

have somewhat the effect of underdraining. It will loosen the soil, and enable the warm air to percolate through. The result will be, the seed will germinate sooner, grow quicker and stronger, and ripen a week or ten days earlier than seed sown on land that has not been so treated. Read this again. Try it next season, if possible. The result we know will be gratifying. In some years it will mean the difference between a good crop and a poor crop or none at all.

It is certain that no one who raises grain can afford to allow the straw to be wasted or burnt. At times it can be profitably used for feeding cattle. The farmer who finds that his hay is coming out short in the spring is fortunate if he has a good quantity of clean and bright straw. By feeding it with the hay and adding a moderate quantity of meal, he can bring his cattle out in the spring in good condition.

A good deal of straw can be used for bedding. For this purpose it should be well stacked to keep it dry. Though often used without preparation, it is better to run it through a feed cutter before it is put into the stable. This will greatly improve it for bedding, hasten its decay, and make easier the work of getting out the manure.

If all the straw cannot be so used, spread it on the ground to the depth of two or three feet, scattering corn among it as it is being piled, and let the hogs work it over. This will hasten the process of decay, and render it fit as coarse manure to put on the land.

Selected.

Farming in Manitoba.

MR. R. BAXTER, of Springfield, near Winnipeg, affords an example of successful farming in Manitoba. Mr. Baxter has only been in the province about three years, but he has increased his worldly possessions several hundred per cent during this time, and he has made it all on his farm. This result he has achieved by perseverance and energy, intelligently directed. Mr. Baxter came to Manitoba with limited means and located on a farm near Winnipeg. He has followed a system of mixed farming from the start, and has not relied upon grain crops alone, though he has been successful with his grain crops, and has increased his area to over 100 acres this year. He has endeavored to farm well, rather than farm on a big scale. Instead of cultivating 200 acres in a haphazard way, as many farmers do whose chief ambition seems to be to get as many acres under crop as possible, he has been contented with half that quantity, of well-cultivated land. As a result, he is known to the grain buyers in Winnipeg as a man who always has a fine quality of grain to market, and he usually succeeds in getting a higher price for his grain than the ordinary current quotation.

Mr. Baxter has been successful with live stock, particularly with sheep. He brought a few head of selected thoroughbred Shropshire sheep with him, and he has augmented his original flock by occasional importations. He has disposed of a number of sheep to farmers in Manitoba, for breeding purposes, besides his sales to Winnipeg dealers. This fall he has added about 200 head of sheep to his flock, including some imported English Shropshires. He also raises hogs for breeding and general purposes. He has been very successful in securing prizes at the Winnipeg Industrial and other exhibitions, for his stock. Mr. Baxter admits that he has done well in Manitoba. He recently received a very tempting offer to take a partnership in and the management of a large stock farm in the east, but he preferred to remain in Manitoba. — *The Colonist*.

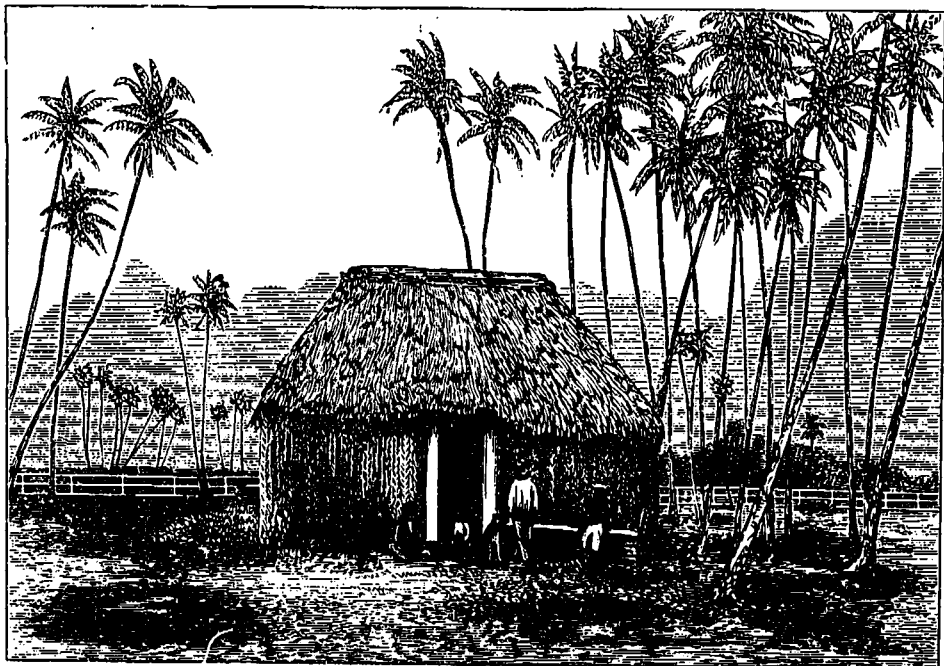
Undesirable Immigrants.

We do not know what data the grand jury at Brandon had before them when they condemned the Barnardo plan of boy immigration. We can hardly conceive that the jury would make the complaint they did without authentic information that would go to bear out their remarks. *The Commercial*, however, has been unable, after some investigation, to verify the severe denunciation of the Barnardo immigration by the grand jury. From what we can learn, we cannot conclude that the Barnardo boys are responsible for any increase of crime in Manitoba. While making this statement, *The Commercial* will own that we may possibly be wrong and the grand jury right, as our investigation of the matter has not been very thorough. It has been stated that only one Barnardo boy was charged with an offence at the Brandon assizes, which does not appear to be a serious matter. If this is all the grand jury had to go upon, besides prejudicial hearsay, they were not warranted in making the denunciation they did. Perhaps even the grand jury did not consider the gravity of their charge. So far as *The Commercial* is aware, there may be as great a tendency to crime among boys brought up in the country as is the case with the Barnardo boys. The fact is that, owing to a certain prejudice, an offence committed by one of these boy emigrants is heralded all over the country, while a dozen similar crimes by others would never be heard of beyond perhaps the usual local press notice. *The Commercial* has always taken the stand in favor of a strict inspection of immigration, with a view to discountenancing the settlement of unsuitable persons in our midst. This applies to all emigrants, old and young. It would be far better to have our population increase slowly, than to have it increase rapidly by the vicious and immoral, the shiftless, or persons physically or otherwise unsuited to our climate and general conditions of life. As for these Barnardo boys, we believe the majority of them are liable to succeed better in this country than any foreigners. In the first place they are young, and they will have ample time to acquire a knowledge of the country before they would arrive at an age when they would be warranted in starting out in farming or any other calling for themselves. Secondly, the plan of placing them with responsible farmers in the country, gives them a great advantage over many other immigrants. Whatever may be said about the Barnardo boys, we believe that the country has suffered much more seriously from the placing of certain colonies of foreigners in our midst, which are made up of persons quite unsuited to the country, and altogether undesirable as settlers. — *Winnipeg Commercial*.

The Export Cattle Trade.

MR. ROBERT IRONSIDES, M.P.P., member of the well-known firm of cattle exporters, recently favored us with the following interesting letter in reply to an enquiry as to the past season's cattle trade:—

"We have shipped 9,665 cattle to the Old Country market from Manitoba and the North-west, the season of 1893, and paid on an average 3½ cents per pound for choice export cattle, weighed off cars at Winnipeg. The cattle were from two years and six months old up to five years old. Cattle, after they are six years old, are classed as oxen in the Old Country markets, and sell the same as bulls, stags and cows, etc. I believe that this trade, as yet in its infancy in this country, is bound to grow to enormous proportions. As to the 'embargo,' I maintain, as I always did, that it will benefit Canada in the long run by compelling farmers to stall-feed and fatten their stock at home, and by applying the manure to enrich their land. Take, for instance, the experience of N. W. Balwin, Manitou, who feeds considerable stock every season. Last winter's manure from the stable was put on part of a field and barley sown on the same. The yield of the portion manured was forty bushels per acre, while that part of the same field not manured only yielded twenty-five bushels per acre—an increase of fifteen bushels per acre from the manured portion, and if followed with wheat will show as great a difference in the yield, besides being of better quality. Therefore, I contend that it will pay a farmer to feed, even though he gets no more for his labor than the manure. One load of such manure is equal to a barn-yard full of rotten straw. Farmers are alive to the situation, and intend feeding large numbers for the spring trade. They are safe in stall-feeding, and will get 3½ cents per pound weighed off cars at Winnipeg (buyers to pay freight), for all choice export cattle in spring of 1894. I strongly advise them to do so, as they will make at least sixty cents per bushel out of their wheat, if fed, and receive the benefit of the manure on their land, which will yield ten to fifteen bushels per acre more grain with the same work, seed, etc. We would like to hear from the farmers (during the winter), in all portions of the Province as to numbers, feeding, and quality of same, so that we can arrange for handling them to best advantage when navigation opens in the spring. In conclusion, I would suggest that every influence be brought to bear on the Dominion Government to induce them to make an effort to have the senseless quarantine regulations existing between Canada and the United States removed, so that Manitoba and the Canadian Northwest may have the benefit of railway competition in shipping stock. — *Farmers' Advocate*.



GRASS HOUSE, HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.