

Contributors, &c., to the "Canadian Farmer."

HORTICULTURE.

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G. L. Whitney, Lecturer Michigan State  
Grand, Muskegon, Mich.  
P. H. Henderson, Beattie Vineyards, Stevens-  
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POULTRY.

Geo. Elliott, a taker of eight prizes at the  
Provincial Poultry Show-Port Robinson Ont.

APIARY.

D. A. Jones, of the Beekeepers Association of  
Ontario, Boston Ont.  
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Sound.

MAPLE SYRUP, SUGAR, &c.

Levi H. Whitman, an extensive manufacturer  
Knowlton, Quebec.

GRAPE CULTURE.

Dr. Joy, Tillamook, Ont.

VETERINARY.

G. Elliott, V. S., St. Catharines, member  
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GENERAL FARM SUBJECTS.

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The Canadian Farmer.

The Only Weekly Agricultural Paper in  
Canada.

Is published every Wednesday morning at the  
Welland Printing and Publishing House, Wel-  
land, John Ferguson, M. P., sole proprietor.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1884.

THE FARMER.

Next week our subscribers will receive  
no copy of the CANADIAN FARMER. We  
are going to make great changes for im-  
provement in our journal, and those great  
changes demand that we should have a  
week to ourselves. This we will take next  
week, and we are convinced that our read-  
ers will offer no objection. Never since  
its origin has the FARMER failed to pay its  
a customary visit to the homes of its read-  
ers, and it only does so now in order to  
make such improvements as will place it  
in the first rank of American journalism.

We bid adieu to our readers now until  
the 27th of this month, when we shall  
be on hand, brighter, cheerier, and more  
useful than ever.

WINTER DAIRYING.

Some one has illustrated the course of  
the markets for dairy products throughout  
the year by a rope suspended by the ends  
to opposite points, and sagging in the mid-  
dle. The height of point of attachment re-  
presents prices at the beginning of the  
year, and the sag the decline to mid-sum-  
mer, after which they begin to climb up  
again. In view of the facts represented  
by the illustration used, which certainly  
approximates actual conditions, the ques-  
tion of winter dairying, which has received  
no little of attention in the past, is worthy  
of still further consideration. The com-  
mon practice among dairymen is to have  
the cows come in in spring, so as to be  
fresh on the early pasture. Winter dairy-  
ing would change the time for the cows to  
come in till fall, after the heat of summer  
and annoyance of flies are mainly over.  
There are many things in favor of winter  
dairying worthy of consideration, among  
which are the following:

During winter the farmer has more leis-  
ure and can give more time and better  
care to his herd and to his dairy, if a pri-  
vate; than during the hurry and rush of  
summer farm work. His dry season for

his cows would come at the season of the  
year when he has the least time to devote  
to them, and also when their products sell  
for the lowest prices in the market, while  
the highest prices would be realized when  
the dairy was turning off the largest prod-  
uct. The fresh feed of spring pasture  
would serve to keep up a full flow of  
milk till the time for drying off came and  
the cows would be dry at the season when  
the pasture is shortest. But winter dairy-  
ing, to be profitable, involves the feeding  
of suitable food, not only for milk, but for  
butter production, and on this point some  
recent experiment made by Dr. Sturte-  
vant, at the New York experiment station  
show that not only does the quantity and  
quality of the food exert its influence upon  
the butter product, but that the power of  
the churn to convert the fats of the milk  
into butter largely depends upon the  
character of the food. Dr. Sturtevant's  
experiments show the following results:

Actual fat in 100 pounds of mixed  
milk from a lot of cows fed on dry hay  
and grain in April, 5.13 pounds; butter  
obtained from the same, 4.95 pounds.  
Actual fat in 100 pounds of milk from the  
same cows when fed on ensilage and grain  
in March, 4.37 pounds. Butter obtained,  
4.30 pounds. When on good pasture  
alone in May 100 pounds of the milk con-  
tained 1.13 pounds of actual fat and  
yielded 1.21 pounds of butter. Similar  
experiments were continued with a single  
cow, with the following results from 100  
pounds of her milk.

When on dry feed (hay and grain), ac-  
tual fat, 4.76 pounds; butter obtained  
4.23 pounds. Fed on corn, ensilage and  
grain, actual fat, 4.42 pounds; butter  
obtained, 4.39 pounds. Fed on ensilage  
alone, actual fat, 3.93 pounds; butter ob-  
tained, 3.95 pounds. On grass pasture,  
actual fat, 4.64 pounds; butter obtained,  
4.75 pounds.

Dr. Sturtevant says in regard to these  
experiments, "it will be at once noticed  
that the practical application of this mat-  
ter, so far as it proves true concerns, most  
those who follow winter dairying, the indi-  
cation is that there is pretty heavy loss of  
butter in any herd kept in winter quarters  
entirely on dry feed. Should future investi-  
gation verify the facts now presented, a  
supply of succulent food for winter use  
will become a necessity to economical  
dairying. This food in our northern states  
must be in the form of roots or ensilage." Similar experiments were made by Major  
Alvord, of the Houghton farm, who gives  
the results as follows:

"Among twenty cows tested during the  
winter months, the animals receiving only  
dry forage, it was found that to get all the  
butter possible with the churn when using  
whole milk, the latter had to be churned  
once for three cows, twice for twelve cows,  
three times for four cows, and four times  
for one cow. At another time, when the  
same cows, in addition to dry feed, received  
a ration of roots or ensilage, the fourth  
churning secured no butter in any case, the  
third in only two cases, and the second  
only in eleven. In another case on the  
same farm, with a cow which usually  
came in in the spring, but missing, came in  
on dry feed, on taking her at the usual  
time after calving, though giving as much  
milk as formerly when fresh on grass, she  
only obtained twelve ounces of butter  
where he expected thirty or more. He ex-  
amined her milk and found it as rich in  
butter as ever. Subjecting the butter milk  
to a second churning he obtained twelve

ounces more. A third churning gave five  
and one-half ounces, and a fourth one and  
one-fourth, or a total of thirty-one and  
one-fourth ounces from thirty-seven  
pounds of milk. These results indicate  
that there is some property in succulent  
food, ensilage, roots or grass, which en-  
ables the butter globules to separate more  
freely from the milk in churning, and thus  
secures a larger yield of butter than could  
be obtained from milk produced wholly on  
dry feed without re-churning.

FRUIT.

The cholera scare will cause many peo-  
ple to abstain from the use of fruit and  
fresh vegetables under the idea that their  
use is unsafe. People in the cities who  
obtain their supplies from the markets in  
which the processes of decay and decom-  
position have already set in, may not be  
unwise in largely discarding such fruit and  
vegetables from their tables, but the farm-  
er or villager who grows his supplies and  
obtains them fresh from his own garden  
or orchard, need not have any such fear,  
especially if he uses them in moderation.  
No more wholesome articles of diet can be  
found than fresh fruits and vegetables in  
their season. They are just what nature  
demands for the system. The watermelon,  
picked before it is ripe, shipped a thou-  
sand miles in a filthy car, and afterwards  
exposed for days in the market, often re-  
sents the abuse it has been subjected and  
avenges itself upon the final consumer by  
creating a disturbance in his internal econ-  
omy. But the melon grown in the garden,  
picked in the morning with the dew on it,  
placed in the cellar or ice-box to cool, and  
brought to the table crisp and with all its  
natural flavors unimpaired, has no such in-  
jurious treatment to resent, and may be  
partaken of not only with pleasure, but  
with impunity.

PITHY PARAGRAPHS.

Keep out of debt.  
Have a clean, dry cellar.  
Don't waste the morning hours.  
Keep accurate accounts of your dealings.  
Industry, economy and common sense  
are the best capital.  
Exchange "scrubs" for thoroughbred or  
high grade stock.  
Don't be gulled by sharpers. When you  
need an article purchase it of a reliable  
dealer.  
Neatness pays, keep your stock curried,  
stables cleaned, rubbish picked up, and  
roadides and mowing fields free from  
bushes and weeds.  
Give your tenderest care to the best pro-  
ducts of your farm—your sons and daugh-  
ters.  
Paint your buildings, vehicles and tools.  
Shelter your vehicles and tools when  
not in use.  
Remember that good fences make or-  
derly stock.  
Keep the manure sheltered until you  
use it.  
Do not let your insurance run out.  
Let your wife be the queen of your  
home, and make the home an earthly  
Eden.  
Do not allow the use of any kind of in-  
toxicating drink on your farm.  
Keep a year's supply of fuel ahead.  
Thin out your woods when they need  
it.  
Cut out the fallen and dead trees for  
fuel.  
Obey the golden rule and save lawyer's  
fees.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This page will be devoted to the exclusive use  
of correspondents. All of our readers are in-  
vited to write upon subjects of interest to agricul-  
turalists.

NEW FALL WHEAT.

ED. CANADIAN FARMER.

Mr. William Rhiell, of Seaforth, last fall  
introduced a variety of fall wheat called  
Star wheat, which has been tested by sev-  
eral farmers in Huron, which has proved  
to be a most excellent variety. It is a fine  
wheat, good stiff, white straw, white bald-  
head not very long but well and squarely  
set, and in yield of grains to head fully up  
to the highest standard with nine full rows  
to the head. The grain combines the rich-  
ness in starchiness of the Clawson, the  
gliston of the Scott, and hardness almost  
equal to White Prussian Spring. From  
the samples in the straw which I have seen,  
I should say that the yield must be large and  
those who have tested it are sure it will  
yield forty bushels to the acre of a fine,  
very plump, bright amber color. On one  
piece where salt was used, the berry was  
much plumper and brighter. In the same  
field under the same cultivation, it was as  
stood the winter better than the Scott and  
Democrat, on the farm of H. Reid Stanley.  
D. McDermot says that in the same field  
under similar treatment, it will yield  
double as much as the Scott. It would be  
well for farmers to give this wheat a trial  
since, by the experience so far, it comes out  
ahead of all the other varieties.

M. McQUADE.

Egmondville.

DOES IT PAY?

ED. CAN. FARMER.—Does the barbed  
wire fencing pay? Some may say most  
assuredly it does, since it combines most of  
the advantages requisite to a complete  
fence, which may be termed durability,  
neatness, strength, and cheapness, being  
impervious to fire and water, and many  
other points may be claimed in its favor,  
since it enables prairie farmers to fence  
their fields where it would be well-nigh im-  
possible if they had to depend on lumber  
or rails for that convenience. But as the  
old phrase goes, there is absolutely nothing  
that combines advantages, and from what  
personal knowledge I have of the use of  
barb wire it has its full share of disadvan-  
tages, and it has certainly been a dear lux-  
ury in the way of cheapness to a great  
many at least, as I doubt if there has been  
a single commodity brought on the farm  
that has caused more mortality among  
stock than this same indestructible barb  
wire fence, and I can call to mind a score  
or more of horses in this vicinity that have  
been horribly mutilated. One farmer in  
particular has three at present that are  
mutilated in a way that would have done  
credit to artillery, as some of the gashes are  
five to twenty inches long and look to be  
two to four inches deep. So the cheapness  
may be found only while it is being put  
up; for while it may save a few hundred  
dollars in building the barb wire fence on  
the farm, the owner of the stock it fences  
has a chance to lose many more times than  
the value of all the fences if his stock is  
allowed to run in fields guarded by the  
fence, as his best stock, owing to their  
greater action, is most liable to run against  
it with the most force and consequently is  
damaged in proportion, which is usually  
done in the dark by the younger stock  
playing or running each other. But some  
may say, let them keep away from the  
fence. But then it is too late when the in-  
jury is done, and the animal ever so valu-