

THE MONTHLY

FARMERS' ADVOCATE



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WILLIAM WELD,
Editor & Proprietor.

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Annual Meeting of the East Middlesex Agricultural Society.

The Annual Meeting of the East Middlesex Agricultural Society was held here and was but very poorly attended. We have seen more farmers at a small township agricultural meeting. We spoke to some of the best farmers that were in the city that day and they said it was no use going there; they would have everything as they choose; that it was a regular political gathering; and the country should not be ruled by the city. Whether it should or not, you must judge for yourselves. It has been remarked to us by a person of note, in this city, that no enterprise could succeed unless it was taken in hand by the inhabitants of the cities. We must all admit that the cities rule the country. We, as farmers, should bear in mind the true saying, "that whatever is of benefit to the farmer is of advantage to the city." We should also bear in remembrance that many things may be of advantage to the cities, and detrimental to the agricultural interests.

To the point. The business of appointing the officers having been completed, Mr. Jas. Johnson brought before the meeting the accounts of the receipts and expenditures of the New Board of Agriculture. He loudly and unsparingly condemned the New Board for their expenditures. He said that this county should not have granted one dollar towards the expenses of the Board. He alluded, triumphantly, to the success of the Western Fair. He was supported in his remarks by David Glass, who also spoke against the expenditures of the New Board. He considered the whole affair a great imposition.

YE CANNOT TELL HOW LARGE A FIRE A SMALL SPARK MAY KINDLE. We do not think the attack of Mr. Johnson on the New Board, either consistent or honorable. Is it for revenge, because he was not elected one of the mem-

bers, or because he could not get his son-in-law appointed treasurer? Or is it to weaken the power of the Board, and destroy what little confidence there may be left among the farmers of the country in the Board?

We deem this attack opened upon the New Board, premature, in any one, more particularly by Mr. Johnson, who sat, as president of the Old Board and never exposed the misdeeds of it, therefore acquiescing with all the corruption that had been carried on by it. We are prepared to show that more injustice was done by the Old Board when Mr. Johnson sat as president of it, than was done when ruled by any other president. It was but a few months past when Mr. Johnson was before the County Council, pressing the demand for money from them for the Board. Why does he now say that we should not have given one dollar? Simply because neither him nor his son-in-law have had the handling or directing of it, but would much like to. You would then have heard no complaints from him. In regard to his laudatory remarks about the Western Fair, we always viewed it at variance with the interests of agriculture. It never was got up for the intent of benefiting farmers in any way. The great and main object with Mr. Johnson, was to get a name to send him to the Board of Agriculture or to Parliament, and to get a lot of farmers into the city and keep them there as long as possible, to get what money they could from them for the benefit of the city. The awarding of the prizes has shown that the main business of it was against agricultural prosperity, although many farmers cannot see through the screen and think it is all right.

One object of it is, to weaken township exhibitions; another, to weaken the Provincial Exhibition, by dividing the interest; a third was to introduce trials of speed, alias racing.

We do not, in this article, enter into the merits of the new Agricultural Act. That is now

law. We merely hint on a few points that are of importance, and should be openly discussed.

We have no desire to shield the New Board from anything they may do or may have done amiss. This paper is free for any farmer to condemn what he may deem amiss in their acts, but, as a New Board, we do not think it proper to assail them unless a just cause is shown. We believe they are doing what they consider best for the country. Many of them are personally interested in agriculture. We should not have noticed these condemnatory remarks had they not fallen from persons that may have some object in view, and that may have some influence, Mr. Johnson being President of the Horticultural Society of the City of London, and Mr. Glass being an aspirant.

We regret that some steps have not been taken to establish a Farmer's Club in this county, where such subjects might be discussed. We have continually advocated the establishment of Cattle Fairs, but we do not advocate fairs where every person must pay a fee every time they go on the ground, as at the Western Fair; nor is there any necessity of compelling farmers to stay two days at a fair, as was the case at this much lauded Western Fair. We invite any farmer to condemn our own writings, even in our paper, if they consider we are in error in our inferences or assertions. If Mr. Johnson and Mr. Glass are so much interested in the welfare of farmers as they pretend to be, would they please explain why they should allow the American still-fed hogs to be brought to this city to be slaughtered and shipped from Canada as Canadian pork. How many hundreds of thousands of dollars of loss must this practice entail on our farmers? How is it that these two gentlemen have danced so conspicuously in expending our agricultural money for agricultural balls? If one-tenth of the money so expended, had been devoted to the formation of a Farmer's Club,

Chas. Steel

perhaps a few more bushels of wheat might have been raised, or other agricultural knowledge attained. Why have neither of them ever brought their plans of improvements, and had them appear in print? Why are corner meetings held which nobody knows anything about? If they do not choose to show their agricultural plans in one paper, there are other papers open for them. The dark ages, we hope, are past. Our farmers should look for reasons, and not be guided or led by one association from any party, but should hear both sides of every question and use their unbiased judgment. If either Mr. Johnson or Mr. Glass wish any explanation to be given to these strictures or any plans to lay down, we will gladly give them each one and a half columns of our paper, next month.

We believe the resolution passed by the Board at its first sittings in Toronto, was a good one and would restore confidence among farmers, if carried into practice; and that was the monthly publication of the receipts and expenditures of the Association. We had one month's reports furnished and published them, but we have reviewed none from the Board since; nor have we seen any reports in any paper whatever.

It should be remarked that Mr. Johnson and Mr. Glass are Mr. John Carling's principal advisers on agricultural matters in this city.

SEED BY MAIL.

We can see no loss or any additional expense entailed to our government, by the transmission by mail of seed at the same rate as newspapers. In the States seeds are sent by mail at a much cheaper rate than papers in Canada. We have to pay four times as much as for papers. We think it would be of great advantage to farmers to be able to procure new varieties of seed at a cheap rate. One cent per ounce is far too high a rate. Who will attend to this, or who ought to?

FARMER Versus CITY.

Complaints from farmers, loudly and repeatedly made, expressing dissatisfaction with the weighing of the various kinds of produce sold in the market, have become so numerous, as to call for some remedy; as it is impossible to imagine that one and all of them are unfounded. There can be no doubt as to the facility given to the dishonest and unprincipled buyer, under the present manner of conducting the business of the market, to cheat the farmer, as he has all the weighing done either by himself or his employees, who may or may not have an interest in taking more weight than what is just, but certainly has no material interest in seeing that the farmer gets his due. The many instances constantly coming under our notice, of farmers having first weighed their load at the market scales before selling, and

then comparing the weight allowed him at the warehouse of the purchaser, causing a dispute between the parties; the latter having the more favorable position, the former, if not submitting to the weight allowed him on the spot, having again to go on the market and expose his load a second time to great disadvantage, unless he is aware that by taking in the aid which we believe the Law allows him, if properly carried out, of going to the proper authorities and forcing the purchaser to keep to his bargain, which many are not aware of, and many who are, are greatly unwilling to take this step; but would rather suffer to be cheated, for that time at least, and make up their minds to sell no more to that quarter; but such a resolution is of doubtful avail, as the same case may arise elsewhere.

To illustrate and prove this, only yesterday, a farmer called upon us, and, in conversation, made us acquainted with his business transaction in the market that day. Having weighed his load previous to selling, the purchaser on weighing it was not aware it had been weighed as already stated; but there arose a discrepancy of 140 lbs., which the farmer rightly insisted should be paid him. The parties tried to bully him out of it, but being one on which this treatment would not avail, they with very bad grace, said rather than allow him to go away from the place, it would be allowed him, although not entitled to it. He, the farmer, would not have it with such an understanding, but insisted on the payment of it as his right, with the threat of going before the authorities, and by this means, got what was his due. This is only one out of scores of instances that might be produced, going to show the necessity that exists for some effectual means being taken to protect the farmer's property from the evil practices carried on in the public market. The golden rule of "doing unto others as ye would be done by," seems to have but little influence amongst many of the market merchants, else, whence the grounds for so many complaints. The evil also does not end here; but such dishonest practices carried on systematically and persistently, are thoroughly subversive of all morality, sapping to the very core the minds of the parties, young and old, who may be engaged in seeing or carrying them on. It is certainly time that the authorities should devise some plan to remedy this monstrous evil, by adopting means that shall be just to both buyer and seller; and thereby protect both parties from designing and unprincipled characters. It cannot be impossible for this to be done, as in many other markets it exists already, and that effectually; so much so, were any one found to be guilty of such doings as are mentioned here, they would be kicked out of the public market altogether, and branded with such a character as they would deserve;

so that upon the very lowest ground it can be put, even the unscrupulous find it to be that "honesty is the best policy." Let farmers form clubs and discuss this matter, bring out some plan, and lay their grievances before the proper authorities, should nothing be immediately adopted by these parties, and let them insist to have themselves and their property protected by just and lawful means.

It is not our intention to suggest any mode of correction just now, but invite correspondence upon the subject, from those most interested, and we will return to the question some future time. Meanwhile, let those farmers who may have just cause for complaint, make us aware of them, in order to strengthen our hand in endeavoring to combat this hydra-headed monster.

There are many other questions connected with this one, but let us have this put to rights, and tackle with one at a time. Give us your support on this, and encouraged thereby, we will use all our endeavors to see that you have fair play in all that pertains to the selling of your hardly raised produce.

TO OUR PATRONS.

We hope you will use your influence and exertion to forward us a few more names with your own. You see that we have reduced the price, so that every farmer may have the paper for 50 cts. per annum, by joining a club. We hope each one of you may add one more name to our list. Please make a little exertion to get up a club.

To increase our circulation, and afford Farmers an opportunity of having an Agricultural Paper at a cheap rate, We have concluded to reduce the price of the "Farmer's Advocate" for one year. Persons subscribing at any time during the present year will have the paper sent for one year from the time their subscriptions (75 cts.) are paid in.

Any person raising a club of four can have the paper for 50c per annum! This paper is now in its fifth year, and has yearly gained in circulation faster than any other agricultural paper in Canada. It was established to bring forward the Agricultural Emporium plans, which are being carried out. You receive in this paper the accounts of the yield of the best varieties of grain, and the Emporium furnishes a place where people can procure them, as well as the best kinds of implements. We wish to supply only such things as we believe will give satisfaction, the majority of which are tested by ourselves before offering them to the public. Communications on any subject of importance to Farmers are inserted in this paper without cost, and you are respectfully requested to write for your paper. We ask each one of you that have read our previous numbers to aid our circulation, by getting up a club for us, whether large or small. If you have not time, you may know of some person suitable to act as agent. Our inducements are such that any enterprising person can make money, and confer a benefit on his neighbors, by increasing the yield of the farm, and by obtaining information in regard to his calling.

Are we to have a trial of Implements this year?

There are two kinds of clubs farmers should join. One to discuss agricultural subjects, and a club for a paper in which to express their views.

To persons that sent in their dollar to us for their year's subscription, and have not been in arrears, may add to their names three others at 50 cents, and remit us \$1. Thus they will be able to have their paper as cheap as at first, by retaining the 50 cts., or we will continue their paper for a longer term, or send them something additional. Remember 75 cents is the lowest we take for single subscribers at the office.

The third annual meeting of the Canadian Dairymen's Association, will be held at Ingersoll, Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 2d and 3d, 1870.

GOOD RULES.— An English farmer recently remarked that "he fed his land before it was hungry, rested it before it was weary, and weeded it before it was foul." Seldom, if ever, was so much agricultural wisdom condensed into a single sentence.

The first number of the "Canada Health Journal" has made its appearance on our table. It is a small but neat pamphlet, edited by Dr. Campbell of this city. It has a good article in it on the Treatment of Intemperates. It is a monthly, at 50 cts. per annum.

Change in Varieties of Wheat.— At one of the recent discussions at the Rochester Farmers' Club, it was stated by some of the farmers present that the Soule wheat, which was formerly regarded as the best and most profitable variety in Western New York, had been gradually deteriorating, and now but little is raised. On the other hand, the Mediterranean had been gradually improving in both appearance and quality, especially when sown on high ground, up to within a few years, since which time it has lost ground. What are the results of the observations of cultivators generally on this subject? We would like to hear from our readers.

Gleanings from the Agricultural Press, East.

The COUNTRY GENTLEMAN (Albany) has an article on the drainage of cellars. Taking a sanitary view, it says:

"When we reflect what the soil of a cellar bottom has absorbed, in a half century's use, of the juices of turnips and onions, of cider and brine, not to mention cats, rats, and mice, and a thousand nameless horrors, we may imagine what sort of a soup is produced by the rising of the water to the depth of a few inches, and its stagnation beneath the floors of our parlors, dining rooms, and kitchens."

We have no doubt but that if the statistics of death in the houses where water in the cellar is common if not constant, could be carefully given, some problems would be solved that have puzzled physicians and neighborhoods for many a year. Why peo-

ple should die in one house, apparently before their time, and live in the next, when the surface circumstances seemed the same, has been in many places a grave question. A good drain from the cellar or a coating of cement on the bottom and sides might satisfy public wonder by making two houses within twenty rods of each other equally healthy, which in numberless localities is not the case to-day.

Effect of Cooked Food on Health of Animals.

BY E. W. STEWART.

Some who admit that cooked food will fatten animals faster, still claim that it is injurious to the health and constitution.

This, however, must be considered as wholly theoretical, since we know of no instance where careful experiment has given countenance to this theory. It is difficult to see how food should be rendered more soluble and digestible, and at the same time more unhealthy. Cooked hay is more laxative than in the dry state, but not more so than grass before being made into hay, and yet grass is the most perfect food for the horse, sheep, cow, &c., and no cooking ever yet done has rendered dry fodder more soft and succulent than grass. It has been found beneficial to correct the too constipating effect of hay by a little oil-meal or other laxative food. We have fairly tested the effect of cooking food upon the health of horses, cows and sheep.

I own three horses that have been fed every winter upon cooked food for twelve years. This ought to be considered a sufficient time to test it. The cows have always been healthy, in good condition, and yielded milk satisfactorily. The oldest horses have been used mostly to haul loads to and from the city, fifteen miles distant, and have sometimes fallen into the hands of bad drivers and taken very severe colds, but a few days on cooked food has invariably cured them. So far from having injured their stamina, I believe that without cooked food in winter, they would have been long since broken down and worthless, while they are now able to do good work at eighteen or nineteen years old. The effect has been equally favorable upon others. One, soon after I purchased him, had a bad cough and symptoms of heaves; but two weeks upon steamed feed cured his cough, and all symptoms of heaves disappeared and have not returned. I have come to regard steamed food as a specific for colds and incipient colds.

As cooked food is more easily masticated and digested, it would seem to be well adapted to the young animal; and such is the practical fact, notwithstanding some scientific men, so-called, have argued to the contrary.

I have raised many colts from weaning age to five years (six at one time), and fed them wholly upon cooked food during winter, and never discovered any weakness of constitution or want of stamina. They were always in excellent health, and have proved to be very serviceable horses.

And most peculiarly is this mode of feeding adapted to raising calves and young cattle. Instead of remaining nearly stationary as those of most farmers do in winter, trusting to the grass of the following season to bring them forward, they may be kept growing as thriftily in winter as summer. This is surely a great item. An average of two hundred pounds may be added to the weight of our cattle at two years by this mode of feeding. I have now a common heifer just twenty-four months old, kept with only ordinary care, under this system, weighing eight hundred pounds, and placed beside another of the same age, which I purchased of a neighbor, kept upon the old pick; pinch and freeze system, there appears at least a year's difference in their ages.

The Texas cattle disease has given a new in-

terest to cooking food, since it is ascertained that this disease is caused by the spores of the Cryptogomic plant, called *Tilletia caries*, and that this is probably communicated from a rust on the grass similar to rust on wheat. It has long been supposed that rusty straw or hay is unhealthy for cattle. A number of cattle have died in Massachusetts and other places, which Professor Gamgee has pronounced to be caused by smut on corn. All these facts show that diseases are caused by parasitical fungi on plants used as cattle food. Sometimes mildew or rust is very general, affecting a large proportion of the grain and grass, no doubt rendering the fodder less nutritious, and, perhaps, liable to communicate disease to our animals.

Now, when this occurs, "steaming is the remedy." Mechi found that rye grass affected with rust or ergot, from excessive manuring, which was fatal, when eaten by calves or lambs, in the green state, yet, when cured into hay and steamed, was entirely harmless food. Heat destroys these low forms of vegetable life, termed by botanists *epiphytocal fungi*. We have often watched the effect of heat upon rusty hay or straw and found the odor entirely changed by steaming, and cattle are quick to recognize this change, eating that greedily after cooking, which they refused before. Diseased potatoes, which, which are unwholesome for animals in a raw state, become wholesome when cooked. Hay and straw which have been injured by too much moisture after cutting, or become musty, are restored to their original sweetness by thorough steaming. All these considerations show that cooking the dry food of animals must be promotive of health; and to this must be added the greater thrift, and the immense economy in being able to turn so much of what is now wasted into milk, meat, and wool, to serve as human food and clothing.

We do not positively say that we will continue our paper at as low a rate as we now place it, but all that send in their cash up to the 1st of April, will receive it for one year from the time their subscriptions are sent in. It will give us a good knowledge whether cheap rates will pay best. Send in your names while the price is down.

SEX OF GUINEA FOWLS

The inquiry in regard to Guinea fowls, may be easily answered. During the rearing of the young, there is no perceptible difference as to male or female, and, in fact, they can only be distinguished by their utterance, during the laying season, at which time the females are almost constantly calling "come back," or, as many people interpret the sound, "pot-rack," while the males are equally fluent in uttering the word "chu," "chu," "chu," while the female is not on or about her nest. There is another way they can be distinguished after they attain the age of six months. The males are much larger, with an increase of comb or gills, with prominent ridge on the beak, just as it unites with the feathers.

You will notice that the females are much more delicate than the males, in the appearance and shape of the head, and hence the large gills of the males are easily distinguished.—Ext.

Add all that is lost by selling too soon, then add all that is lost by holding, compare the sums, and the argument will be for a prompt marketing of all farm products.

CAUTION TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

This city is one of the main centres for the introduction of new inventions. Many are very valuable; some are mere pretences to gain money. The best talking and most plausible agents are employed to force them on the unwary. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are mulched from farmers and mechanics, annually. Our office is a main centre. The unprincipled ones avoid us. Still we sometimes watch these things. There are now in Canada, agents that will gull many. There is a patent Roller Company, caution; 3 patent churns of no account; 4 Washing Machines, worthless; one map humbug; patent Butter Maker to double the quantity, touch it not; a patent Seed Drill of no account; a patent Apple Drier—a good thing, but proper registration of patent doubtful—caution; a patent Soap Making Receipt, not recommended by us. We have rejected several swindling advertisements, on which we could have made money at your loss.

Use caution in purchasing new varieties of seeds. Many bogus advertisements appear. We have purchased seed warranted genuine, and found it to contain Canada Thistles, Wild Oats, Mustard, &c. &c. In stock, we have noticed some very scaly operations, even in this city. We know of a person of some pretensions to honor, who has been selling improved Berkshire Pigs to the unwary, and passing them under the name of our stock; whereas, they have only been the first crop raised from common sows, but carrying the appearance of genuine stock. If you want a genuine article, procure it from the most reliable source.

Be very cautious about a Seed Drill and Roller patents. The patent Saw and Horse, we cannot commend. There has been two Patent Pea Harvesters in some parts of the country. Be sure you are right, before you purchase this or any other patent.

The new inventions that we believe to be of value, and patents correct, are McIntosh's Drain Tile Machine, Carter's Ditching Machine, Morden's Pea Harvester and Dunn's Hand Fire Engine.

DON'T WHIP A FRIGHTENED HORSE.—Never whip your horse for becoming frightened at any object by the road side; for if he sees a stump, a log, or a heap of tan bark in the road, and while he is eyeing it carefully and about to pass it, you strike him with the whip, it is the log or the stump or the tan bark that is hurting him, in this way of reasoning, and the next time he will act more frightened. Give him time to examine and smell of all these objects, and use the war bridle to assist you in bringing him carefully to these objects of fear. Bring all objects, if possible, to his nose, and let him smell of them, and then you can commence to gentle him with them.—Ex.

MORAL COURAGE. Have the courage to discharge a debt while you have the money. Have the courage to speak to a friend in a seedy coat, even though you are in company with a rich one, and well attired. Have the courage to speak your mind when it is necessary, and to hold your tongue when it is prudent. Have the courage to wear thick boots in the winter.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

The farmer's life is truly a progressive one, and the science of farming is as much a progressive science or art as manufacturing of any kind—as much a progressive science as any other business of life. And the farmer who does not believe in the doctrine of progression, but adheres tenaciously to the old precept and line of practice of his predecessors, with hardly a variation of the *modus operandi* of his farming operations for half a century, begins to look about him with astonishment, to find how much light and practical knowledge science is letting in upon the hitherto benighted course of his neighbours.

The old foggy farmer looks about him and sees one neighbor who has lived by him for years, who used to conduct his farming operations in the same slovenly style; but as his family grew older, and his sons became able to assist in manual labour more effectively, things began to wear a new aspect. Old fences gave way to new and substantial ones; agricultural papers and periodicals began to be taken, their lessons noted and their precepts followed. The old house which stood gable end to the road, moss-covered with age, gave place to the square, white dwelling, upon an eminence near the site of the old domicile, overlooking the whole farm, which was ample in its size and naturally fertile in its productions.

The old man and his boys got out the timber for the house in the winter and spring, and hauled the logs to the saw-mill while the snow was upon the ground, thus doing all within themselves possible, and having the advantage of securing a house of fine architectural beauty, at a limited cost. The walks were then arranged upon the lawn and finely gravelled,—the lawn was sown with red top and clover, interspersed with the more ornamental varieties of fruit trees,—and all this was done at intervals of time by the old man's sons.

The daughters too have their beds of different kinds of flowers, and their groups of ornamental shrubbery, which give the old place a pretty appearance,—arranged with the taste which the fairy hand of woman can always do. Indeed, the traveler, who might have passed that way and seen the place a year before, would not have recognised it now.

Thus a little scientific, or practical knowledge of progression, obtained by means of agricultural papers, added to the solidity of their enjoyments, and incited praiseworthy efforts to improve their social positions.

Meanwhile, the barns and out buildings were renovated, remodelled, and some rebuilt. The land was increased in value by deep plowing and a sacrifice and systematic method of manuring. The old and inefficient tools of husbandry gave way to new and improved kinds. Horses labour was brought more into requisition,—and thus more was accomplished than was possible to accomplish by manual labor. The hay was mown by a patent mower. The grain was cut by horse power, and prepared for market by the same mechanical force—thus making a great saving in time, labor and expense.

Improved breeds of horses, sheep and cattle, were obtained, and their productions and sale annually added to the income of this new and thrifty farmer. He had acquired a habit of doing everything well and in season. His fine sheep and cattle found a ready sale; the productions of his farm was soon sought after, and brought the highest price. The secret of his success was,

that everything that was sold from his farm was superior to the produce of his neighbors' farms, and more pains were taken in its production.

His home was the home of contentment, prosperity, happiness and peace. His was the life of the progressive Farmer.

Meanwhile his neighbor of the old foggy cast and opinion, still adhered to his old routine—extracting from the soil without replacing the constituent elements which it took to produce his crops—forgetting the old adage that "it takes like to produce like."—Consequently, his farm deteriorated in value and amount of production every year, though it was of ample dimensions, and originally as fertile as that of his more progressive neighbor.

His family was brought up in the same style as his father's before him, their moral and social education being sadly neglected. Consequently, the elements of happiness were not in that family.

The sons were dissolute and shiftless, lacking in energy and point of character; the daughters were careless, slovenly and quarrelsome. In fact, the whole family were noted throughout the immediate vicinity, as being in continual contention, feud and broil.

The race course, the card table, and the drinking room too often saw the presence of the sons.

They had no family circle where they could hold social converse, when the toils of the day were over; no tables on which were papers or magazines, either literary or agricultural. They were uninformed as to the current news of the day—knowing nothing of it but what they could gather from the seven by nine village paper, which the old man took because it advocated the politics of his father before him.

He never could see how it was that his neighbor, with the same capital and the same quality of land could sell his produce for a higher price, and was making money so much more rapidly than himself. He did not understand that it was Progress.

Reader, this is no fancy sketch, drawing upon the imagination for materials—no highly colored word painting, existing in the poetic region of fancy and fiction; but the above parallel cases came within the writer's immediate knowledge—and the accuracy of the detail can be vouched for. If you are a farmer, ponder on your course of action: then imitate the example of our progressive farmer, if you would be prosperous and happy.

Blasting Trout Out of the Water with "Giant Powder."

A few days since we copied an item from the Carson Appeal in regard to killing fish with Giant powder. Yesterday we had a conversation with a gentleman who had some experience at this kind of fishing. He says that while stopping at the Warm Springs, near Genoa, last week, he several times went out with parties of gentlemen to blast trout out of the Carson. The way they practice this new mode of fishing is as follows:

They take a cartridge of Giant powder weighing about a quarter of a pound, insert into it a piece of fuse, properly capped, about six inches in length, then, lighting the fuse, the cartridge is thrown into any deep hole supposed to contain trout or other fish. After the cartridge has been thrown into the water, smoke and bubbles of gas are seen to rise on the surface, then in a few moments comes the explosion—a dull heavy report. The surface of the water is seen to bulge up, and the ground can be felt to shake for fifteen or twenty feet back from the water.

Immediately after the explosion, all the fish that happen to be within a circle of twenty-five or thirty feet of the spot where the cartridge fell, come to the surface, either killed outright, or so badly stunned, that it some minutes before they recover. Our informant says that with two cart-

ridges he saw over fifty pounds of fish killed counting trout, white-fish and chubs. In places, after a blast, the whole surface of the water would be covered with minnows from an inch to three or four inches in length. At Elko they are practicing the same style of fishing, only that out there they tie the cartridge to the end of a pole and trust it into the water, holding it until the explosion occurs. This is the most destructive mode of fishing we have heard of—it is a regular wholesale slaughter of great and small, good and bad. Should the practice gain ground it will be necessary for the Legislature to put a stop to it by an act making it a criminal offence to fish with giant powder. Parties have already been talking of trying this process in Lake Tahoe, where by using large cartridges, they expect to bring up hundreds of trout at a single shot.—*Virginia City (Nevada) Enterprise.*

LEGAL HINTS TO FARMERS

We beg to call the particular attention of our readers to the article appearing in this number entitled "Legal Hints to Farmers," as well as to the articles of the same kind, to appear hereafter. We can assure our readers that the gentleman who has undertaken to furnish the articles in question, is every way competent to the task he has set himself. We would advise our readers to be careful of their papers, as the information given on the above subjects will more than repay any little trouble connected therewith.

A Queer Wedding.—Rev. D., a Methodist minister, stationed at Meadville some years ago, one evening received a note stating that a couple living in the suburbs of the city, desired to be united in the bonds of matrimony, and requested his services at nine o'clock the next morning. At the proper time, he went to the house designated, and entered. He inquired of a young lady who was busy washing dishes if there was a couple there wishing to be married, "I am the lady," said she, blushing; "John will be in in a moment." The minister was surprised to see no preparations, and stepped to the door to view the surroundings. Two men were hard at work grinding scythes in the yard, and another, who proved to be John, was tending a cow and a calf in the barnyard. The young lady came to the door pretty soon, and shouted, "John, John, hurry up, the preacher's here." John leaped the fence and rushed to the house; the girl wiped her hands on her apron, and, after joining hands, said they were ready. The minister proceeded, and had just got through questioning the young man, when the old lady rushed into the room shouting, "John, John, you didn't turn the cow away from the call." John let go his sweetheart's hand instantly, and rushed to the barnyard, put the old cow through the bars, and returned to the house, and again took his position, when the balance of the ceremony was gone through with. The minister went on his way, John went to the hay field, and the lady resumed her dish washing.—*Ex.*

Horses of great reputation have always commanded great prices. At Newmarket in 1805, a bay colt, by Pipato, sold for \$75,000. In the same year a two-year old by Volunteer, and a three-year old filly by Sir Peter, were sold for \$75,000 each. For the celebrated horse, Shark, \$50,000 were refused, and O'Kelly declined to accept an offer of \$100,000 for his stallion, Eclipse. Tradition says the Duke of Devonshire refused for Flying Childers, the weight of the horse in gold. A few years ago, the great sire Stockwell could not be bought for \$100,000, and we presume that when Gladiateur was carrying everything before him on the English Turf, the Count de La Grange would not have parted with him for \$150,000. Coming to America, we find that nearly \$15,000 were paid for Lexington, and that

his son, Kentucky, was sold for \$40,000. Mr. Bonner paid \$35,000 for Dexter, and offers \$100,000 for one that can equal Dexter's wagon time.

Proverbs by Billings.—It is human to err, but it is devilish to brag on it.

Blessed are the single for they can double at leisure.

Blessed is he who has a good wife, and knows how to sail her.

Blessed is he that has a good pile, and knows how to spread it.

Blessed is them who have no eye for a key-hole, no ere for a knot-hole.

Blessed is he that can pocket abuse, and feel it no disgrace to be bit by a dog.

If you want to learn a child to steal oats in a bundle, make him beg out of you everything you give him.

I never new anybody yet to get stung by hornets, who kep away from where they wuz. It is just so with bad luck.

I think every man and woman on earth ought to wear on their hat band these words, in large letters, "Lead us not into temptashun."

You kin judge ov a man's relijun very well by hearing him talk, but you can't judge of his piety by what he sez enny more than you can judge ov his amount ov linen by the stick out ov his collar and wrist bands.

Signs.—We don't go much on "signs," but the following are so clearly signs that will not fail in time of drought, that we give them for the benefit of our readers:

When you see the sun rising before you get out of bed, it is a sign that you would not do for a farmer.

When you see a man yawn and close his eyes during the sermon, it is a sign that he is getting sleepy.

When you see a man trying to convince a lamp post that it is impolite to get in the way of a gentleman, it is a sign that he has been drinking something—lemonade, perhaps.

When you see a boy throwing stones in the streets, and speaking impudently to old people, it is a sign that his parents don't care much for him.

When you see a girl throwing kisses and winking at the boys as they pass her window, it is a sign that she is too young to be out of sight of her "maternal relative"

When you are traveling and see one farm in worse order than another, it is a sign no agricultural paper is taken there.

HANGING BASKETS

During the dreary winter months, a fresh green hanging basket in the hall will look very pretty and refreshing. Below our readers will find the necessary instruction for making and arranging these simple and tasteful ornaments. The credit is due the *Hearth and Home*.

Hanging baskets are within the reach of all, and the more simple their structure the more grateful their effect. We have seen one made of cocoanut shell, with the upper section nearly sawed off and scarlet cords attached, planted with moneywort. Its trailing stems, extending half way down the window, filled with its bright golden blossoms, might have graced a fifth avenue drawing-room, so exquisite were its proportions, as bright in coloring. For larger baskets, buy at the woodenware shops a wooden bowl twelve or sixteen inches in diameter. Bore three holes at regular distances for the cords to support it. Then ornament with rosettes, made of halves of the coffee-bean not roasted, grains of rice and small black soup beans. Any girl of common ingenuity can make a pretty one with these materials.

Attach them to the bowl with common glue dissolved in water or whisky. If dissolved in the latter it does not set or harden until used.

When it has dried, varnish with black varnish, which is readily procured at little expense at any paint shop or carriage manufactory.

When that is dry ornament the edges with allspice berries strung on wire. Now attach the cords, and you have as handsome a basket as the shops can furnish, and the expense is very small. A wooden bowl can be ornamented with the scales of the long pine cones. Each scale can be nailed on with upholster's tacks, first boring the holes, and after the bowl is covered, varnish with brown varnish. Even the varnish can be made at home, if one chooses. Buy two or three ounces of asphaltum and dissolve it in turpentine or kerosene, making it lighter or darker as one desires by adding more or less of the asphaltum.

MULCHING

All men have some hobby; I have several. One is *mulching*. Years ago spreading the refuse of a straw stack, partly rotted, upon a meadow, and reaping therefrom an unlooked-for benefit, led to a repetition, and always and ever with good results. Last winter I spread rye straw upon six acres of rye; result, an increased quantity upon that so mulched, over fourteen not so dealt by. This winter I shall cover thirty acres. The spring of 1867 I seeded seventy-five acres to timothy and clover. Twelve acres were very poor; upon that I drew, directly after the harvest of this year, straw, and covered the same; to-day it is the best aftermath I have. It would have cut in September double what it did the 20th of June, and promises a large return the coming year. Hundreds of straw stacks are slowly decaying—"wasting their sweetness on the desert air"—that should blanket all meadows, pastures and winter grain, as far as they could be spread. The spreading should be thin and even; the master's eye should be "there to see." This method has been tried by me in New York, upon the rich meadows of Herkimer county, and here in Wisconsin, upon soil quite different in composition—like results in both places. Farmers, try it and report.—*S. B. L., a Country Gentleman.*

What is lost by keeping Corn.

A correspondent of the Davenport (Ill.) Gazette put two hundred measured bushels of corn in a crib in November, 1868, which were recently marketed. The corn was kept in a well-protected crib, and was in excellent condition when sold. It was found to have shrunk forty-eight bushels, equal to twenty-four per cent. discount from the original amount. There was no unusual exposure to rats, bad weather &c., the corn was first quality, and he thinks the experiment was in all respects a fair test of the profit and loss of holding over.—*Carolina Farmer.*

Charcoal for Horses' Wind.

"Many years ago, I recollect," says a correspondent of a London paper, "a horse being brought into the yard of Joseph Bignal, a celebrated man for keeping hunters at Croyden. The horse was very much affected in the wind, and could hardly move, from distress. In a few days this animal did its regular work as a hunter with perfect ease and comfort to itself. Tar water was the cure. Tar is carbon, and charcoal is also carbon; charcoal in the powder is more easily given than tar water. I have tried it with the most beneficial effect, and I think it stands to reason that the removal of noxious gases and flatulence from the stomach of the horse must improve his wind and condition. Tar is frequently given with benefit in cases of chronic disease of the respiratory organs; but its effects are totally different from those produced by charcoal (carbon)." *Ex.*

ARNAUTKA WHEAT FROM ODESSA, RUSSIA.

We extract the following from the *Country Gentleman*:

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—Last spring I received from the Department of Agriculture, two sacks of the above named wheat, most of which I sowed, but distributed a number of packages (about 1½ pints each) among farmers who have generally been successful in growing wheat in this section. By so doing, I thought a better test of its yield, quality, and adaption to our climate, and on different soils, could be ascertained.

In my haste to sow as early as possible, most of the land upon which the wheat was sown, was of a sandy and gravelly nature, upon which I grew good corn and potatoes in 1868, which was a very wet season April 28, sowed about half a bushel; land in potatoes the previous year. May 6th, sowed about the same quantity on land in corn the preceding year. During the past summer we had a long and severe drouth, which caused a very great decrease in the yield of grain and growth of straw. But some portions of both pieces were of a more loamy and moister nature; there the wheat grew rank, stood up well, straw perfectly bright, heads rather short, with very long, barley looking beards or awns. There were two distinct varieties, in one of which the heads very closely resembled six-rowed barley, with black awns; in the other, the heads in shape resembled rye, with brown or reddish beards; I saved a small sheaf of each. The mixture of the two sorts appeared to be about equal. This day, Dec. 7, I rubbed out the grains of four heads of each variety. The black awned gave 144 kernels—an average of 36 to each head. The four rye shaped heads gave 90 kernels, an average of 22½ to each head, and I presume there would be a similiar difference in the yield of the two sorts if sown separately. The grains of the black chaffed are large and nearly round; the other kind have much longer rye shaped grains, and appear to be very flinty. I obtained a little over six bushels from over a bushel of seed sown, and probably that is more than I could have raised from the same amount of any of the spring wheats grown here, under such adverse circumstances.

In the *Prairie Farmer*, 10th of last April, in substance I find the following: "A good word for the Arnautka wheat." The writer says, "I received a sample of this wheat from the Department of Agriculture in the spring of 1867, and was well pleased with the yield, and also the quality of the grain. I also sowed it again in the spring of 1868, and had a bountiful yield. I had four bushels of it ground to test the quality of the flour it would make, and am fully satisfied with both the quantity and quality, and unless it changes materially for the worse shall continue to raise it. It produced at the rate of fully fifty bushels to the acre the past two years, and has been carefully examined by many of the farmers, grain merchants, and millers in this vicinity, who are all satisfied from present knowledge of this wheat that it is a valuable acquisition for wheat growers."

I have received numerous letters from different sections in reference to the Excelsior oats and the Arnautka wheat; the writers wanting from one pound or quart, up to a bushel or more. If I had purchased these grains, I would not be bothered in sending them off at any price, as I should be glad to sow every oat I have. But as these

grains were imported by the Department of Agriculture for the "greatest good of the greatest number," I feel under obligation to aid the Department in its mission for good.

TAKING AGRICULTURAL PAPERS.

Why is it that so many who follow the noble and useful pursuit of farming are so diverse to studying the experience and practice of our best farmers, as published in our agricultural periodicals? When you urge the claims of our journals, and ask them to subscribe and thus help to sustain papers devoted to their interests, they will tell you that they cannot afford it, while at the same time they take one or more simple trashy story papers, which are poisoning and ruining the minds of their children; or perhaps they will tell you that they have not time to read, while at the same time they can, many of them, find time by the hour to sit at the store or bar room and jabber on politics. I often think that it would be far better for them to be at home with their families.

Others again will tell you that they want none of your book-farming—that it is all a humbug, and that they know as much about farming as those who write for the papers. Oh, profound wisdom! I cannot help thinking that, if they are really past learning, they are fit subjects for translation to some higher sphere. For my part, I expect to study and try to profit by the experience of my brother farmers, as found in our papers; and I desire no greater treat than, after the labors of the day are over, to take an Agricultural paper and read its valuable pages at home with my family. Now, brother farmers, let us sustain our papers; and let me also urge each one to contribute to its pages something of his experience on his farm, to prove all things and hold fast that is good.

—W. WADE, IN COUNTRY GENT.

HOW A FARMER MAY LOSE MONEY.

By not taking a good home paper.

Keeping no account of home operations. Paying no attention to the maxim, "a stitch in time saves nine," in regard to the sowing of grain and planting of seed at the proper season.

Leaving the reapers, plows, and cultivators, &c., uncovered from the rain and heat of the sun. More money is lost in this way than most people are willing to believe.

Permitting broken implements to be scattered over the farm until they are irreparable. By repairing broken implements at the proper time, many dollars may be saved, a proof of the assertion that time is money.

Attending auction sales and purchasing all kinds of trumpery, because, in the words of the vender, the articles are "very cheap."

Allowing fences to remain unrepaired until strange cattle are found grazing in the meadow, grain fields, or bruising the fruit trees.

Disbelieving the principal of a rotation of crops before making a single experiment.

Planting fruit trees with the expectation of having fruit, without giving the trees half the attention required to make them profitable.

Practicing economy by depriving stock of proper shelter during the winter, and giving them unsound food, such as half-rotten and mouldy hay and fodder.

Keeping an innumerable tribe of rats on the premises, and two or three lazy dogs that eat up more in a month than they are worth in whole lifetime.

Miscellaneous.

THERE is 1 on earth I love, and that is K T P's; without her, whereso'er I rove, my heart is ill at E's. She dwells beyond the deep blue C, in lovely U-T-K, York State—3,000 miles or more from Cal-i-for-ni-a. Venus might N-V her full charms, when decked in her R-A; And then to paint her I's and O's 'twere idle to S-A. Her cheeks as R-OZ As the morn, her teeth as white as pearl; to fill one's love with X-T-C, O! she is just the girl! The I-V green climbs at her door, the sweet P blossoms there; of all the flowers that ever blow, my K-T is most fair. I do not lavish M-T praise through wild X-S of love; but, O! I worship her next to the D-E-T above. Though former joys R dead to me, those once I held so D-R, I will not mourn their sad D-K nor shed a single T-R. And though N-F-I-G I am, as everybody C's I ask but I 2 P-T me, and that is K-T P's. Her smile or sympathy would soon my N-R-G restore, and make me something like the man I used to B B4. Not given to Q-P-D-T, yet I've enough of pelf; My coat and vest R C-D now, my pants let in the breeze; life's turbid streams run I C cold, unwarmed by K T P's. X-Q's me K-T—as I live I hope you soon 2 C; and then, if "mother" don't object, Y—married we will B! And then prepare my charming 1, 2 vamous U-T-K; for we will go 2 O-I-O, or else 2 I-O-A.

MISTAKEN FRUGALITY.—Some men attach extraordinary importance to this virtue, and supposing them to commence practicing it at an early age, they will become parsimonious at middle life, avaricious soon after, and sordid in old age; this soon tells inversely with agriculturists, and it is often seen that penurious farmers will rob their land in every possible way to place the money thus obtained at interest, and while their niggardly souls are rejoicing over their money, the source whence it sprang is reduced till the stingy owner of the much-abused land, actually loses by occupying the very farm on which he began to be economical. By this time, covetousness has gained such an ascendancy, that the miserly spirit greedily seizes on every present available chance to turn a penny, and futurity must take its chance. Thus it is evident that a saving disposition should not be cultivated to an inordinate extent, and a check to the growth of it should be administered, for many fine, honorable minds succumb to the subtle poison, and a generous heart sinks lower and lower in the depths of meanness.—COUNTRY GENT.

BRAN.—Good sweet wheaten bran is in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred better than physic, if it is given in time. Let any animal eating stinking, mouldy corn-stalk or old brittle hay, making it look bad, have some bran to help its poor stomach, and it will soon appear in better plight. When a cow in milk does not do as well as she should on other feed, add some bran; no matter what ails the horse, cow sheep or pig, a little bran will do good—but don't feed bran alone for long.

A little girl sent out for eggs, came back unsuccessful, complaining that "lots of hens were standing round doing nothing."

A FARMER in Bakersfield, Vt., during the past dairy season has made from fifteen cows, 3,000 pounds of butter. He sold it for 45 cents per pound, realizing \$1,350. He also raised ten calves, now worth \$100, and 1,000 pounds of pork, which he sold for \$120—making, as the proper income of the dairy, \$1,280, besides supplying his family.

SALT FOR BED-BUGS.—A correspondent of the Olean Advertiser thus presents to the editor a remedy for that kind of vermin so often found in the beds taken by travelers on steamboats and at hotels as well as in private houses. He says—"If any of your readers need a sure remedy for bed bugs, they can have mine, and cleanse the house of this troublesome vermin without expense. They have only to wash with salt and water, filling the cracks where they frequent with salt, and you may look in vain for them. Salt seems inimical to bed-bugs, and they will not trail through it. I think it preferable to all 'ointments,' and the buyer requires no certificate of its genuineness."

AN ENGLISH PARK.—All is very peaceful and homelike. It is centuries since the roar of culverins and musketry was heard in the quiet precincts of these parks. No revolution ever drove the owners into exile. From the Tudor Princes, father has handed down the domain in undisturbed possession to his son. See! there is the hope of the estate at present being led under the chestnut trees on a donkey, by that page in buttons. The terrier that follows with the nurse, is aristocratic to the back-bone. The very rooks overhead, caw in a far more pretentious manner than their vulgar bucolic brethren in anybody's plowed fields in the next parish. —ONCE A WEEK.

Baulky Horses.—Various methods have been devised to cure baulky horses. The latest comes from Maine, as follows:—"Let me inform humane men and hostlers, and all who hold the rein, that the way to cure baulky horses is to take them from the carriage and whirl them rapidly round till they are giddy. It requires two men to accomplish this, one at the horse's tail. Don't let him step out. Hold him to the smallest possible circle. One dose will often cure him; two doses are final with the worst horses that ever refused to stir."—MOORE'S RURAL.

SYMPATHY.—How much misery may be abated—how much suffering may be removed, by the simple tone and expression of the human voice. Upon the heart that is lone and desolate, how sweetly falls the voice of sympathy and consolation! Why is it, then, that each should be so sparing of that which costs him nothing—a few kind words and kindly looks?

Wheat For Horses.—What proportion of wheat could be fed with oats and corn as summer feed for horses—and what is the comparative value of wheat, oats and corn for feed? C. L. G., Chickasaw Co., Iowa. [Wheat, if not ground too fine, and mixed with corn and oats, may be fed in any desired quantity, provided the increase is gradual. Oats and corn, ground to meal, do not very much in value for equal weights. Wheat is about one-fifth more nutritive. But these results will be much controlled or varied, with circumstances, modes of feeding, character of the animals, &c.]

TO CURE AND SMOKE BACON.

At this season of the year, all our farmers are preparing to salt their hams and bacon, so we propose to give them a recipe whereby salting and smoking may be done in one simple and short process. Many of our housewives are forced to depend upon their neighbors convenience to smoke with.—Those of us who own smoke houses know how difficult it is to smoke just right.

By this process all trouble is avoided. Take a large sized butter-firkin, cask or barrel, according to the quantity of meat you desire to smoke. Place it over a fire of corn-cobs with the corn on. Meat smoked in this way is higher flavored, the corn seeming to produce a better taste than cobs, or wood- or green walnuts. Let the tub smoke from five to six hours. To one hundred pounds of meat take eight pounds of salt, two-pounds of coarse brown sugar (or three pints of molasses,) and two ounces of saltpetre. Rub a little fine salt into the ham and shoulders, then put the meat into the smoked tub, cover it with cold water, turn in the salt, sugar and saltpetre, cover closely, and sit in a cool place where it will not freeze. If a scum rises on the brine, turn it off, scald and add a little more salt. If desired to keep through the summer, in the early spring smoke the tub three hours longer, put back the meat, and turn on the brine when cold.

In a month after pickling, the hams will be ready to use. They can be kept in the brine all summer, and if a ham is cut, return it to the tub for further use.

CLOVER SEED.

The few accounts and reports seen indicate a light yield; so that, as seed does not generally fill well in a very wet season, it is not improbable that the crop of clover seed will be a light one. Further reports from the different sections where clover seed is grown for sale, stating the comparative amount and condition of the crop, will now be useful.

Hops.—The "World" says: "The reduced receipts at the New York market, with a moderate export movement, with a fair prospect of its continuance, have given a very strong tone to the market, although brewers continue to operate sparingly. Many holders are asking 30c. for their best samples, but we cannot as yet quote over 24c. to 27c. for good to choice new state hops." The Utica "Herald" says: "it is the opinion many that we have already let more good hops go out of the country than can be spared;" and that there are indications that no more will be shipped except on bona fide orders from England.—Country Gent.

WHEAT.—A great proportion of the wheat in English granaries consists of Russian and American qualities, which have been much depressed throughout the month, though somewhat firmer in value towards the close. Prices are not now likely to recede much lower, as any further reduction would again bring the continent into the market. Already several cargoes have been taken for near continental ports, the result being a

slight reaction in values, which, however, has also prevented further operations on continental account. The general aspect of the market is such as to induce speculators to venture large purchases for holding, but there is an evident feeling that prices have now seen their lowest point, and as this opinion becomes more prevalent, we may anticipate a return of animation, millers being unusually bare of stocks. The quantity of grain on hand, however, is too great to allow of any considerable advance in prices, and we therefore look for a steady upward movement, rather than for an excited demand.—MARK LANE EXPRESS.

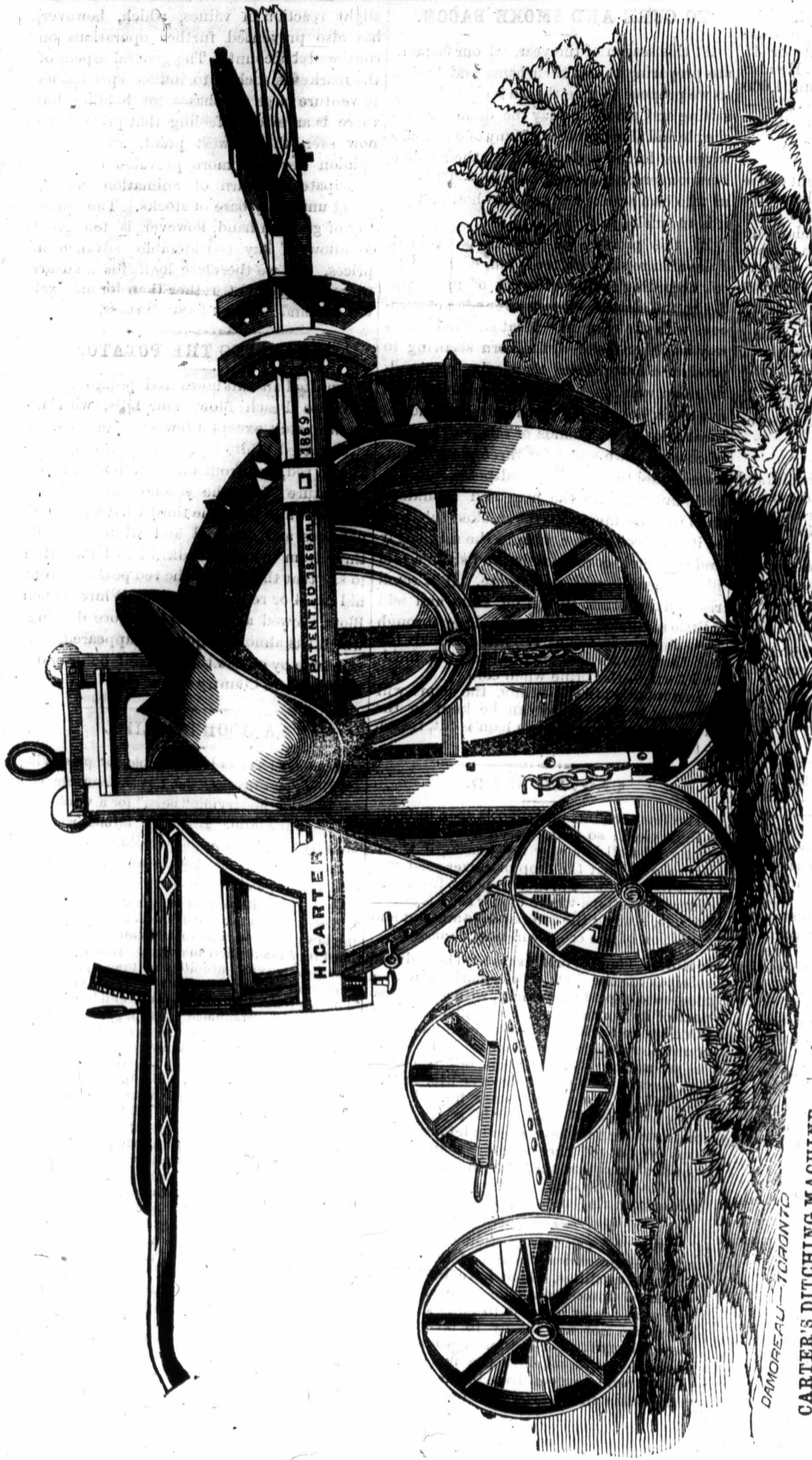
GRAFTING THE POTATO.

I grafted an unknown red potato into a White Peach Blow, four hills, with no known result except a few red potatoes. I also grafted White Peach Blow into the unknown red, and from one hill no evidence of mixture; from the second worse than a failure, while from the third I have two red potatoes and one red and white one—all three from the same stalk. I had forgotten to say that that one of the red potatoes from hill No. 4 or red grafted into White Peach Blow, showed a white spot before digging, which has almost or quite disappeared, but was seen by others than myself before digging.—D., in Country Gent.

A GOOD RECEIPT.

We have receipts innumerable for preserving all kinds of fruits for a long period. Here is a good one for preserving "boys" for a whole lifetime—on the farm. Let every farmer who has boys try it. It is warranted to do no harm:

Another thing; the boys want an interest in the business, and the sooner you give them an investment in the farm or the stock, the more likely you will be to make farmers of them. It is true, the law gives you right to the swails of their labors until they reach their majority. It may be true that these services are no more than a fair compensation for the expenses of their childhood. The intercourse of parents and children should not always be graduated by the legal scale. You do not want your son for a servant, but for a companion, and a support in your declining years. You want to attach him by affection and interest to the soil he cultivates. Begin then early to identify interests with your business, as if he was under no obligations to you. If he fancies stock, give him what he likes, and let the increase be his. Especially encourage him to plant orchards, or vineyards of the finest varieties of fruit. Teach him to bud, graft, prune, ripen, and market all the fruits of your climate. Furnish him with all the books and facilities that he needs to study, and to practice pomology and horticulture. If properly encouraged, he will take an interest in these things very early, and before he is old enough to think of leaving your roof, his taste will be formed, and his course in life will be determined. His heart will go down into the soil with the roots of every fruit tree that he plants, and the orchards and gardens of the old homestead, or of another close by, will be his paradise, from which nothing but necessity can drive him.—Agriculturist.



CARTER'S DITCHING MACHINE.

We have, on previous occasions, alluded to this implement, and again have pleasure in bringing it before our readers' notice, because we always have had confidence that it would be brought to perfection and be of very great advantage to farmers. We deem this the most important agricultural implement that has been invented for many years. Our reaping and threshing machines have been of very great advantage to us; still the majority of farmers at first condemned them

and were a long series of years before they could be convinced of their real value. All now believe them to be advantageous. Our scarcity and dearthness of labor prevents us from thoroughly draining our lands. No farmer now doubts the great advantage of drained land, but very few really know the full extent of the benefits of draining. It must be taught, the same as we have learned the utility of the threshing and the reaping machines. Some of the most enterprising will begin to drain their lands, and they will find the cheapest mode of doing it is by

machinery. Horse and steam power are cheaper and better than manual labor. Ditching is known to be one of the hardest kinds of labor, and the cost of putting down a ditch has prevented thousands of farms from being drained. This machine will greatly facilitate and cheapen that operation. We have seen it at work, and have also spoken with farmers who have purchased and used it, and all appear well satisfied with it. We believe they will be soon found in every section of the country, travelling, as threshing machines now do, from farm to farm, and

that persons will make money by ditching as they now do by threshing. Drain tile machines have long since been in use, and have been recently improved. Ditching will be comparatively a small cost to what it has been. Would not County Councils be doing a great good to their different townships, by offering inducements to persons that would establish drain tile factories and introduce the Ditching machines? They have the power to aid improvements. The engraving is so clear that but little explanation is required of its mode of operation. When the

horses are hitched to the tongue and started, the large wheel revolves, and having two steel cutting rims which cut on each side of the drain; between these rims are iron spikes set at suitable distances, and of suitable form to carry the earth to the top of the wheel, where it is discharged through the spout at the top. The earth is cut at the bottom of the ditch by the point or shear, immediately at the back of the wheel, taking from two to four inches of earth at a time, depending on the soil. The point, or shear, is under the control of the driver and can be regulated at will. The driver stands on the platform, behind, and regulates the cutting of said point. If any large stone or obstruction is in the way, the machine will roll over it without injury; if only small stones, of the size of a person's fist, they will be thrown out with the earth.

This machine will work in any soil where horses can travel. This is no patent right humbug, as no patent rights are to be sold, although it is patented; the proprietors are only intending to have it made on royalty, at foundries, a suitable distance apart, in this country. They have patented it in France, England, Austria and the States. Canada may be proud of claiming the inventor as a Briton. These machines are offered to the public on such terms as no other machines are, namely: any person requiring one may have one sent to them in any part of the Dominion, and if it does not work satisfactorily it will be taken back. We willingly act as agents for the sale of these machines. Mr. D. Stewart, of Aylmer, is the general agent for Royalty. Mr. J. R. Hughes, of Aylmer, is the travelling agent; when required, he will go and put the machine in operation in any part of Canada, without charge to the purchasers.

We hope to see the inventor, during his lifetime, realize a good return for his continued perseverance and energy. He has devoted between four and five years in perfecting this machine, at the expense of FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS. Frequent trials, and improvements have been made, and now he feels confident that success has crowned his efforts, and the only thing now wanting is to let the farmers know its real merits. This is one of the instances showing the justice of the Patent Law. The whole principle is entirely new, and cannot easily be infringed upon, and consequently will enable the inventor to reap the rewards of his labors.

Winter Management of Cattle.

The following is a brief detail of its mode of management, which has been found very successful on a farm on which Swedes are chiefly grown as a root crop, with a small quantity of mangold, and on which the produce of hay and clover is but limited. The

cattle are brought in from the fields pretty early in the autumn, before the rough and cold weather sets in. As stated, the hay and clover grown on the farm being limited, these are chiefly devoted to the calves, the cows which are out of condition, and to those which are sucking. The herd is generally fed upon straw, turnips, and beanmeal, barley, oats and oil cake. Each animal gets daily from two to four pounds of ground beans, barley, or oats, or a mixture of these and of oil cake, or the latter only, in quantity to be equal in feeding value to the other food. A plentiful supply of straw is also put into the racks, from which each animal can take it as it likes, it being found that it eats more heartily than when helped to it. One feed per day, consisting of cut straw, is given at the time when the ground meals above mentioned are being used, the meal and the cut straw being well mixed together. When the roots are plentiful they are given pretty freely but in reduced quantity when the opposite is the case. The quantity of ground meal given is regulated by the abundance or otherwise of the roots. As the time for turning the herd out to pasture approaches, a little extra food is given to the animals, so that they are in good condition, or fresh, when put to grass. This is found to be very beneficial. It is stated that the remunerative price of meal and the comparatively low price of wheat are producing a most important change. This will cause farmers to turn more attention to grazing, and in order to buy young cattle they should be turning their crops into money as fast possible.

Mr. J. Dunn, of Stratford, has a patent hand force pump, for which he got the first prize at the last Provincial Exhibition. We saw it in operation in this city a few days since. It can be worked by two or four men. It is a very useful implement for extinguishing fires. Work-shops that are not in the vicinity of fire companies where large engines are at hand, should procure one of them, as no one knows how soon a fire may break out on their premises.

SHAMEFUL!

We know of no person that has labored harder for the real interest of agriculture, than Mr. Jas. Cowan, of Galt; yet we see some journals clamorously condemning that gentleman because he has endeavored to act fairly to other parts of Canada, and voted that the Provincial Exhibition should be held at Ottawa. We well know the more money we can draw from all parts of the country, the better it is for the thriving cities in the more favored parts of the Dominion.

We believe that but few of our breeders or manufacturers would go to Ottawa to exhibit. That large section of country is taxed

to support the Provincial Exhibition, and we think it but fair they should have an opportunity of receiving the advantages of it. We do not doubt but it would be a loss to the Association to go there. That city has offered to supply ten times as much money as we in this county have done in the past season, towards defraying expenses. It would be of great advantage to the inhabitants of that section. There would be greater exertions to make our county exhibitions more attractive, as but few of our farmers would go there. In fact, when we were attending the Provincial Exhibition at Kingston, we did not see twenty people from London, nor west of it there; nor did we see twenty people that we knew, from Kingston, attending in this city. At the Montreal Exhibition we met but one person from this Western section that we knew, still there was quite as large an attendance as at any of our exhibitions, and all should have an opportunity of attending on those instructive and interesting gatherings. The object of the Provincial Exhibition should be what it was designed for, to do a general good. The Western Exhibition was designed to make capital, no matter at what cost.

ANOTHER EXPOSURE.

More Revelations of the Laxity of the Old Board of Agriculture.

The representative of Middlesex, at the Board, Mr. L. E. Shiply, Vice President, caused an enquiry to be made in regard to the fees charged for the registration of Stock in the Canada Herd Book, and it appears that no returns are made, that the secretary has been in the habit of retaining that money as a perquisite. We suppose it would amount to a nice little salary alone. The secretary receives his stated annual pay, independent of this. It has also just been discovered that he has—or ought to have—in his possession, \$700 that belongs to the Association. The New Board are evidently using their exertions to put the affairs in better order.

OIL BATHS.

It is worth knowing that there are occasions on which a bath in oil may be of valuable use; for it is the best of all remedies for serious burns. A German ballet girl, whose dress had caught fire, and who had been horribly burned in consequence, was put into a bath full of oil by the chief physician of the Leipsic Hospital. She was suffering atrocious agonies; but the oil caused her pains to cease almost immediately. She remained in the bath nine days and nights, the oil being renewed five times during that period; and her burns were then so far healed that she could be taken out without pain or danger. Three weeks after, she had completely recovered. This is an admirable form of cure, because it suppresses the intolerable tortures which do more to kill the victims by fire than the actual gravity of the wounds. Unfortunately, like most good things in life, it is a remedy beyond the reach of small purses.

Youth's Department.

Written for the Farmer's Advocate. BY T. W. D.

The Publisher of the ADVOCATE, considering that there were more people in the farmer's family than the farmer himself, lays out this part of his paper as a place for the young people of that family, and warrants it safe from intrusion by seeds or implements, and even free from cattle: although now and then a stray "bull" may be let loose in it. Our Canadian winter evening has evidently been intended for enjoyment around the home circle. Its length is sufficient to give time for amusement, and its cold is such as to force, or, at least prevail upon the stragglers to stay at home. And now while we are upon this subject, we might as well speak a word to parents about what they consider "the foolish and useless way of spending evenings, included under the heading amusements." We know that as a general thing their children, old and young, ought, when they come in for the night, to set to work and do something which will be useful to them; and they impose this so thoroughly upon their children that the said children never think of having any amusement at home. What is the consequence? Toil is not loved by young people, neither is too much study nor a superabundance of reading. What then? There is a dance going on over at the village; there are amusements at the tavern, and there is no inducement to stay at home. Who, then, will wonder that farmers sons do not want to stay on the farm but desire to go at some other business, and that the daughters wish also to leave the farm and go to live in town? Farmers, let me advise you if you wish your son to be a farmer after you, to stay at home and aid and comfort you when you grow old, make home cheerful—make it cheerful for the young. What pleases you may not quite suit them. Games and amusements generally are silly. We will acknowledge all that, but we were both young once and we were not perhaps any too wise then. We also loved to be silly at times, and for our part we don't think it hurt us; how is it with you? And mother's, a word with you. Do you wish your daughter to love her home, and in loving that home to love you, its centre piece? Then make that home pleasant for your daughter. She need not all the time be knitting, be darning, be sewing, be patching and be drudging. Let some of her evenings be her own, and when you do give her evenings for her own, induce her to spend them at home by amusing her. Invite a few friends for company, a few whom you are intimate with. Let all the young people join in some innocent, laughter provoking game; don't shudder because they romp a little; go in and aid them, and be a child again for a time, and we guarantee you and your whole family will feel more happy and more united than you ever did before. But forgive us, young folks; we had intended to talk to you and we strayed off to your parents. However, read to your parents what we have said, and induce them to try our unpatented but nevertheless perfect cure for the leaving home mania.

And now a word to you, young people. When you do play a game, play it with all your heart. People, whether children, boys, girls, men or women who join in a game and let every one see that they take no pleasure in it, are unmitigated nuisances. We will give you plenty of games in this and future numbers, and we desire to make you all our friends. We love children and we love young people generally and specially, and we consider that when we help them to enjoy themselves, that we make ourselves happy by so doing. Let us hear from you often. Write answers to our puzzles; tell us about the games you know and play; cheer us in our work by telling us if we have added anything to your happiness. Fathers and Mothers, help us. It is a noble work we are engaged in. Young

people help us; it is for your benefit that we labor.

HOW, WHEN AND WHERE.—This is a capital game for a party of from five upwards, and affords great scope for wit and skill, both in the asking and answering of the questions. One of the company goes out of the room, and the rest fix upon a word, choosing one which has various meanings. The one who has been out then returns, and asks how they like it, then when they like it, and then where they like it. From these answers, he or she is to decide what word was chosen. The game will be better understood by giving an example. We were a jolly party of eight, and having met together for an evening's amusement, we determined not to stick ourselves down to cards or conversation; but do something in which we might let off some of our exuberant spirits. Old Mr. Poker, although he would have much preferred his quiet game of whist with some of the elders of our party, still he liked his young friends too well to interfere with their pleasure, but rather determined to aid them, Tom said let us play How, When and Where, and immediately we all chimed in with his idea. The next question was, who shall we send out? which was decided by Mr. Poker offering himself as a sacrifice. When left, the next thing was to choose the word. Charlie thought *box* would do splendidly, as there was a *box* to put things in, *box* a blow, *box*, a kind of wood; but Mary suggested *Bill*, and we all agreed to it. *Bill* is a man's name; *Bill* is an account; *Bill* is the appendage to a goose's head. So Mr. Poker was called in and told to get to work—and these were the results:

He first asked us How we liked it? One said "Very small," (referring to *bill* on account); another said "when it did not quack too much." Mr. James said he did not like it at all; but when Mary said she liked it 5 feet six inches high, you ought to have seen *Bill* Poker blush, for that was just his height, and as all the others saw the allusion, they laughed and cheered too; so it was now Mary's time to become very red in the face. Mr. Poker, however, had not yet discovered the word. He at first supposed it must be a duck, because one had said he did not like it to quack too much; but then Mary had said she liked it 5 feet six inches long, and that would be a rather large duck, so he went on and asked "when we liked it?" Mr. James said he liked it when it was settled. John James who did believe in Miss Mary's affection for *Bill* Poker, said "he liked it when it knew how to behave itself." and we suggested to Mary, that she should like it when sleighing was good and "it" was in a cutter alongside her. Mr. Poker was now beginning to see what we were driving at, but continued his questions. "Where do you like it?" *Bill* Poker liked it at the front end of a duck; Mr. James liked lots of it in his pocket (evidently referring to bank bills); Mary being asked if she liked it, but not finding an answer ready, some one suggested "in her arms." This was too much for everybody's gravity, so in the general confusion that ensued, Mr. Poker discovered the word—The following words are very good for this game: *Box, Flower, Flows, Mat.*

LONDON MARKETS, LONDON, Jan. 26th, 1870

Fall Wheat, per bushel.....	70 to 75
Spring Wheat do.....	70 to 80
Barley do.....	40 to 52
Oats do.....	25 to 28
Peas do.....	40 to 42
Corn do.....	50 to 60
Hay, per ton.....	8.00 to 10.00
Butter, prime, per lb.....	15 to 16
Eggs, per dozen.....	18 to 20
Potatoes, per bushel.....	40 to 45
Flour, per 100 lbs.....	2.00 to 2.50
Mutton, per lb., by quarter.....	6 to 7
Beef, per pound.....	6 to 7½
Cows do.....	25.00 to 35.00
Hides.....	5½ to 6
Hops.....	8 to 13
Turkeys.....	50 to 1.00
Geese.....	30 to 50
Pork.....	8.00 to 8.25

Advertisements.



W. D. McGLOGLHON, dealer in fine Gold and Silver Watches, Jewelry, Silver and Electro-Plated Ware, Fancy Goods, Fine Cutlery, &c. 77 Dundas Street London, Ont. Watches, Clocks and Jewelry, carefully repaired and Warranted. f-c-y

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A FIRST class farm, 100 acres, lot 30, 4th con. London; 90 acres cleared, good buildings and orchard; well watered, seven miles from city on gravel road. Price \$5,000. Apply to M. A. McBEAN. Or at this office.

THE SUPERIOR FENCE POST HOLE BORER.

Which took the EXTRA PRIZE At the late Provincial Exhibition at London. County and township rights for sale. Apply to ANDREW MUIR, Rodgerville, Ont.

TILE MACHINE FOR SALE.

ONE Second-hand DRAIN TILE MACHINE. It will make 4000 two-inch tiles per day. It has been doing a very profitable business. The only reason of selling is, because the owner is about to erect a Power Machine, this machine not being able to make them fast enough for the demand of the locality. It cost \$160, and is now equal to a new one. To country places, where draining is not extensively gone into, this will be found a bargain. It can be had for \$100. Apply at this office.

JOHN MCKELLAR,

CARRIAGE, WAGON and SLEIGH Manufacturer, Richmond Street, London. Best Materials and Best Workmanship combined. Terms, Liberal. Second-Hand articles taken in exchange for new. Repairs done on the shortest notice. feb-c

RAILWAY TIME TABLE.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Trains leave London, going West, as follows: 8.40, a.m., 2.45 a.m., 6.50 a.m., 12.50 p.m., 5.50 p.m. Going East, 6 o'clock, a.m., 8.35 a.m., 4.45 p.m., 1.45 p.m., 11.15 p.m.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Trains leave London as follows: 7 o'clock, a.m., 12.25 p.m., 4, p.m.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate. The Advantages of Underdraining

There are scarcely any soils from the stiffest clays to the burning gravels, but what are benefitted, in some degree, by underdraining. It is now a well known fact, that the water rising from the earth below, is oftentimes as injurious to the growing crops, as the excess of moisture caused by the rains near the surface. It is on this account that many, even the most porous soils, stand in need of underdraining. It should always be borne in mind, that drains do not only act as channels for conveying off the superabundant moisture, but that they also freely admit the air into the subsoil, which increases the temperature of our cold, wet soils in no small degree. The advantages of underdraining are two-fold. It is not only in the increased crop and better quality of grain that the farmer becomes benefitted, but it is in the decrease of labor that is required to obtain the crop. Oftentimes the farmer is able to commence work upon a drained field, weeks before he dares venture to proceed upon one

that is abounding in moisture. The former works kindly, is easily wrought, when wetted with rain, soon dries and seldom cakes; whilst with the latter, it is often difficult to observe where the harrows have passed over it, until both horses and man are tired out with fatigue—when, perchance, some passing shower comes over and puts a stop to the proceedings, and causes a delay which often results in the loss of the crop. Who has not remarked the broad, dark green foliage of all our cereals upon the drained lands, compared with the narrow, yellow tinged leaves and stunted growth observable, where the poisonous matter is pent up, and checking the growth of the feeble plant. The former is prepared with a strong stem and abundant foliage to withstand against the summer drought; whilst the latter is immediately scorched up, and, at best, returns but a feeble yield. Of all the improvements upon the Farm, it is the first that should be taken in hand when necessary. There is no outlay of money that can be made, that will return a greater and more certain profit, than underdraining where necessary. A farmer may invest money in purchasing improved stock, but death or accident may step in and cause a loss. He may invest money in artificial fertilizers, but an unusually dry season may prevent their action. He may purchase seeds of the best obtainable varieties, and yet be disappointed in their return, owing to his land not being in a healthy state to receive them. In short, he may take a step forward in any one of the many improvements of the present age, and yet may meet with losses. But in underdraining, neither the season, nor any one of the elements, nor the times, can affect them. He can bid defiance to the ravaging disease, to the hot, burning sun, and the deluging rain, none can strip him of his enterprise—it lies safely in the earth; it is money invested in a bank that cannot break.

We have thus far called the attention of our readers to the subject of underdraining. It is our intention in the following numbers of our paper, to treat the matter fully. We will give the best information for carrying it out in a thoroughly practical manner.

CHAS. ELLIS.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

CROPS IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

LONDON, January 1870.

MR. WELD:—Dear Sir: Frequently since my return from New Brunswick, I have been asked by parties both in this city and in Toronto, if the farmers in that section can raise wheat, or if their crops amount to anything, as the prevailing opinion with many people in Ontario is, that the land down there is nothing but sand, rocks and barrens. I can not imagine how such an erroneous impression has got possession of the minds of an intelligent reading public. A certain shiver comes over many when the names of the Lower Provinces, now confederated with Canada, are pronounced, as being an icy rock-bound coast, incapable of vegetation, while its inhabitants are compelled to subsist on fish. Now, while they have some stony and some rocky land, and an abundance of fish, they have also fine fertile land, capable of raising crops, not to be surpassed by the best farms in Ontario. During the past summer I traveled over the

greater portion of both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and was surprised at the extent of cultivation, fertility of soil, and largeness of yield in various sections of country. For the information of your readers we will give the product of a farm, owned by Ferguson, Rankin & Co., on the Bay de Chaleur, 250 miles north of St. John. This farm consists of 300 acres, 50 of which is still wild, some clay and some sandy loam. This farm is in a high state of cultivation, still, there is an abundance of equally as good land in the same County. The following is a list of the produce raised on it the past season, which speaks for itself, viz: 300 tons of hay, 2000 bushels of oats, 1000 bushels of wheat, 100 bushels peas, 100 bushels buckwheat, 80 bushels barley, 25 bushels beans, 7,500 bushels turnips, 4,100 bushels potatoes, 345 bushels carrots, and 66 bushels mangel wurtzels.

The above crop netted \$8,075. This Mr. Editor, is not an isolated case, but is an instance of what can be done, very far north, in that cold, fishy country.

Yours, B. DAWSON.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

CHEVELIER BARLEY.

MR. WELD:—Dear Sir—I sowed the 135 pounds of Barley on the 8th of last May—it being the product of one pound raised the year before. I sowed it on Fall wheat stubble, ploughed deep in fall and gang ploughed in the spring; harrowed fine, then rolled, and sowed with a drill on what I supposed to be three acres, it being forty-five pounds of seed to the acre. I sowed on strong, clay soil, well drained. It soon came up and stooled out wonderfully, there being from ten to thirty stalks from one root. It soon covered the ground and proved to be a heavy crop, growing about ten inches higher than the old two-rowed barley growing along side of it in the same field, and no difference of soil and sowed at the same time. The quantity of old barley sowed was one and a half bushels per acre. The spring being cold and backward I sowed it about the 8th of May, and cut it about the same time in August. I should have cut it six days sooner, but for a heavy rain, followed by several showery days which rendered the ground unfit to take the reaper on it, and drove the barley down, bleaching and changing its color very much.

I cut it with a "Self Raking Reaper." The bottom being smooth, I cut it very close to the ground, and yet, with all my care, many of the heads were cut off and lost. I have no doubt but twice the amount of seed sown, was lost in harvesting. After threshing, I had 190 measures, well heaped up.

It yielded 212 bushels by weight. A struck bushel weighed fifty-four pounds, being six pounds more than common barley, and averaged a little over seventy bushels per acre. I have not tried the Chevelier barley on any other than clay land, yet I am of the opinion that it would do well on light soil, as it grows taller and much longer in the head than any other variety I have yet seen. The grain is larger, and as white as six rowed. It has proved itself, thus far, to be adapted to our soil and climate.

We also tried salt, as a manure, on Fall Wheat. Sowed the salt immediately after the wheat; tried it in three fields; could see but little benefit; thought it a little lighter. I intend trying it in the spring on Fall wheat. I will sow it when the blade is dry, that the salt may not stick to it. I believe it would not

only hurry the ripening, but be destructive to insects that infest the crops. The *widge*, that has been so destructive to the wheat crop, is fast disappearing.

We grow the Tredwell wheat. It does very well, but we prefer the Souls wheat to any other. Our grain crops, of all kinds, have yielded a fair reward for labor. Roots of all kinds, and potatoes rotted on low, heavy land. The Chillies stood the wet season the best. Now I should like to know one thing in reference to Chevelier barley. Will it malt with six rowed barley? or does it take longer time? Please answer.

Respectfully Yours, BENJ. WEST.

Bondhead, Jan. 7th, 1870.

[The Chevelier will not malt with other barley; it takes two days longer to malt it.]—Ed.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

TICK DESTROYER.

Sir.—From what I have seen and done with my sheep this winter with good results, I think many will lose more or less of their sheep, especially lambs, before shearing time, with Tick; unless they apply a pound of dry Scotch snuff to every 20 sheep. Apply between the wool with a small pepper box, as near the hide as possible, wherever there is a tick, though I prefer Miller's Tick Destroyer. After shearing, I have tried it with better results still; though the last time, there was a chilly wind. I feel confident it checked the growth of the lambs. I shall choose a warmer day for it. But I would advise your subscribers to examine their lambs very soon, and if ticks are getting numerous, apply the snuff without delay; and should there be any tick at shearing time, we ought to use the Tick Destroyer also.

L. E. BUSH.

A receipt for cankered sore mouth, more common among children than older people, but will answer both, used in the same way. Copperas and alum, each half as large as a hickory nut with the shell off, burnt on a stove to a sinder; pulverize together and mix with honey; apply with swab 3 times a day. I have used this receipt in my own family with great success, and can with confidence recommend it to anyone troubled with a sore mouth.

L. E. B.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

Value of Salt on Grain Crops.

Sir:—As you are asking for useful communications of value to farmers, I now make a few remarks on the above subject. Last year I sowed a ten acre field, from which I had taken a crop of peas the previous year, 4 acres in fall wheat and 6 acres in barley. I put two barrels of salt on the field at spring seed time and at harvest. Both the barley and wheat stood remarkably well, while the grain in my other field, and all round the neighborhood was badly lodged. The grain was good and plump, in fact the barley was the best in the neighborhood. This field was full of wire worms, but not a blade was damaged with them. I have also tried the salt in previous years, and found it most destructive to the wire worm and other grubs; and stiffens the straw of the grain, and I feel satisfied that it pays well for stiffening the straw alone.

G. YOUNG,

Appin, Jan. 15th, 1870.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

MEXICAN STRAWBERRY.

Dear Sir:—In your December No. I find a long article on the excellent qualities of the Mexican Ever-Bearing Strawberry, written, I suppose, by a person who was ashamed to sign his name in full, therefore we get merely "J.H.P." In this article, I find my name mentioned as one of those who have ventured to express an opinion on this extensively advertised, but tasteless little fruit; and motives imputed to me for so doing. My first thought on reading the article was to treat it with silent contempt, but thinking my silence might be used by "J.H.P." to procure him more customers for his plants, I beg to say a few words in reply.

First, in regard to the insinuation of J.H.P., that my reason for condemning the Mexican, was because I was interested in raising new strawberries myself, I beg to say that during the last fifteen years, I have raised thousands of seedling strawberries, infinitely superior in size, flavor, and productiveness to the Mexican, yet not one of them has ever been offered to the public, because of their inferiority as compared with such old varieties as Willson's, Albany, Hooker, Jenny Lind, and Agriculturist, and judging from the last two seasons' test in my grounds, I am inclined to think that the above named good old varieties now thrown into the shade by such new kinds as Napoleon III, Charles Downing, Dr. Nicaise, Nicanor, and several other new varieties. To compare the size of the Mexican with Dr. Nicaise, is like comparing a little Cherry Crab apple to a well-grown Northern Spy, or to compare the productiveness of the Mexican with Willson's, is like comparing the degenerated old Pink Eye Potato to Harrison, Early Rose, Bruses' Prolific, or Climax.

As to the flavor of the Mexican, no one will surely speak of that, for it really has no flavor to speak of, of any kind, either good, bad, or indifferent.

The rich fragrance of the Mexican, is much dwelt upon by the pedlars of the plants, but it is not fit to compare in fragrance to Mr. Bishop's Canada Seedling. In my opinion, Mr. Editor, the Mexican has only one valuable quality, and that is its continuing for a long time in bearing, and this quality is only valuable in the hands of the skillful hybridizer, as a parent from which to raise new crossbred seedlings, that shall approach the size of Dr. Nicaise, or Napoleon III, the flavor of Hooker or Downing, with the fragrance of Bishop's Canada.

I do not like the term "humbug," Mr. Editor, and think we are all of us too apt to use it, but if the term is justifiable anywhere in Horticulture, it is, in my opinion, to the men who have written so many long articles in praise of the Mexican Strawberry. But I suppose anyone who dares to express their opinion upon this strawberry, render themselves liable to be called "Granny" by J.H.P.

But I feel confident that every honest man in the country will thank Mr. A. S. Fuller for giving his opinion freely upon this subject. Why, I ask, was it submitted to a committee at the N.Y. State Fair under the name of Maximilian, and after that committee who were "unanimous in pronouncing it nothing more than the old Monthly Red Alpine, of no practical value whatever," that its name was changed to Mexican?

Oh but says J.H.P., Mr. Meehan, Elliot, and Dr. Warden, speak in high terms of this Mexican. Do they indeed! All that I can say on this point, is that I have heard Mr. Meehan, Elliot, and Dr. Warden, speak both in public and in private upon this subject, and have yet to learn that either of these gentlemen have said that this strawberry was fit to eat. All that they contend for, is that botanically, it is a distinct variety, and to botanists only can this point be interesting. On page 73 of the American Phrenological Society's Report for 1869, we find Mr.

Meehan says: "Some botanists got at it and called it a new species—a point which interested him as a botanist. His examination led him to consider it not a new species, but a variety distinct from the old Red Alpine. Dr. Warden and Mr. Elliot both speak of it as a distinct variety, exhibiting in the proprietor's grounds great productiveness which may perhaps be partially attributable to the season. Mr. Fuller of N.J., said he considered it no more nor less than the old Red Alpine, and if any one wanted plants to compare, he would send them free of charge."

I would just mention in closing, that one gentleman in this town, in order to get a flavor to this berry, has got a number of plants under glass, but the fruit still continues flavorless.

CHARLES ARNOLD,

Paris, Ont., Jan. 17th 1870.

Our pages are open to fair discussion on any important subject that may be of advantage to our readers. We do not wish any to be personally abusive, still when names are used, it is but right to allow anyone to defend himself against any charge. We do not deem the Maximilian Strawberries deserving of much space in our paper, and further, we should request, out of fairness to both parties and the public, that when discussions arise, the writers may give their real names to the public. There is a great advantage given if one is allowed to attack another from behind a screen. We know the bad effect of it from experience. Some years since we wrote an article which appeared in the *Canada Farmer*. It was replied to under a fictitious name, and we were held up to ridicule. We wrote a brief reply of 12 lines, at the same time asking for the real name of the person that wrote against us, but to our astonishment the name could not be found, and Mr. Clarke the Editor, would not allow it to appear unless we paid 20c per line for it. That was one of the reasons of the establishment of this journal. Brown at length had enough of his services. The Government aided him to run the Conservative Agl. Paper. We hear he has put that paper into Mr. White's hands, and he is aiding to publish an American paper. Perhaps his next step will be an Annexation paper, if it is not that already. We trace his downward steps and the downward steps of the *Canada Farmer*, to withholding a name. We wish to avoid that rock.—[Ed.]

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

SHADE TREES.

Sir:—I observe by the published proceedings of the Council of the Board of Agriculture, that they endorsed a recommendation of the Fruit Grower's Association, to take steps to induce people to plant shade trees for shelter; and the Council by resolution have expressed their willingness to adopt any scheme having for its object the fostering and encouragement of tree planting generally throughout the province.

This is a more important subject than may at first sight appear. I removed from the Niagara to the London District, in 1846. At that time, the value of timber and trees were known and appreciated in the Niagara District. But not so in the London district, where I have seen choice timber, not excepting Black Walnut, cut into logging lengths and burned on the ground where it grew. At the rate our Railway Companies, Oil Wells, Cities, Towns, Manufactories, and Farmers, consume wood in Ontario, the growth is insufficient to make good the destruction, and fencing material will, ere long, have to be composed of hedges, wire, and stone.

I am of opinion that the time has arrived when tree planting for other purposes than those of shade and protection, should be practical in many parts of Canada; and I would be glad to see some action taken by Local Municipalities for the encouragement or compulsion of tree planting for shade and protection from drouth, as well

as wind, as it is a well established fact that large forests, or a goodly number of trees, will prevent a diminution of the rain fall. I know of no more practicable mode or scheme to start and encourage tree planting, than for Municipalities to appropriate a portion of the Statute labor for that purpose, along such highways as the municipal councils may select. I believe the Municipal Law encourages the right to plant as well as protect shade trees by local municipalities, and in most of the older settled portions of Ontario, a portion of the statute labor could be annually spared, and profitably expended in planting shade trees.

Yours truly,

JAMES KEEFER.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

Dear Sir:—You give excellent advice to the readers of the *Advocate*, when you recommend them to test for themselves the different new varieties of seeds, and hold fast that which is good. Particularly so with some of the new sorts of potatoes: as the Early Rose, Early Goodrich, and the Harrison. I have grown them for the past two seasons, and cannot say too much in their favor. The Early Rose yielded, with me, at the rate of 168 to one of seed, and their quality for the table is the very best. The Early Goodrich yielded at the rate of 250 bushels per acre of excellent quality for eating. The Harrisons are the best yielders I ever grew, and for a late potato, very desirable. Nearly all the Tubers are large and not liable to rot.

ELIAS MOTT,

Norwich, Jan. 8th, 1870.

Written for the Farmer's Advocate.

LEGAL HINTS FOR FARMERS.

BY GEO. P. LAND, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

INTRODUCTORY.

Whatever drawbacks and disadvantages the farmers of Ontario labored under formerly, in the matter of Education, it can scarcely be said at the present day that they are not supplied with every facility to acquire education. I use the term in its fullest sense. What with our system of schools to teach the farmers and his children "the ordinary branches,"—with agricultural periodicals and papers to afford him and them an opportunity of acquiring what is known as technical education—with a thousand other sources of information, the cry is beginning to be heard among farmers that they are becoming, in fact, *over educated*. This may be, and no doubt is, true to some extent, so far as Common School Education is concerned; but it is far otherwise as regards the education which teaches the farmer the science and principles of his business—the best kinds of soils and seeds—the best farming implements, &c. Knowledge of this kind is, no doubt, absolutely essential to the farmer of the present day. But there is another species of knowledge, though not, perhaps, so essential to him as this—is nevertheless, of very great importance to him, and which, up to the present time, he has had little or no means of acquiring. It would, I should think, be very difficult to find a farmer who would not admit that it is of the greatest importance to him to be sure he is going to reap where he has sown,—that after spending the best years of his life in reclaiming from the forest his farm and improving it, that he and his inheritance shall enjoy the fruits of his energy and industry for all time to come thereafter. The proprietor of this paper very justly thinks he would be conferring a benefit on the farmers by giving them, through his columns; information which would secure these results; and, at his request, I have undertaken to furnish it. I purpose, therefore, in a series of short articles, which will appear in each successive number of this paper, to instruct the farming community in the "Learning of the Law," so far

as to enable any person about purchasing a farm to secure one with a proper title—to enable the owner of a farm with a defective title to make it a good one—to enable the farmer, if he requires to mortgage or to lease his farm, to do it and how it should be done—the covenants he should enter into—the effect of mortgaging or leasing, and the least expensive way of doing it—and when the period arrives at which he must leave his farm with all his other worldly possessions behind him. How he may dispose of it so that those he would prefer should enjoy it after him, may do so in peace and security. It shall be my endeavors also, to explain as concisely as possible, the nature and effect of all those contracts and arguments ordinarily entered into by farmers, in connection with their business. I shall, moreover, furnish some rules by which the farmer may select a good, sound, honest lawyer, (for there are *quacks* among lawyers as well as doctors) when he really needs one. I shall thus, I trust, enable many to escape the lamentable results of the ignorance of that horde of pettifogging conveyancers who infest every township and village in the country; for in many cases "A regular lawyer" is not consulted, until after the mischief is done. In so attempting to benefit the farming community, I shall not, I imagine, violate, in any respect, professional etiquette—having before me the example of the greatest English lawyer of the day—Lord St. Leonards—who, when first called to the bar, published his "Letters to a Real Property Man," and within the last few years his "Handy Book on Property Law," both written expressly for the general public.

London, Jan. 8th, 1870.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

TEST OF POTATOES.

Sir:—I planted one pound of Early Rose potatoes, which yielded 121 pounds; of the Harrison, fifteen pounds were planted, and which returned me nine bushels; and from the same number of pounds of Goodrich, I received in return ten bushels.

From my experience taken from the above facts, I feel certain had I planted the rest of my ground with the above kinds, instead of the common sorts which I and other farmers are in the habit of planting, it would have been some hundreds of dollars in my pocket, as the kinds enumerated above, have yielded in the proportion of 4 to 1 against the others.

I would strongly recommend farmers generally, by all means to procure the same sorts I have mentioned, as it would pay them well to do so.

RILEY DAY.

Thamesford, Jan. 10th, 1870.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

CHEVELIER BARLEY.

Sir:—In your last number, you made inquiry about the Chavelier Barley. I beg to say that I sowed six bushels of that barley imported last spring, from which I raised 170 bushels, a sample of which I send you. Had it not been for the extreme wet season, I intended to sow no other kind the coming season. I shall have a hundred bushels to part with for \$1.50 per bushel under five bushels, over five bushels, \$1.00. The land on which it was raised is naturally wet.

I planted the following kinds of potatoes last year, namely: The Albert's Flukes, Jackson Whites, Prairie Flower, (a new kind here) Harrison, Cusco, Gleason, Calico, Early Goodrich, Early Rose, with the following results:

Of the three kinds first named, at the time of digging, two-thirds were rotten, and after having been put in the cellar, the remainder nearly all rotted. The Prairie Flower were all rotten at the time of digging. The Harrison, Gleason, Calico, and Cusco, were abundant in yield, and up to the present time I have not found one rotten one among them. Had I planted any of these four

varieties in lieu of the old ones, I should have ten times as many potatoes at the present time.

The Early Goodrich and Early Rose succeeded well, and are free from rot. This is another instance of the advantage of a change of seed.

H. CROTTY,

Ingersoll, Jan. 10th, 1870.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

HORTICULTURE.

Dear Sir:—At a time when fruit growing is occupying such a prominent place, and engrossing the attention of our enterprising farmers to such an extent, any remarks, however remotely they may relate to the successful cultivation of fruit bearing trees, I suppose will be a welcome addition to your columns. In looking over some old numbers of an Horticultural journal lately, I came across an article written by a gardener living on the Hudson, having reference to the hardihood of different kinds of evergreens planted in different aspects, or perhaps more correctly speaking, giving a detailed statement of the manner in which a number of choice and rare Evergreens stood the severe winter (there) of 1867; many of them being specimens of the same varieties only planted in different situations. In this Western portion of the Province, it is a matter of little consequence, seemingly, whether an apple orchard is planted to face East, West, North, or South; but in the Eastern parts of it, it is a very different matter; and it has often struck me, more especially since reading the article referred to above, whether or not a better understanding of the manner in which trees are affected when exposed to the morning or midday sun suddenly, or planted in such a position as to come under the solar influence as late as possible, would not tend in a great degree to bring into cultivation in places where hitherto they have not succeeded, a great many varieties of fruit, where now perhaps some six or eight varieties of apples can be grown with any degree of safety. At any rate, it might tend to make their culture more certain of success, and might add considerably to the list.

The writer starts with an assertion which upsets the theory of close protection altogether, namely, that those things protected or sheltered the most, have suffered the most. All things planted on the west side of a wood, have been the next greatest sufferers, from the fact, he thinks, that they are in shadow (in any place) up to 10 or 11 o'clock, and then suddenly receive the warm rays of an almost meridian sun, while the sap vessels are in a frozen or congealed state of an excessive low temperature of the preceding night; while trees on the east side of a wood, receive the early and weak rays of the rising wintry sun, and the congealed sap vessels are thawed gradually and without much or any harm.

As a proof of this, he mentions a specimen of Wellingtonia 13 feet high, feathered to the ground, standing on the west side of a plantation, every branch dead to within 6 inches of the top, while, on the contrary, another specimen nearly as large, standing in a most exposed position with no protection near, but receiving the early rays of the morning sun, was so little damaged that at a little distance it could not be observed. Another specimen, Pine's Lam Certiana, 15 ft. high, had not a single green leaf on it in August; buds, though plump and green, had not budshed, wearing the appearance of being completely paralyzed—This on the west side of a wood. A similar tree on the North side of a wood, untouched. Trees protected on the east side and receiving the sudden rays of the midday sun, have either nearly all died or suffered so much as to render them nearly worthless. Those immersed in a wood and protected on all sides, have generally died. Those planted on the north side of a wood, have hardly suffered at all—Those on the east side of a wood, very little. Those on the west side, very much. It appears from this, that if trees have too much shelter, the wood will not

ripen well in the autumn, and are consequently more liable to damage from frost. That a shelter to break the force of the wind should be at a sufficient distance to allow of plenty of air and sun getting at the trees, or better without any.

The conclusion to be arrived at from the writer's experience is, never to plant any but the very hardiest tree on the western or southern side of a wood or plantation. The north or east or even a open location is better. Whether the same laws which govern the growing of the finer kinds of Evergreens, will hold good or apply to fruit trees to the same extent, I know not, but certainly they will to a degree.

Perhaps some one reading this may have experimented in somewhat similar a manner, say with apple trees, and would give us the result through your columns.

A. PONTEY.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

White Schonen Oats and Probsteier Barley.

Mr. Editor:—Early last spring I sent you an account of my receiving from the Agricultural Department, at Washington, one pound of each of the above named barley and oats, imported from Hamburg. I also stated that I had that day, (May 6,) drilled it in on a good piece of ground, and that I would, when harvested, send you the result with samples of the grain. Accordingly, I have to-day sent you the samples. The seed was drilled in by hand, in drills six inches apart. It came up nicely, and soon covered the ground. On the 17th day of August, I cut the Barley, and on the 26th, the Oats. I have now threshed, cleaned and weighed the grain. I have two bushels and one pound of barley, which is at the rate of ninety bushels to the one bushel seeding—it is the two-rowed variety. I have four bushels of oats, which is at the rate of one hundred and thirty-six bushels to one bushel seeding.

H. M. THOMAS.

Brooklin, Ont.

P. S.—None of the grain will be for sale until after another harvest. The following potatoes are late as winter varieties—Chili, Harrison, Bresses Prolific, and Venderveer. I think farmers will be satisfied if they plant any or all of the above varieties, as well as the Early Goodrich and Early Rose, which are excellent potatoes.

H. M. T.

[We publish Mr. H. M. Thomas' communication again in this number corrected. The original has unfortunately been destroyed.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

NORWAY OATS.

Mr. Editor:—Sir:—Having taken notice of the interest you are taking about seed, and as you ask for communications I now forward you the result of my experience with the Norway oat. I procured eight pounds of that variety from Jones & Clark, of New York. I put them on eighty rods of ground, and I threshed sixty bushels and a half. They are the greatest oats to produce that ever I have seen.

Thorndale, Nov. 1869. R. SUGDEN.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

EARLY ROSE POTATOES.

Sir:—The accounts of the yield of the Early Rose potatoes, given in your paper, are incredible to me. I procured seven ounces from you. One potato I cut into eyes and planted on good land, and cultivated it as well as I could, and I only got thirty-one pounds and a half. I do not think you do yourself any good by stating such enormous yields.

Nissouri, Dec. 1869. J. WILKINSON.

[You may be right in your remarks about great productions, but one half of the farmers will doubt your statement.]—Ed.]

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CARTER'S DITCHING MACHINE. Warranted. \$130. This Machine can be sent to any part of the Dominion. It is warranted to cut a ditch from 100 to 250 rods, in twelve hours, three feet deep and eighteen inches wide. It has given entire satisfaction in our neighborhood. Purchasers need not pay for the Machine unless they are satisfied with it.

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WESTWELL OATS.—For four ounce package, post paid, 20c.; peck 62½c.; bushel, \$2. These are the best black Oats for quality. They yield well. The straw is not so long as that of some other kinds. They are short and very thin in the husk.

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Norway Oats.—For four ounce package 20c.; peck \$1.12½.; bushel \$3. No oats have greater reports of their enormous yielding qualities than these. They are to thresh, and not so heavy as some other varieties. Every person, so far as we have heard, was satisfied with their results last year.

IMPORTED BLACK TARTAR OATS.—For four ounce package, 20c.; peck 62½c.; bushel \$2.

IMPORTED CHEVELIER BARLEY.—For four ounce package, 20c.; peck, 75c.; bushel, \$2.50. Do. from Imported Seed; four ounce packet, 20c.; peck 50c.; bushel, \$1.50. This Barley has answered well here the past season; in England it is driving the common Barley out of cultivation.

CROWN PEAS.—For four ounce packet, 20c.; peck 25c.; bushel \$1. These Peas require good land and good cultivation. They stand erect, can be cut with the Mowing Machine, and yield more than the common varieties.

POTATOES.—Early Rose, four ounce package, 20c.; peck, 75c.; bushel \$2. Harrison, four ounce package, 20c.; peck, 37½c.; bushel, \$1. Early Goodrich, four ounce package, 20c.; peck, 37½c.; bushel, \$1.00. We can safely guarantee that you will be satisfied by procuring a peck, at least, of each of these valuable potatoes. Their yield will astonish you.

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We are prepared to fill wholesale orders at reduced rates, for some of the above varieties of Seeds and Implements. Prices are fixed from month to month, as supply and demand may guide us. Always remit the Cash with the order for seeds. To reliable parties credit will be given for some of the Implements. We ship all things on board the cars free of charge. We ship all pay their own freight, if per Express or Rail.

Bags are charged: Peck Bags, 10c.; Bushel Bags 20c.; Two Bushel Bags, 25c. or 50c., as required. We send the best Seed we can raise; when we are out of kinds raised by us, or can procure better, we send the best we can command. Orders should be in early, as at the seed time some may not be as well attended to. We supply Machinery as cheap as you can procure them from the Manufactories, and on quite as advantageous terms. Send your orders through us, and support the Emporium. The above list are varieties that we know will give satisfaction.

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FINANCE DEPARTMENT, Ottawa, 9th June, 1869.

CROWELL WILSON, Esq., M. P., House of Commons.

DEAR SIR:—The Agricultural Mutual Assurance Association of Canada, of which you are President, is at present the only Mutual Fire Insurance Co., which has made the deposits required to enable it transact business throughout the Dominion. The Deposits now amounts, as you are aware, to \$25,000.

I have &c.,
JOHN ROSE.

Intending insurers will note, 1st. That this Company pays the full amount of

LOSS OF CONTENTS OF BUILDINGS

not exceeding the sum insured.

2d. That it has

30,892 Policies in Force

A number nearly as large as all the other Farmers' Mutuals in Canada, put together.

3rd. That nothing more hazardous than

Farm Property

is insured by the Company, and that it has

NO BRANCH

For the insurance of more

DANGEROUS PROPERTY

Nor has any connection with

Any Other Mutual

Of Any Description Whatever.

4th. That its rates are as low as those of any

WELL ESTABLISHED COMPANY

And lower than those of a great many.

Further particulars may be learned by addressing the Secretary, London, Ont.

Joseph Hall Machine Works, Oshawa, Ontario.

Established

1851.

**Joseph Hall
Manufacturing
COMPANY
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The business carried on

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Joseph Hall,

and more recently by his

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by the

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who will continue

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with increased

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THE FARMERS' FAVORITE
HAS A ROTARY CONTINUOUS FEED DISTRIBUTOR
WARRANTED TO SOW WHEAT, OATS, PEAS, BARLEY, RYE & C.
PERFECTLY WITHOUT CRACKING OR OTHERWISE INJURING THE SEED
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NEW PATENT SELF OILING CYLINDER BOX
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NEW PATTERN "BERWICK" GEAR.
THE MOST PERFECT THRESHER EVER OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC.
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will be very much

INCREASED

by the addition of new

Machinery,

and a more thorough

ORGANIZATION

Through our

Connection

with the

GLEN & HALL Manufacturing Co. of Rochester. We shall continue to receive all valuable improvements introduced in the United States.

We shall offer this season our well-known Machines with many valuable improvements, and shall, as usual, keep constantly on hand duplicate parts of all our manufactures, thus enabling us to supply the wants of our customers and save them from delay in case of accidents.

MR. F. W. GLEN

Will continue to give his time to the Management of the Business. We are determined that all that capital, skillful workmen, improved machinery, perfect organization and division of labor can do, with the best material, shall be done to put into the hands of our patrons the best machines made in Canada, at the lowest possible price.

For further particulars address

F. W. GLEN,

President,

OSHAWA, ONT.