East Haven. The streets are usually four rods wide, intersecting each other at right angles. Those on which the best private residences are built exhibit a particularly neat and elegant appearance, from the fact that the dwellings are for the most part detached, and surrounded with shrubbery and gardens, which are tastefully laid out and well kept. Hill House Avenue, a delightful

suburb, is a paradise of foliage and flowers. But the crowning glory of New Haven is its noble and lofty elms. These have long given it the appropriate designation of "Elm City" and "The City of Elms." The principal public square, comprising about sixteen acres of land, is bordered with majestic elms, and crossed by avenues, on each side of which is a row of the same trees. One whole side of this magnificent square is occupied by "Yale College" buildings. This is one of the oldest and most renowned of the many educational institutions in the United States. The College buildings have for the most part no architectural attractions, consisting of eight plain brick edifices, five of them four stories high, containing study and sleeping rooms for the students, and the other three, each surmounted by a tower or spire, being the chapel, observatory, and lyceum. In the rear of these plain buildings are some of more modern erection, that have some architectural pretensions. Chief among them is the library, a costly and handsome Gothic structure, (fire-proof), 150 feet in length. The Medical College, a handsome granite structure, stands a short distance farther off. The other three sides of the great square are occupied by stores, hotels, churches, and private dwellings, while actually on the square stands the State House, a large stuccoed building, modelled after the Parthenon. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the elms. No wonder they are the pride of New Haven. Whether singly or in rows, the elm is a grand tree, its variety of shape, and gracefulness in every part of its outline, giving it an indescribable charm. There is hardly any other forest tree that, planted as these are, without intermixture with other trees, would not look monotonous. If this fine elm-bowered square were surrounded by log-houses or shanties it would still be a charming spot. It is not from costly architecture that this scene derives its loveliness, but from so cheap and universally practicable a thing as tree-planting. We have often advocated this means of imparting beauty to country homes, villages, and towns, but no language we can find can do justice to the example of its effect as seen in this city. To give our readers some faint idea of a scene which perhaps few of them will ever have the privilege of beholding as we have done, we present herewith a couple of engravings prepared by our artist from photographs. The first represents College Street, with Yale College buildings on one side, and the State House on the other. The second engraving shows Temple Street, the finest of all the elm-arched avenues that cross the square. Did ever series of Gothic arches present so magnificent a perspective as this double row of elms? Yet there is not a village in our land that might not have in time just such a natural archway, if the population would only plant trees. The early settlers in New Haven, by whom the trees were planted, have left an enduring monument behind them which will keep their memory green to the end of time. There are some exceedingly fine public buildings and private residences in New Haven, but it is the concurrent testimony of all who have been here, that this place owes more to nature than to art, and that its chief charm arises from what might adorn the humblest and most unpretentious cottage home.

But to the fair. It is held in Hamilton Park, a very convenient spot, about a mile and a half from the heart of the city. The exhibition consists of two departments, the agricultural show, properly so called, and THE RACES. It is most extraordinary to what an extent the horse-racing mania has got the ascendancy in the New England Agricultural Association. The managers of the concern seem to be possessed with the idea that without the races they cannot make the annual fair pay. Hence they not only tolerate, but encourage this objectionable appendage, even to the extent of allowing gambling pools to be openly sold at auction. The same unscrupulous greed which admits racing has led to the licensure within the grounds of such a collection of wretched catch-penny side-shows as we never saw