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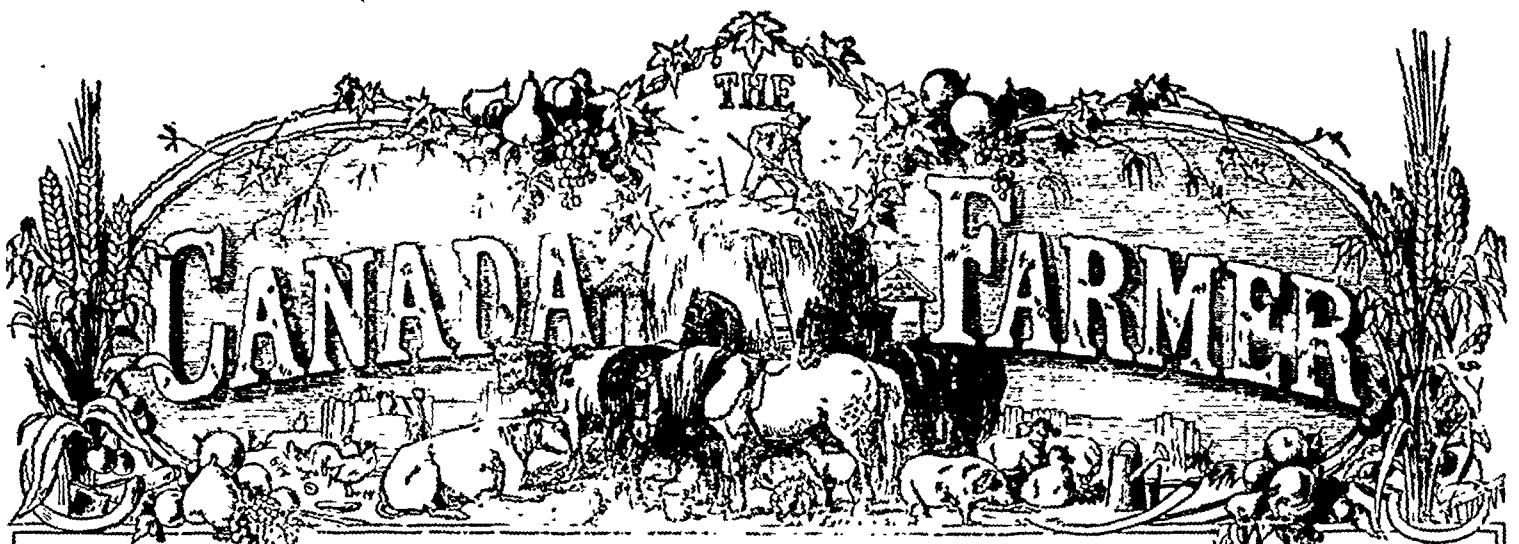
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Vol. III. No. 24.

TORONTO, UPPER CANADA, DECEMBER 15, 1866.

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The Field.

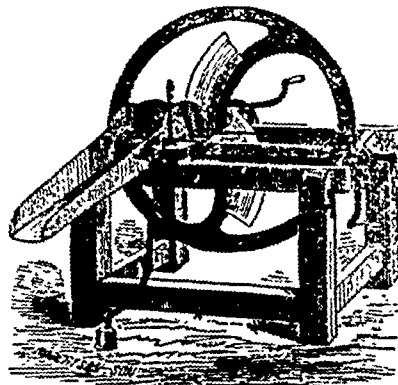
Familiar Talks on Agricultural Principles.

RYE.

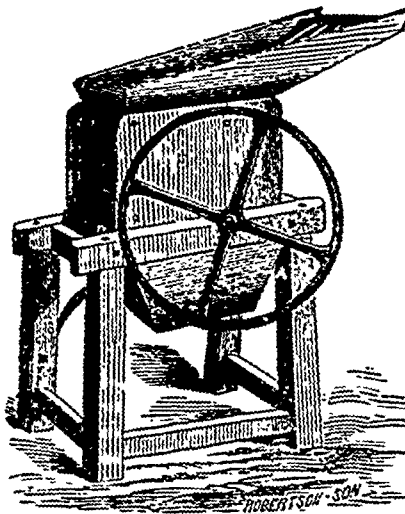
This grain is of very similar composition to wheat, so much so that it is hardly necessary to give its chemical analysis in this "Talk." Rye contains more sugar and less gluten than wheat, and the gluten differs from that of wheat in certain properties that make it less fitted for the manufacture of bread. Rye will thrive on comparatively poor and light soils that are quite unfit for wheat, and this would seem to show that it is a less exhaustive crop than wheat. The reason for this is not very apparent, inasmuch as the constituents both of the grain and straw very much resemble those of wheat. Rye-straw contains less lime, silica, and bone-earth than that of wheat, but a little more gypsum. The ash of the grain differs very little from the ash of wheat. Experiments innumerable have proved that good crops of rye can be raised where wheat would be an utter failure, but science has not fully explained this fact, and we are left to suppose that by a peculiarity of its nature, the rye-plant extracts nutriment from the air and soil, such as the wheat-plant is incapable of doing.

Rye, like most of the cereals cultivated by man, belongs to the family of the *Gramineae*. It bears naked seeds on a flat leaf furnished with awns like barley. The straw is solid, and the interior of it is filled with a pith, which though it lessens its value for foddering purposes, improves it for litter, thatch, collar-stuffing, basket-making, &c. There are two distinct varieties of this grain, the winter and spring, which are cultivated like winter and spring wheat. Rye bears cold better than wheat, and its growth is far more rapid, so that it is a better crop for a high northern latitude where the winters are severe, and the summers are short. As a green fodder-plant, and especially for soiling in early spring, rye is worthy of extensive culture. For this purpose it is sown in autumn, as early as possible after other crops are taken off the ground. In early spring it starts up vigorously and grows with great rapidity and luxuriance. At the height of six inches it may be advantageously cut for feed. It may also be fed off by sheep and lambs, and it will furnish a nutritious food before the pastures are ready to graze. Before it begins to spindle it is tender and succulent, but when it reaches this stage it is no longer relished by stock. When sown for its grain from one to two bushels per acre is required, and when sown as a green foddering crop, double the quantity is necessary. Rye is sometimes sown along with wheat, when it produces a mixed crop known as *meslin*, which forms a very healthy, palatable bread. Millers prefer wheat and

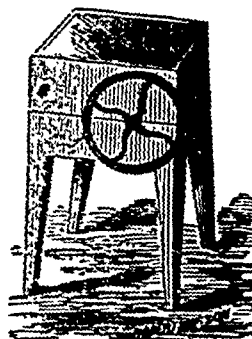
rye, thus grown together, to any mixture of the two grown separately. From experiments made to ascertain their comparative nutritive qualities, it has been



proved that rye is to wheat as 64 to 71. This grain malts readily, and is largely cultivated on the conti-



nent of Europe for purposes of distillation. From it is obtained the spirit so well known by the name of



"Hollands," and even better by its contracted Dutch name "Gin."

Rye is subject to a singular disease called *Ergot*, the French name of a cock's spur, which the affected grain resembles in shape. A similar disease occasionally attacks wheat and other grains, but rye is very liable to it. Excess of moisture is considered to be the usual cause of this affection. Ergot of rye is a poisonous substance, but experiments made with it have proved that like many other poisons, it possesses valuable medicinal qualities. In certain cases of protracted labour, its judicious and careful use has been found of service. Mischievous results have, however, followed its administration by unskilled hands, and so potent a medicinal agent should never be resorted to except under the direction of a duly qualified physician. This abnormal substance has become an article of commerce as a drug, and a noted agricultural writer expresses the opinion that the culture of rye under circumstances that are sure to develop the disease, would be more profitable than the production of a sound and healthy crop. We do not advise any one to try the experiment.

First Prize Straw and Root Cutters.

Herewith we present wood cuts of Straw and Root Cutters, made by Messrs. Maxwell & Whitelaw, Paris, which took first prizes at the late Provincial Show.

No. 1 represents a Straw Cutter, which is made of various sizes, Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4. They are capable of cutting three different lengths of hay, straw, corn stalks, &c., and are also used as pea-threshers, cutting the straw at the same operation, when the cut straw is separated from the peas with the fanning mill. The No. 4 machine is intended principally for hand use, but can also be attached to power. Some very valuable improvements have been added to the above machine this season. The knives, which are a very important part of the implement, are imported from the celebrated Richmond & Chandler's works Manchester, England. These machines took the first and second prizes at the late Provincial Exhibition held in Toronto, both as horse power and hand machines. They also took first prizes at the Provincial Exhibition held at London in 1865.

No. 2 represents Gardener's Double-Acting Root Cutter, an implement which we think almost every one is acquainted with more or less. It is capable of cutting both for cattle and sheep, is very durable, and gives universal satisfaction. The knives are imported from England, and from the fact that it has taken the first prize at the Provincial Exhibition for a number of years, nothing more need be said in its favour.

No. 3 represents the Paris Root Cutter, a machine intended for sheep, which is also a valuable little implement. It costs only a little more than half the price of Gardener's, is easily worked, and cuts very fine.

Seven Eared Wheat.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

SIR,—I have received through Stewart Campbell, Esq., Secretary of the County of Perth Agricultural Society, some specimens of a new kind of wheat grown by Mr. Forman, of Stratford, accompanied with the following statement, which will be interesting to your numerous readers. These specimens—which are badly affected by rust—may be seen at this office. Mr. Forman's future experiments will be looked forward to with much interest. Yours truly,

GEO. BUCKLAND.

Board of Agriculture,
Toronto, Dec., 1866.

I brought the seed, from which these plants were grown, last fall, from near Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, U. S. It is a spring grain, and there known as "Seven Eared Wheat" from the small side ears, usually three or four on each side of the main head. With their system of irrigation, alkaline soil and dry climate, it yields from 60 to 100 bushels per acre, of a very large white plump grain, larger, and nearly equal in quality to our winter wheat.

I think the Mormons obtained the original seed from Toros, New Mexico.

This spring I sowed the seed in drills two feet apart, in a rather poor, stiff clay soil. It was sown too early and covered too deep, and only about half the seed grew, leaving the plants too much space, in consequence of which, and the wet summer, it suffered considerably from rust, and the grain is badly shrunk, as most of the spring wheat is here this year. Owing to the depredations of my neighbour's bees, I lost the best and largest heads. In a few cases twenty stalks grew from a single seed, and some large heads contained 160 grains. Nearly all the heads had 10 and 12 side ears.

I intend giving it a thorough trial, and have hopes, when the plant becomes acclimated, in three or four seasons it will prove more productive, earlier, and of a better quality than any of our present varieties. When, if found adapted to this country, it will be distributed. In the meantime the public will be kept informed of its progress.

I have also a new and distinct variety of Rye, from California, originally from the Amoor River, Siberia, called "Russian Rye," believed to be very productive, and of superior quality—both berry and head of peculiar form and very large. It was sown here this spring and grew vigorously; but owing to an accident, the few plants growing were destroyed.

As I have still some grains of the original seed left, I will try again next season.

GEORGE NORMAN.

Stratford, County of Perth, Sept. 10th, 1866.

AN INCREDIBLE HAY CROP.—The *New England Farmer* is responsible for the report that an acre and a half of poor land in St. Johnsbury, Vt., produced thirteen and a half tons of fine timothy hay this season. The land was ploughed in August, 1865, top-dressed with forty-five loads of yard manure, well harrowed and sown with three pecks of timothy seed, and fifteen pounds of clover seed, and again harrowed and rolled, it yielded eight tons of timothy the last week in June, and five and a half tons more the first week in September. As much Italian rye grass has been grown to the acre in England by the aid of weekly libations of sewage or liquid manure. But any thing like such a crop of timothy has never before been reported by the agricultural press.

THE GARNET CHILI POTATOES.—"R. W. S." of East Zorra, writes:—"In your issue Nov. 1st., there appears a paragraph from the *Mount Forest Examiner*, in reference to the 'Garnet Chili', stating that Mr. A. T. Gregory, nurseryman of that village, had showed him a 'specimen brick' of that variety, which weighed two pounds six ounces, and that it is a new variety introduced by Mr. Gregory.

I wish to state that the Garnet Chili is a comparatively old variety in some parts of Canada, and has been exhibited at the Provincial Exhibitions for the last seven or eight years at least. Last spring I planted in hills a little less than two pecks, cut fine on six square rods, from which I took twenty-five bushels of very large potatoes, not one diseased in the lot. There were a great many which weighed two pounds each, and one that weighed just three pounds and one ounce (49 ounces). But there is one drawback which resulted from over growth: all the large ones are hollow at the heart."

SPONTANEOUS GROWTH OF WHITE CLOVER.—"J. L. B." of Harvey Hill Mines, says:—"Permit me to inquire through your columns the reason why white clover invariably grows up where ashes have been spread, though there be not a vestige of it there before?"

Ans.—Because the soil is so full of the seed of white clover, that the plant springs up whenever and wherever circumstances are favourable to its germination; and because ashes have a peculiar tendency to stimulate the growth of this particular plant. The fact enquired about by our correspondent has often been noticed. It has been found that, on strewing ashes upon an old meadow, thousands of clover plants will make their appearance, though none were to be seen before.

GOODRICH'S SEEDLING POTATOES.—"E. McArdle," of St. Catharines, writes:—"I this spring obtained six barrels Goodrich's Seedling Potatoes, two barrels Early Goodrich, two of Gleason, and two of Garnet Chili; of that quantity I planted three bushels, Gleason and three bushels Early Goodrich on three quarters of an acre of ground, from which I obtained at digging time three hundred and twenty five bushels of good sound potatoes. My experience with the Garnet Chili is that it does not compare favourably either in quality or yield with the Gleason or Early Goodrich. The above mentioned potatoes were raised with ordinary tillage without the use of any artificial manure."

NOTE BY ED. C. F.—The late Rev. Chauncey Goodrich, of Utica, N. Y., spent much of his time during the last few years of his life in experimenting upon and originating varieties of the potato. He propagated directly from the seed-ball about 16,000 plants no two of them being exactly alike. After much patient attention some twenty varieties were obtained that were considered acquisitions. Of these the Garnet Chili, Cuzco, Copper Mine, Pink Eye, Rusty Coat, Early Goodrich, and Gleason, have proved the most desirable, and it is considered by intelligent agriculturists that from their healthfulness during seasons of potato disease they have saved the farmers of the United States millions of money. Some of the above named varieties of potatoes have found their way into Canada, and we have every reason to believe that they deserve to be more widely known and more generally cultivated.

Poultry Yard.

Canada West Poultry Association.

A MEETING of the above Association was held in the rooms of the Board of Agriculture on Thursday evening the 6th inst., Allan McLean Howard, Esq., in the chair. The meeting was well attended, and a good deal of interest was manifested in the particular section of the feathered tribe, to which attention was specially directed. Messrs. P. Armstrong, President of the York Agricultural Society, John McDonald, M.P.P., Hon. Geo. Brown, M.P.P., W. McGrath, John Johnson, G.W.R., London, Myles Rawkins, Belleville; Dr. Buchan, Messrs. Scadding, E. J. Jarvis, David Buchan, and Geo. Z. Rykert, St. Catharines, were added to the list of members at this meeting. Mr. McLean Howard, the President, delivered a lecture on the Golden Spangled Poland, which caused a lively discussion among the members, especially in regard to the points of excellence laid down by authorities. The feasibility of holding an exhibition in connection with the Society was afterwards proposed and received with satisfaction. It was resolved to discuss this and the Brama Pootra breed of fowl at next meeting. Specimens of the Golden Spangled Poland and two young white game cocks bred from stock imported last season, were shown by the President, to illustrate his remarks. Some much admired specimens of Carrier and Pouter Pigeons were also shown by the Secretary of the Association, Lieut. Col. Hassard. A very convenient coop for exhibition purposes, the invention of the gentleman just named, was also shown. It is very portable, and capable of a variety of adjustments, as occasion may require.

Entomology.

The Chinch Bug.

THE "Subscriber" at Grimsby, who kindly sent us some specimens of this destructive insect, and upon whose communication we made some remarks in our last issue, has also sent some specimens to the Editor of the *Practical Entomologist*, who makes the following interesting observations upon them:—

"The bugs which you found under the bark of an old log are undoubtedly, as you suppose, the true Chinch-bug of the States, (*Micropus (lygaeus) leucop-terus* Say). But they differ remarkably from our specimens, by the wings being only half as long as the abdomen, instead of fully as long. All the eleven specimens that you send are precisely alike in this respect, and they are all perfect insects and not pupæ. Hence I infer that your short-winged form is a geographical variety of ours. Many cases have been noted by Westwood, where different species of insects, and especially of bugs, in one and the same locality and year, sometimes occur with quite short wings, sometimes with quite long ones, without any intermediate gradations between the two forms; and I have noted more than a dozen such cases in this country. The occurrence of the Chinch Bug in Canada is a new fact, and economically a very interesting and important one. As the insect, however, is more peculiarly a southern species, I do not apprehend that it is likely ever to swarm with you, as it often does in the West; and at all events, having such short wings, it will not be able in Canada to fly in swarms from one locality to another, as our little pest occasionally does."

Destroying Insects by Machinery.

THE Western States have lately been grievously afflicted by a new and most destructive insect upon their potato crops. It was first observed in the Rocky Mountain region, and has since gradually migrated eastward into Iowa and Illinois. It appears in such vast numbers that hand-picking—the best known remedy in this and almost every other case—cannot be employed to a sufficient extent where potatoes are grown on a large scale. A horse-machine has, therefore been invented by a person in Iowa, which appears to be tolerably effectual; no doubt improvements will in time be made upon it that will enable farmers to keep this new pest within proper bounds. We subjoin a description of this ingenious invention, quoted in the *Practical Entomologist*:—

"The machine was invented by Mr. Denson, of Muscatine, Iowa, and he intends manufacturing it for next season's use. The cost will be about thirty dollars. It consists of a frame-work, which moves astride the row of potatoes, on which is mounted longitudinally a reel somewhat like the one on McCormick's old Reaper, which knocks the bugs off the plants into a box on one side. This box is of course open on the side next the row nearly down to the ground, but is some two feet high on the outside and at the ends. The reel works over the inner edge of the box, and the bugs are whipped off the vines pretty clean; and the most of them are thrown against the higher side of the box, which converges like a hopper over two four-inch longitudinal rollers at the bottom, between which the bugs are passed and crushed. These rollers are some three or four feet long.

Those insects which are perched low down on the plants are frequently knocked on to the ground; but I think they would soon crawl up again; and repeating the operation at intervals would very greatly reduce their numbers, and lessen very much the labour of hand-picking, which I think would be advisable in conjunction with the use of the machine, in order to destroy the eggs and diminish the young brood, which is most destructive to the foliage of the plant."

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.—We are requested to mention, for the information of the members of this Society, that the Secretary, the Rev. C. J. S. Bethune, has changed his address from Cobourg to CREDIT, C. W.

The Dairy.

Butter Making in Devonshire.

CUTBERT W. JOHNSON sends to the *Mark Lane Express* the following account of dairy management given by a North Devon farmer's wife:—

"Cows are milked twice a day, morning and evening, and the milk strained into the milk-pans, which are generally made of tin, and should not be too deep, or the milk will not cool quickly. Early the next morning, (as soon as the fire has attained a sufficient heat), the milk is placed on the stove or steam apparatus, to be scalded, beginning with the previous morning's milk until all is scalded. There should be from 12 to 15 pints in a pan, and, with a proper heat, it will take from twenty minutes to half an hour to scald. When it is sufficiently scalded you will see the cream look rough, and a ring or mark will appear on the surface just the size of the bottom of the pan. After scalding the milk is placed in the dairy to cool, and on the following morning the cream is taken up from each pan with a skimmer, and placed in a large basin, where it remains until it is removed into the tub, to be made into butter. In the summer butter must be made every day; in the winter three times a week will be sufficient.

"When you make butter you must pour off any clear or thin cream there may be in the bottom of the basin, and then put the thin cream into your butter tub; stir it with your hand, or with a stick, round the tub, all one way, until it becomes a very thick substance; continue turning it until you see milk coming from it, then pour off the buttermilk and wash well the butter with cold spring water until there is no milk left in it, and the water is quite clear; then add a little fine salt to make it a proper saltiness, wash it again, and continue working it with the hand or stick, as may be, until you cannot get a drop of water from it; then weigh the butter and make it up into pounds. If this plan is strictly followed your butter cannot fail to be excellent. In very hot weather the morning's meal of milk must be scalded in the afternoon, and the evening's meal early the following morning, to keep it sweet. The stick used in our dairy, and which is preferable in every respect to the hand, is formed like a small spud, with the handle about 12 inches long. When the red earthenware pans are used for the milk, it takes nearly an hour to scald each pan. We consider tin pans preferable for two reasons—first, economy of time in the dairy work; second, the milk in hot weather is less likely to turn sour when quickly scalded."

Veterinary Department.

Operation of Tracheotomy in a Horse.

THE history of the following case is sent us by Mr. Robert Robinson, Veterinary Surgeon, Tullamore, formerly a student of the Toronto Veterinary School. Mr. Robinson passed a highly successful examination in March last, for the certificate of the Board of Agriculture, and is now carrying on the practice of his profession in the township of Chinguacousy.

On the morning of the 18th Oct. I was sent for by Robert Scott, Esq., lot 31, fourth concession, to attend a valuable horse that had received a serious injury during the previous night, through being cast in his stall by his hind foot shoe becoming entangled in the neck rope. The horse seemed in a very dangerous condition, the head was very much bruised and swollen, and the muscles of the neck so badly injured that he was unable to raise his head. I administered some medicines and ordered hot fomentations to the head and neck, and applied a blanket, wrung out of hot water, to the neck. On my return in the evening I found the swelling had enormously increased, the lips and mouth were open, and the tongue protruding. The respirations were performed with difficulty, as the mucous membrane of the nostrils had become swollen. I remained with him all night, and about daybreak he appeared much worse, pawing violently with his fore feet; a fetid bloody discharge was issuing from the mouth, he was heaving violently at the flank and rapidly becoming exhausted; in fact death appeared at hand unless some relief could be obtained. I proposed the operation of tracheotomy,

as the only means of saving him from suffocation, and immediately cut into the windpipe. Not having a tube at the time, I passed the suture needle with a stout thread through the skin and muscles, and secured them around the neck, in order to keep the wound open until I could procure a tracheotomy tube. Having got one I inserted it into the windpipe, and allowed it to remain for several days. After a few days the swelling began to abate, and as soon as he was able to swallow, port wine and quinine were administered, and such other medicines as the case appeared to demand. The wounds about the head and neck became gangrenous, with a putrid offensive discharge, which was got rid of by the usual means. I had the head supported occasionally by a sling and the wounds have now healed, and the horse is able to resume his work.

The Spiry.

Size and Proportions of Bee-Hives.

"John Jewett" of Lucknow, sends us a long communication in reply to "Bee-Fancier," the main points in which we condense as follows:

"Allow me to reply to some remarks advanced by 'Bee Fancier' in THE CANADA FARMER of Nov. 1st, 1866, about the size and shape of my hives. His remarks apply only to the width of my smallest hive. My largest size is my standard hive. The other two are only first and second steps towards a proper sized hive, according to my opinion, which is supported by apiarists whose experience, no doubt, is equal to that of 'Bee Fancier.' In quoting my remarks, he says: 'A natural cluster of bees is half as deep again as it is broad; therefore as that is the position they like to be in, a hive should be made nearly as deep again as it is broad, which is about the shape of the Thomas hive,'—while my hive he says, 'is considerably more than as deep again as it is broad.' I cannot see how he makes that appear, when the Thomas hive, according to their printed description, has the front end piece 12 by 16 1-4 in., and the back end piece 12 by 11 3-4 in., and my hive is 14 7-8 wide by 22 1-2 deep. He then tells us 'a hive containing 2,000 inches is sufficiently large for any climate;' and he further states 'that Mr. Quinby says—'Every inch over 2,000 is worse than useless.' As far as I am acquainted with their views, all leading apiarists, except bee-hive vendors, recommend large hives. Taylor says '40,000 bees subject to one queen are more profitable to the proprietor than if divided into two or more swarms.' (See Taylor's Bee Keepers' Manual, p. 111.) Dr. Smith says, in speaking of the destruction made by millers and wasps, 'that no security is equal to numbers.' Captain Conswar says: 'A hive containing 50,000 bees is a match for any enemy that comes before them.' I might also remark that the quantity of honey required in winter is not dependent on the population of the colony. The number of months makes little sensible difference, even when two or three stocks are united. This fact was first observed by Gelien, and has been corroborated by the experiments of others."

The Household.

Homedale Farm.

FINIS.

With the closing number for the year, we suspend at least for the present, our sketches of country life, under the above heading. They were begun with the design of creating an interest in rural pursuits, especially on the part of young people. It was pertinent to this design, to give, along with detailed accounts of divers farm and garden operations, home pictures that would show how pleasant and attractive life in the country might be made. For various reasons, we have chosen to write a series of fragmentary sketches, rather than a connected story. It would no doubt have been interesting to have woven into our narrative a variety of incidents, adventures, and conversations not particularly connected with agriculture or horticulture. This, however, is rather the province of a purely literary journal than of a periodical such as the CANADA FARMER. The same

remark will apply to a continuation of Homedale Farm. The pen of a skilled novelist might trace the further history of the Perley family, narrate the amours, marriages, births, deaths, &c., and construct many an ingenious and exciting episode out of the rough material we have supplied, but it would be going somewhat out of our latitude to do this. We have striven to make our sketches bear as closely as possible upon the practical details of every-day life and duty on an improved Canadian farm. Among other things, we have aimed to show that there may be intelligence, refinement, and enjoyment in a quiet country home, and that far from the bustle and many gilded attractions of the city, there may be solid comfort, content, and happiness.

We are aware of an objection that may be raised against the pictures we have drawn. It may be urged that it is not the experience of ordinary farmers' families that has been related, and that while it is no doubt a very pleasant thing to live in the country and to farm with plenty of money, it is a different affair when you have to struggle with difficulty, and to farm under disadvantages. This is readily granted, and in reply we have to say that it was not the experience of an ordinary farmer's family we set out to record, but rather to show the possibilities of life on a farm with ample means at command. We have sought indirectly to undermine that mischievous sentiment which sends so many farmers' sons from the country to the city, the substance of which in its varied versions is, that it is low-lived and ungenteled to plod and delve on a farm—that to be respectable one must become a professional or at least a commercial man, and that the path to honour and distinction, to wealth and comfort, is via the city. We utterly disbelieve that sentiment in all its forms. There is nothing degrading about honest labour of any kind, least of all about agricultural labour. If there be any toil that is dignified, elevating, and noble, it is that which is bestowed on the culture of farm and garden products, the rearing of animals, and the operations of the dairy. There is no good reason why wealth should not set itself to the task of embellishing and elevating country life. The nobility and gentry of older lands than this, and the highest civilization and most luxuriant affluence compatible with rural scenes, are wont to establish their villas, castles, and palaces, not amid city smoke, but in the pure country air, where they can have parks, gardens, lawns, ponds, and grain fields, for their surroundings. To make and enjoy a comfortable rural home is no mean ambition; and the false notions of respectability and gentility which are over-crowding professional offices, banks, and counting-houses in the city, cannot be too soon exchanged for juster views of things as they are.

It is a mistake to suppose that wealth is necessary to make country life desirable and pleasant. There is ample scope for a good use of wealth on a farm; but in the absence of it, there may be independence, health, freedom from anxiety and care, a well-filled barn, and a happy home. There are discontented souls in every condition, but we believe that the great majority of farmers and their families appreciate their advantages and are contented with their lot. Quite another set of pictures, just as truthful and scarcely less pleasing than those we have drawn, might set forth the patient struggles of an intelligent family, from roughing it in the bush, to enjoying it in the improved clearance, and these equally with the "Homedale Farm" articles, would furnish proof that life in the country is not to be despised, and that he is no fool who adopts and acts upon the motto, "A farmer's life is the life for me." The agricultural resources of this country are but very partially developed as yet; farming has been too much a process of exhaustion rather than of improvement; rural architecture is terribly behind-hand, and country life is regarded with undeserved contempt, but as wealth and intelligence are turned into rural channels, wiser systems of culture adopted, neatness and taste studied, and smiling, inviting homes established along our sidelines, concessions, and railways, we shall see a gratifying change in the aspect of things, and there will be a more general belief of that sentiment in which there is after all more truth than poetry:

"GOD MADE THE COUNTRY, BUT MAN MADE THE TOWN."

Stock Department.

The Grade Heifer, "Jenny Lind."

ANNEXED is an Engraving of this beautiful grade heifer, which even a practised eye might easily take for a thorough-bred. She was bred and exhibited at the late Provincial Show, by Hon. D. Christie, "The Plains" Brantford, and deservedly won the Fergus Cup.

PEDIGREE OF GRADE HEIFER, JENNY LIND.—Name, Jenny Lind; color, red and white; date of birth, 8th Sept 1865; bred by Hon. D. Christie; sire, Oxford Lad, 6056; Dam, Strawberry, by Favorite, 5636; g. d. Cora by Prince Albert, 5085.

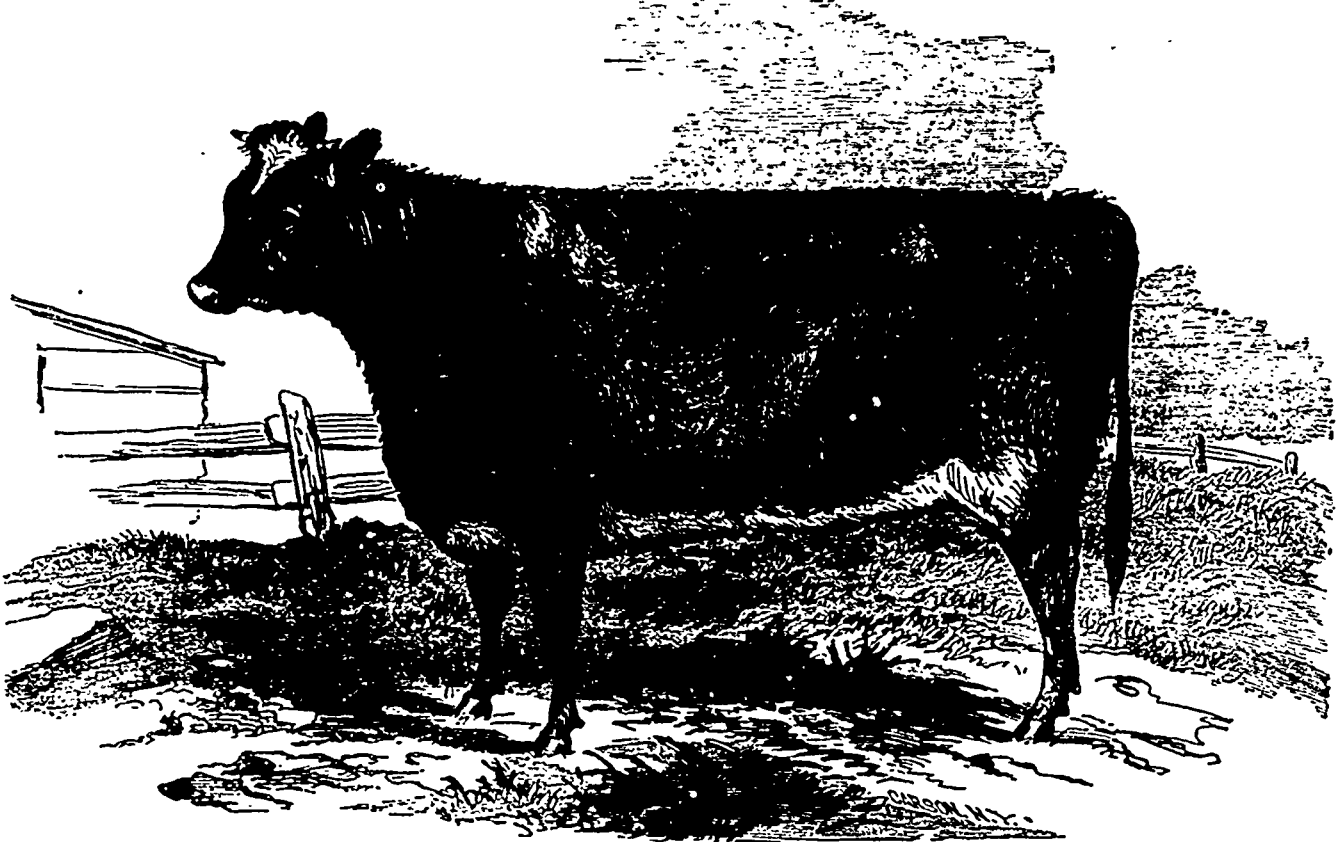


Two Nuisances Requiring Abatement.

"Bruce," writes from Calross, as follows:—"On the farm where I live there are two nuisances which I purpose to remedy with some advice from your valuable paper. The first is the management of the manure. From the time of housing the cattle and horses in the fall, to the beginning of summer, the dung is thrown from their heels into a huge unsightly heap before the door, where it remains until the time

but not extravagantly costly quarters in order to lay well. A rough double-boarded shed half the size of the one whose dimensions he gives, the space between the double boarding filled in with sawdust, tanbark, will accommodate two dozen fowls very well. The much abused Shanghaes or Cochins are on the whole the best layers in this climate. The Black Spanish excel them in weight of egg meat, but not in the number of eggs laid, but these birds have an enormous comb which unless they are housed in frost proof winter quarters, will freeze to the injury and disfigurement of the fowls. The Brahmas are the best winter layers we have. The Polands are very good layers. The Dorkings are not the best layers; but their flesh is excellent for the table. By referring to an advertisement in our last it will be seen that Messrs. A. McLean Heward, or R. A. Wood of Toronto, cat. supply Cochins and Brahmas. Polands and Dorkings can be got of J. Bogue, or W. & J. Peters, London.

BEST GRADE HEIFER, AT THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION OF 1866.



"JENNY LIND,"—Bred and Owned by the Hon. D. CHRISTIE, "The Plains," Brantford.

BARREL PORK.—"John Williams," of Fingal, writes:—"I have been in the habit for some years of making my pork out of spring pigs, and have come to the conclusion that it is the cheapest pork I can make. I generally kill at seven or eight months old, making them average about 200 lbs. This year, however, is an exception to the above rule. I had four pigs come on the 21st March last, principally of the large Berkshire breed, with a strain of the white Chester blood in them; I weaned them at five weeks old, and commenced feeding them on ground barley and peas, about four parts barley and one of peas, with about 20 lbs. bran to every hundred of the above mixture, and having a kettle for the purpose, we invariably soured their feed by putting sour milk and slops into what would last them a day at a time, we fed regularly three times a day, giving them what water they wished to drink, which was but very little. The result was when a few days over six months old, my neighbour was willing to give me 200 lbs. pork for one of them to keep as a breeder. A few days later I killed the smallest one for early pork, it weighed 175 lbs. I kept the remaining two until the 21st Nov. (instant), which made them 7 months and 28 days old the day they were slaughtered. Their weight was as follows: first, 309 lbs., second, 272 lbs., making an aggregate of 581 lbs. The above pigs were always kept in a snug pen that was frequently cleaned and littered with dry straw."

of removal in the fall, exposed to the sun and rains of summer. Upon being removed, that which lies on the surface will be found well rotted but almost useless, further down strongly rank and only half rotted, in which state it is spread upon the field. Winter is now coming, and the same practice will again be carried on unless I can bring some other plan into operation. How shall I proceed? The second nuisance of which I complain is the mismanagement of the poultry-yard. We have about two dozen hens which lay when they like, and where they like, and which roost where they like. Their chief place of rendezvous at night is a building 20x18 feet in length and breadth, averaging from 10 to 6 in height with slanting roof, with a few poles across one corner. How shall I fix it for their accommodation? Which breed is the best for laying, and where can I get them?"

Ans. Our correspondent is quite right, and commendably frank in saying that it is "mismanagement" of the manure and poultry that converts them into nuisances. Good management will transform them into blessings. The manure question has been fully discussed in Nos. 13, 14, and 15, of the CANADA FARMER, under dates of July 2 and 16. and Aug. 1. of the present year, p. p. 194, 209, 225. We refer "Bruce" to the articles just enumerated, and will only say here that his manure just either be housed in a cellar or shed, or composted with swamp muck or some other absorbent, if he would make the most of it. As to the poultry, they need comfortable

BARREL PORK.—"Heary Charlesworth," of Clinton asks:

"Can you or any of your numerous readers inform me how to cut, cure, and pack, barrel pork for Market?"

CORRECTION—PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.—The following prize was inadvertently omitted in the Official List, published in THE FARMER of 16th ult:—

Best three-year-old Galloway Bull, Alex. Kerr, Westminster, \$32.00.

A YET LARGER POTATO YIELD.—"A. F." of Drumbo, Blenheim, writes:—"In your last, 'J. M.' of Hamilton, relates a yield of 15 lbs. from a single large potato; and also speaks of a meshanock in the same ground that weighed two pounds," triumphantly concluding with the challenge 'Can any of your readers beat that?' 'I have to inform him that in Blenheim, we can. A friend of mine, Mr. John Laidlaw, gave to Mr. A. L. Cray, of Moscow, in the same township, on the 24th May, two potatoes of the long Peach Blow variety; these after being cut into proper sets were planted, without manure, in the black mould of the flats, close to the famous oil well. On being taken up in the end of September, the yield from the cuttings of these two potatoes was found to be two bushels good measure. The potatoes are all of a marketable size, and what is better, in these days of disease, were all perfectly sound. Who comes next?"

LANDS FOR SETTLEMENT.—"English Farmer" writes: "I would feel greatly obliged if you would inform me through *THE FARMER*, of the best portion of Upper Canada now open for settlement, for a person who has about a thousand dollars."

ANS.—We advise our correspondent to apply either to the Canada Company, Toronto, or to C. T. Bloomfield, Secretary of the Canadian Land and Emigration Company, Toronto. The latter offers good land in Dysart at one dollar per acre.

A HEAVY PORKER.—"James Tarzowell" of Erin, writes:—"Please excuse me for trespassing a little on your space, to inform the farming community and all parties interested in hog flesh, of the fact of my having killed a hog on the 17th November that was pigged on the first of March last, and which weighed when dressed, 285 lbs. Now Sir I consider that doing pretty well for a spring pig about eight and one-half months old, and it shows that in Erin we can raise as good bacon as in any other place. At all events I have heard of nothing in this vicinity to beat it, if there is I should be happy to hear it."

PLATT'S MIDGE PROOF WHEAT.—"Giles Mernbery" of Adolphustown, writes:—"Canada is now blessed with some of the finest (Spring) Wheat in the world—It is called the Platt Midge Proof; I believe Mr. Platt imported some wheat from France four years ago, and sowed it, and when harvested he discovered one beautiful looking head of different wheat, he rubbed it out and found it superior to any wheat he had ever seen. The following Spring he sowed it in the garden and thence in the field, which in four years produced 1,200 bushels. A measured bushel weighs 66 lbs., and the flour is superior to Fall wheat. I purchased 2½ bushels of Mr. Platt last Spring and sowed it over three acres of pea stubble. I now have it threshed, and it measures 138½ bushels."

PHOTOGRAPHS OF PRIZE ANIMALS.—"Galloway," of St. Toys, asks:—"Can I procure any photographs of the prize animals at the late Provincial Exhibition in Toronto, and what place? I wish to procure the Veterinary works of Percival, please state price and where to be had in your next."

ANS. We are not aware of any photographs of prize animals having been taken by any artist. We can supply extra numbers of the "CANADA FARMER" containing the engravings of prize animals. We cannot answer our correspondent's second enquiry. He should apply to some bookseller who imports English works.

WORKS ON MARKET GARDENING AND FRUIT GROWING.—"R. D. Colgrove," of Lobo, enquires:—"Can you inform me where I may obtain a good work on market gardening suitable for Canada West, also a work on fruit-growing, especially noticing grapes, strawberries and other small fruits. I hope you will before long give a few plain directions in *THE CANADA FARMER* for grape planting, growing and pruning. Could you not induce Mr. De Courtenay to write on this subject, he must be eminently qualified for the work, and would, I think, almost consider it a "labour of love."

ANS.—There is no work specially on market gardening adapted to this climate with which we are acquainted. Buist's "Kitchen Garden," or Burr's "Field and Garden Vegetables of America," would probably supply the information desired. The first-named book is a low priced one, costing about \$1, the second is more expensive, costing \$3 50, but it is a very full and valuable work on the subject. Barry's "Fruit Garden" would probably give the information desired about fruit-growing. "Ten Acres Enough" shows what may be done in the way of raising fruit on a small piece of ground. We gave in the earlier numbers of our second volume a series of illustrated articles on grape culture, but as the subject is one of present and pressing interest, we shall be happy to return to it before long: perhaps at the outset of our forthcoming new volume for 1867.

"THE FARMER'S GATE."—A correspondent writes: "I can corroborate what you say of "The Farmer's Gate" in *THE CANADA FARMER* of Nov. 15th, page 348. Observing the advertisement in the last number of your paper for 1865, I remitted one dollar to "Box 96, Guelph P. O.," and received in return plans and specifications for making gates of all sizes, from a

small wicket gate to an 11 foot waggon gate. I found no difficulty whatever in making them according to the directions given. Any farmer who is at all handy can make them. Beside the rails and pickets, the only expense is for a couple of dozen of screws per gate, and that is not much. Those I have had in operation the past season have worked exceedingly well, and in my opinion any farmer stands in his own light who allows himself to be tormented with "bars," when for the small outlay of one dollar, he can obtain instructions enabling him to make any number of gates he may need."

NOTE BY ED. C. F.—The gate in question is a good one at all seasons, but its chief value is in winter when other gates get blocked up with snow. From its peculiar construction, "The Farmer's Gate" can never be so obstructed. In our climate, this is in itself a great recommendation of a gate.

To the Readers of "The Canada Farmer."

Subscribers to "The Canada Farmer" will please observe that this Issue is the last of the year, and that the next paper will not be sent to any one who does not remit for 1867. Our Club terms will be found advertised elsewhere. Persons engaged in getting up Clubs are requested to close up their work at once, so that subscribers may receive their papers without delay.

Bound Volumes.

The current volume of "The Canada Farmer" is now ready, consisting of 24 numbers, and comprising 334 pages of reading matter in a bound form. The binding will be charged 30 cents in addition to the subscription price, making \$1 30 in all for the volume. Parties desirous of having their Nos. for the present year bound, will please send them to us prepaid, securely packed, with their name and address, together with 30 cents in stamps or otherwise, and we will return them bound. Vols. I and II, containing the numbers for the years 1864 and 1865, may also be had at \$1 30 per volume.

The Canada Farmer.

TORONTO, UPPER CANADA, DEC. 15, 1866.

Report of the Minister of Agriculture.

THE report of the Minister of Agriculture for Canada, for the year 1865, is at last to hand. It is a volume of formidable dimensions, containing details on a great many subjects, besides that which its title would indicate. The Bureau of Agriculture is connected with that of Immigration and Statistics, and under the latter head a great mass of figures is collected, from many other departmental services. Under the special head of "Agriculture," we are informed "that no other service more needs revision and extension than this." Of practical suggestions on this subject we have none in the report—the importance of agriculture, and the inefficiency of our laws in reference to it are the chief features of this part of the report. The examples of Great Britain, France and the United States are quoted for our encouragement, and confidence is expressed that in time this department will become more valuable and efficient than it is now. Perhaps the Minister of Agriculture scarcely does justice in this report to the efforts of the Legislature and people of the Province for the past few years. While candidly admitting the defects in our system, the progress made in the past might justly claim recognition, and practical suggestions for future improvement might not inappropriately have been thrown out. A paragraph is devoted to the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. The anxiety which the prospect of this measure excited is spoken of, and some reasons are given for thinking that the effects would not be so serious as was antici-

pated. The season that has passed away between the date of this report, January, 1866, and its publication, has more than justified the most hopeful views, that were entertained on this question. So far, at least, we have hardly felt the abrogation of the treaty to which we attach so great an importance, and which was, undoubtedly, very valuable to the Province during its operation.

The Agricultural School at St. Anne's is spoken of in very high terms, its operations detailed very approvingly, and we are told that its beneficial influence is felt over the whole of Lower Canada. The cultivation of flax, the report says, "has attained a very great relative importance," and "is susceptible of almost indefinite extension." The "Vine Growers' Association," at Cooksville, is hopefully referred to, and recommended to favourable "consideration at the hands of the Legislature." Larger appropriations are asked for the "Boards of Arts and Manufactures," and their past efforts and the work accomplished by them spoken of in high terms of commendation. Reference is made, with a justifiable pride, to the position attained by Canada at the "Dublin Exhibition," and the assurance is given that the expenses will not be found to exceed the moderate appropriation of five thousand dollars, which was made to that object. The eighth place on the roll of honour at the Exhibition was attained by Canada.

On the subject of immigration we have the return of 50,188 immigrants arriving in the country; but the returns of those remaining in the Province are so uncertain, that no attempt is made to fix the number. Details of the United States system of immigration have been secured, which cannot fail to be of great value to those who wish to improve our own system. In this connection we are reminded that "our neighbours have far outstripped us in the liberality of their land and settlement policy." Under the provisions of their Homestead Law, over a million of acres were taken up in 1864. Five years continuous residence is required to perfect a title under this Act, and the cost to the settler is merely an amount sufficient to cover the expense of survey and disposal of the land. A minimum price is also put upon the land, by payment of which the settler can at any time complete his title without waiting the expiration of the five years. Secretary Harlan estimates that forty or fifty per cent of those who have located lands under the Homestead Law will pay the minimum price to perfect a title immediately. The hope expressed in this report that our country will review its land policy, and make it equally liberal with that of the United States, will meet with a hearty response from every liberal man in Canada. The importance of inaugurating a new and better policy in reference to our public lands, will, we trust, engage the attention of our Legislature at the earliest possible period. The revenue from this source can by no means be put in comparison with the advantages to be attained by encouraging settlement of our unoccupied lands.

Agricultural Implements and Products for the Paris Exhibition.

In some departments, at least, Upper Canada is likely to be well represented at the Paris Exhibition. The Agricultural Society has devoted special attention to the preparation of a number of implements and products which will reflect credit upon the country. Most of these are now ready, and in a few days will be despatched to the capital of France. Below we give a list of the articles intended to represent Upper Canadian agricultural resources and industry at the International Exhibition, which opens in Paris next March. All the articles have been purchased, and the greater portion is now in the possession of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, Mr. Hugh C. Thomson, who is preparing them for shipment in time for the opening of the Exhibition. A large portion of the collection was selected from

the prize articles at the late Provincial Fair. Difficulty has been experienced in some instances in obtaining articles of the kind required, in consequence of the active demand for all classes of home manufacture. It is believed that the specimens sent will be as fair an evidence of the material progress of Upper Canada as can be made. The cereals shown are the choicest productions in sections unequalled in grain growing by any other portion of the globe. The assortment, together with that from Lower Canada, will prove instructive abroad, where this country is too commonly regarded as a vast region of frost and snow. The following is the list:—

ARTICLES SENT BY THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

- One-half barrel winter wheat from Francis Barclay, Innisfil, county Simcoe.
 One-half barrel winter wheat, John Mitchell, Mono, county Simcoe.
 One-half barrel red winter wheat, M. M. Bell, Toronto township, county Peel.
 Fifespring wheat, Thos. Brownlee, York.
 Club spring wheat, Jas. Carruthers, township of Haldimand.
 Spring wheat, M. M. Bell, Toronto township.
 Two rowed barley, John L. Patterson, Scarborough.
 Six rowed barley, John Mitchell, Mono.
 Winter rye, James Pile, Whitby, Ontario.
 White oats, Walter Riddell, Cobourg.
 Black oats, Philip Bartholomew, Markham.
 Black oats, Alex. Kerr, Westminster, county of Middlesex.
 Small field peas, John Shaw, Nissouri, Oxford.
 White marrowfat peas, A. Shaw, Toronto, York.
 Blue-eyed marrowfat peas, James Tran, Markham, York.
 Yellow Indian corn, Alex. Shaw, Toronto, York.
 White Indian corn, H. J. Brown, Niagara, Lincoln.
 Timothy seed, James Fleming, Toronto, York.
 Flaxseed, G. D. Martin, Bradford, Simcoe.
 Hops, Samuel Conover, Springfield, Peel.
 Tares, Walter Riddell, Cobourg, Northumberland.
 Buckwheat, Philip Bartholomew, Markham.
 Millet, Philip Bartholomew, Markham.
 Hungarian grass seed, A. W. Goldsmith, St. Catharines.
 Oatmeal, Geo. McLean, Aberfoyle, Wellington.
 Groats, one barrel, Geo. McLean, Aberfoyle, Wellington.
 Barrel wheat flour, J. B. Bickle, Brooklyn, Ontario.
 Two barrels flour, Wm. Lukes, Newmarket, York.
 Buckwheat flour, Lawrence Rose, Georgetown, Haldimand.
 Indian corn meal, Lawrence Rose, Georgetown, Haldimand.
 Pot barley, J. King, Hamilton, Wentworth.
 Split peas, J. King, Hamilton, Wentworth.
 Chicory, Geo. Pears, Toronto.
 Assortment of prepared spices, Geo. Pears, Toronto.
 Swede turnip seed, Chas. Holt, Ontario.
 Field carrot seed, Chas. Holt, Ontario.
 Collection of seeds, James Fleming & Co., Toronto.
 Combined mower and reaper, H. A. Massey, Newcastle, Durham.
 Iron plough, Alex. Duncan, Markham, York.
 Wood plough, John Gray, Edmondville, Huron.
 Chaff cutter, Maxwell & Whitelaw, Paris, Brant.
 Root cutter and slicer, Maxwell and Whitelaw, Paris, Brant.
 Assortment of scythes, hay and manure forks, hoes, rakes, &c., A. S. Whiting & Co., Oshawa.
 Collection of agricultural tools, D. F. Jones & Co., Gananoque.
 Assortment of draining tiles, Thos. Nightingale, Yorkville.
 White mustard seed, J. J. Robson, Newcastle.
 Mangel wurtzel seed, John Pratt, Cobourg.
 Fanning mill, Patterson Bros., Richmond Hill.
 Chaff cutter, Patterson Bros., Richmond Hill.
 Six-rowed barley, Wm. Cleland, Glanford.
 Hopton oats, Wm. Cleland, Glanford.
 Wooden plough, Wm. Mahaffey, Brampton.

Agricultural Intelligence.

Agriculture in Newfoundland.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER.

SIR,—Enclosed is the report to be found in the St. John's Daily News of the Annual Exhibition of the Newfoundland Agricultural Society.

That Society takes through your agent here many copies of your very useful and valuable publication, superior for our requirements to any periodical of a similar character to be had elsewhere, adapted as it is to the climate and circumstances of the B. N. A. Colonies.

I observe that Agricultural information from any of the Provinces appears to be gladly received by you, and perhaps an occasional communication from this Colony may be of interest, particularly in view of the anticipated alliance under Confederation, which seems to be such a cherished object with the Canadian people.

The Agricultural means and resources of this Island are infinitely better than they are generally supposed to be, and are being turned to very profitable account in aid of the fisheries. In fact the culture of the ground has become indispensably necessary in connection with the culture of our waters, which, teeming with wealth as they are, are not so certain in their returns as the land is in its productions.—

R. J. PINSENT, President.

St. John's, Newfoundland, Oct 27, 1866.

NOTE BY EDITOR C. F.—We are glad to receive such a communication as the above, and are not a little gratified to find THE CANADA FARMER so highly appreciated at the *Ultima Thule* of the Confederation that is to be. From the St. John's Daily News of Oct-19, sent by our correspondent, we cull the following extracts in relation to the Annual Exhibition of the Newfoundland farmers:

The Exhibition of the Newfoundland Agricultural Society held yesterday was, upon the whole, about the best that we have ever witnessed here, and, by many persons of judgment in such matters, was thought to have excelled all our former Exhibitions. A very large concourse of people was present throughout the forenoon and afternoon, and at half-past one o'clock His Excellency the Governor arrived upon the ground, accompanied by the President of the Society, Hon. R. J. Pinsent, Q. C. His Excellency manifested the deepest interest in the Exhibition, and examined the samples on view, expressing himself highly pleased with everything excepting the breed of horses, which, he considered, required great improvement. With this opinion we heartily coincide, and we are glad to know that the necessary steps have been taken by the Agricultural Society in that particular. The dairy stock exhibited yesterday would do credit to any part of the world; and the vegetables, generally, could not be surpassed. The poultry was also excellent. We are glad to see that the prize-list has been largely increased, and especially that amongst the novelties the wool and fleeces exhibited offer such conclusive evidence of the capabilities of this country for the raising of sheep and the manufacture of wool of the very best kind. Some very handsome samples of fleeces "dyed in the wool," were exhibited by Mr. J. F. Robinson, and have been secured for transmission to the Paris Exhibition.

His Excellency distributed the prizes at half-past two o'clock, the President initiating the ceremony with a neat reference to His Excellency's presence, and the interest manifested by him in the operations of the Society. He then referred to the success of the exhibition, remarking that while there was much to deplore in the almost total failure of the potato, by disease, and the partial failure of the oat crop from the long continued wetness of the season, he still felt that the exhibition was more than usually satisfactory, and was therefore a subject of so much the greater congratulation. Reference was also made to the extension of sheep-farming, and the good results likely to flow from it, especially with the extermination of the dogs, and the substitution of the hardy mule in their place, so far as they were useful at all.

His Excellency replied, expressing the interest which he felt in the operations of a Society of such importance,—one, indeed, which promoted branches of industry hardly second to the fisheries. He spoke

particularly on the subject of sheep-raising, and referred to the cultivation of flax, some very fine specimens of which were on exhibition in various stages of manufacture—especially the specimens of a Mr. Murray, grown, prepared, and manufactured into twine on his own premises.

The President then called the names of the successful competitors, to whom the Governor in turn handed their several prizes, addressing to each congratulatory and encouraging remarks."

At a Cattle Show at held Northampton, Mass., the cow which took the first premium had given 471 pounds of milk, yielding 26 pounds of butter, in two weeks. Her feed was hay and grass. Two other cows produced 280½ pounds of butter in 136 days. Another cow had given 40 pounds of milk per day, and produced 14 lbs. of butter in a week.

THE PRICE OF A FILLY-FOAL.—A filly-foal "by Wallace, out of Tebare, by Little David, her dam Tambourine, by Bay Middleton, her dam Concertina, by Actæon—Brocard, by Whalebone," was sold by auction at Tattersall's recently for £3 10s. The *Sporting Life*, commenting on the same subject, says: "The pedigree of this 'little bit of Whalebone' is long and respectable enough to please the chief disciple of the 'Satanic School'; yet it went for the price of a Smithfield donkey. It is worth recording, as an incident of the present season, that a yearling was sold at Middle Park for 2,500 guineas, and a foal at Albert Gate for £3 10s., the Messrs. Tattersall breaking through their established rule and selling for sovereigns—or rather half-sovereigns—and not guineas. It was well said that there is but one step from the sublime to the ridiculous! Mr. Claridge was the enterprising purchaser of this foal, and it was said that it was contemplated to serve it up as a *bonne bouche* at some of the Parisian hippophagist banquets!"

CROPS IN TORONTO GORE.—A correspondent sends the following memoranda respecting the crops in this township:—"I have taken some trouble to collect the following for the township of Toronto Gore, in which I reside. Fall Wheat (Midge Proof), severely winter killed, 6 bushels to the acre on an average; in some places where it was sheltered there were from 18 to 20 bushels. I am sorry to say the midge was in it though in small quantities. Other kinds of Fall Wheat little if any sown. Spring Wheat—that which was sown early was almost completely destroyed, late sown about 20 bushels to the acre. Barley a good crop, average to the acre 33 bushels. Several had 35 and a few had 40 bushels. Peas a fair average crop, late fields rather damaged with the wet, oats a splendid crop, 60 bushels on an average to the acre, in some places as high as 80 bushels. In late fields some damage was done by the wet. Potatoes would have been a good crop had it not been for the rot which has taken half the crop on an average. Turnips a fair average crop. Mangel Wurzel a good crop. Apples have been an excellent crop this year. Plums, some varieties a middling crop, but of what is commonly called the Blue Plum (which is most extensively grown) the trees are all dying with the black knot. Whole gardens are wasted by this plague in one year."

HORS.—The New York *Journal of Commerce*, of the 7th, says:—"The market is steady at 30c to 65c for new American; other qualities are nearly nominal. The following is from the circular of Emmet Wells:—"The better feeling noticed last week still rules an improving market, stimulated as it has been by extreme light receipts, and a steady consumptive demand, which has reduced the stock to a point below that of any preceding week since the opening of the season's trade in September. An export order by telegraph from Europe has just been received for 200 bales; but if the present consumptive demand continues without more liberal receipts, our present stock will not admit of the execution of further shipping orders to any considerable amount. Stringency in the money market the past week tended somewhat to check cash operations, but it has led to no concessions whatever, and the same feeling of firmness which has characterized the trade from the beginning of the season still exists, and is likely to continue and increase as the stock gradually becomes reduced. Old American 20c to 45c; old foreign 40c to 55c; new American inferior to fair 30c to 45c; do prime 50c; do fancy 60c to 65c."

Miscellaneous.

Education of Farmers: Music.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

Sir, It is pleasing to observe that the farmer's education is every day becoming better understood by commercial and professional men generally. Formerly it was thought that a man (provided he was a muscular one), was competent to be a farmer; education was considered to be useless to him; but the time is fast approaching when it will be as essential for the farmer to go through a course of studies preparatory for his vocation as any professional man. A time will come when it will be necessary for every Rural School to have a small quantity of land attached for experiments. If our school sites were laid out systematically, and embellished with evergreen trees, &c., and had a patch of ground for experiments, the children would soon acquire a taste for embellishment that would lead them to adore and appreciate the wondrous works of their Creator. Likewise, if teachers were compelled to teach music in Rural Schools it would be a benefit to the rising generation and a blessing to their parents. An eminent writer states that "music exerts a most salutary influence upon human character and conduct. Mark its effect also upon the taste—how refining! Upon the energies—how animating! It frowns upon all that is low and grovelling—upon all that is dull and stupid; and produces lofty aspirations and lively movements." Music produces such salutary effects upon the human character it is the duty of trustees and my brother farmers to have music taught in their schools and families. We know that all men are not constituted alike, and consequently music acts differently on different persons. Some old farmers would rather hear the composed grunt of their fat porkers, than the sweetest sounds that ever escaped human lips. But man is a social being, and likes social gatherings; the farmer is deprived of those gatherings when compared with the professional man, this deficiency would be alleviated to a certain extent by music. If farmer's children were taught singing at school, a pleasant harmonious family circle would enliven their homes throughout the long winter evenings and, make home a home indeed, where the children would look back when grown to men and women, with pleasure and regret: pleasure to think how many happy hours they have spent in their dear old homes; regret to think that they will never meet again as joyous children to swell the sweet notes of "Home sweet Home," and enliven their parents as in the days of yore.

Hibbert, November 26, 1866.

R. H. S.

A Scotch Fair.

The village of Melrose is one of the most beautiful that I have ever seen. It is situated on the river Tweed, at the foot of the Eildon hills. The herdsmen of the South of Scotland have selected it as a convenient place for the sale of sheep. It is not an Agricultural Fair, conducted by a society, with premiums for the best stock, but a day on which any person having lambs for sale may find a purchaser. The lambs sold to-day were not for the butcher, but were purchased by farmers for fattening during the winter.

Reaching the Fair grounds, we find long rows of booths and tents by the roadside, with a crowd of people surging to and fro. Gin and spirits are to be had. The landlords of the country inns are here to accommodate their customers with roast beef, boiled mutton, brandy, brown stout, and whiskey. Kettles are steaming, and coffee-pots bubbling on the coals. Housewives are attending to the wants of the hungry multitude. The business of the day is over, and the farmers and herdsmen are drinking health to the Queen. They make the table dance with their loyal toasts.

While they are thus engaged, let us pass through the crowd and take a look at the lambs. The road was full of sheep as we came up, and here are flocks by the acre. Not in fences of wood, but each flock in a net. Each herdsman brings his own netting, drives his stakes, and thus folds his lambs. The fair confounds us by its magnitude. The official report gives between seventy and eighty thousand lambs on the ground! Last year over sixty thousand were brought to the fair, but the show to-day is the largest ever held in Great Britain.

Your agricultural readers will want to have particular information about the sheep, therefore we will step over the netting and examine the stock. It is Cheviot breed, one-half and two-thirds blood. The lambs are compactly built, hardy, easily fattened, and suited to the climate. They have smooth faces and legs—wool of medium fineness. There is very little resemblance between this stock and that to be found in New Hampshire and Vermont—the Spanish merino, woolled all over to the hoofs, hoods over the eyes, and everywhere wrinkled large and heavy. I have not as yet seen a Spanish merino this side of the water, and the fields are sprinkled everywhere with sheep, which are raised more for mutton than for wool.

The pure Cheviots brought to-day from \$1 to \$5; the half blood from \$3 to \$7, and the three-quarter bloods \$7 to \$8—a falling off of from two to four shillings on last year's prices. This is accounted for by the poor turnip crop of the present season; but gentlemen with whom I conversed expressed the opinion that the value of sheep has reached a culminating point.

A most interesting feature of the Fair was the conduct of the dogs, for each herdsman had two or three—no curs, but real shepherd's dogs, each one of which seemed to feel that he was the special appointed guardian of the flock. In passing along the roads, although there were hundreds of flocks, rarely was there any commingling. If a lamb left his proper place the vigilant guardian had him back in a twinkling. If the herdsman wanted his flock to turn a corner, a wave of his hand and the dog was there. The only difficulty was from the over-zeal of the dogs, who seemed to desire to do their best in the presence of so many spectators. Not unfrequently the herdsmen left their flocks in the care of the dogs and attended to other business, and then it was interesting to see the Argus-eyed creatures sit on their haunches or stretch themselves at full length on the ground, their eyes always upon the flock, or else trotting here and there around the lambs. Although there were hundreds of dogs upon the ground, there was no neglect of duties on the part of Bruno, to make the acquaintance of his canine friends from the other parts of the country. Returning from the flocks, let us take a look at the people, for they are here—men, women, lads and lasses. This is a grand holiday. The factories at Galashiels, for miles upon the Tweed, where thousands of shawls are manufactured every week, are all closed, and the operatives are out for a breath of fresh air. Those herdsmen are stout, broad-chested fellows, with placid countenances, and pictures of health. The cheeks of the girls are like pippins. There goes a lass with a countenance as fresh as the morning, and with golden locks many a high-born lady might wish were hers. As you study their faces you see kindness, good-will, and hearty cheer. Their voices are not quite musical. They speak with the broad Scotch brogue, and when talking rapidly their language is almost unintelligible. But there is nothing of the Cockney about them, in behaviour or speech. It is mid-afternoon, and the whiskey is beginning to be felt. Here is a young man with a glass before him, singing with all his might. There is a gray-haired man, who will balance two hundred and fifty pounds in the scales, who has swallowed several glasses of spirits which somehow runs down into his legs, producing such a limberness of the knees that he cannot walk without a friend at each arm. The lads and lasses are drinking together. Little boys not ten years old are tipping their glasses. Showmen, with drum and trumpet, are calling the gaping crowd to see their wonderful exhibition. Here is a tribe of gipsies—a class never seen in the States—who live in their donkey carts. They have pitched their tents under the lee of a stone wall, where they will tarry till the Fair is over, then away to another gathering. That old woman, wrinkled, bareheaded, with dishevelled hair, black eyes, and repulsive features, smoking a pipe, sitting on a stone, and looking loweringly upon the crowd, is a fortune-teller. There stands a little girl, eight or ten years old, dressed in rags, holding a moaning infant, while the mother is telling the destiny of the lads and lasses around her, by looking at the palms of their hands. There is not much to be seen by the crowd, but the great business seems to be eating and drinking, and at this the people of Great Britain will beat the world.—*Cor. of Exchange Paper.*

NEW STYLE OF AGRICULTURAL ADDRESSES.—A correspondent of the agricultural department of the Boston Weekly Advertiser is not entirely satisfied with the present style of managing agricultural fairs. The usual style of the annual address does not suit him. He says:—"Instead of a long speech by one man, let the time be divided among several. If the horses are examined first, I would have a horse man prepare himself to speak upon horses—their breeding, management, &c. He should be confined to half-an-

hour, and then another half hour may be devoted to asking and answering questions. If cattle are next examined, a man should be ready to talk upon the subject of breeding cattle, and give the most approved rules for the same. He might compare the breeds, and, being on the ground, all could see them. And when the sheep come up for consideration, have a man ready to portray the wool interest, and bring it home to the understanding of all. I would do through the whole catalogue in this way, and then farmers will go home with much valuable information. Then fairs will no longer be sight-seeing only, but will contribute to the intelligence of visitors."

FARM ISOLATION.—The *Prairie Farmer* regards the isolation in which most farmers live the greater portion of their time, as a matter of regret, being the main cause of the boorishness so commonly, and sometimes justly, imputed to them as a class. There is nothing in farming which needs tend to this, and in cases where the charge is justified, it generally results from the isolation referred to, and nothing else. If farmers would hold more frequent intercourse with each other, exchange opinions upon topics connected with farming and public policy, such social attrition would smooth down their rough points, if any they have, give freedom and force to their expressions of opinion, while promoting a spirit of brotherhood advantageous alike to the individuals and to the community. Isolation tends to cherish selfishness and a churlish egotism impervious to the kindly influences which soften the heart and give polish and ease to the intercourse of man with man.

VARIOUS SORTS OF CHAUNTERS.—We clip the following from a recent number of the *Mark Lane Express*:—A man being brought up at one of the police-courts, the magistrate asked "What is your trade?" "A horse-chaunter, yer vurship." "A what? a horse-chaunter? why what's that?" "Yy, yer vurship, ain't you up to that 'ere trade?" "Come, explain yourself," said the magistrate. "Vell, yer vurship," said he, "I goes round among the livery-stables—they all on 'em knows me—and ven I sees a gen'man bargaining for an 'orse, I just steps up like a tee-total strange, and sez I, 'Vell, that's a rare 'un, I'll be bound, sez I; he's got the beautifullest 'ead and neck as I ever seed,' sez I; 'only look at 'iz open nostrils—he's got vind like a no-go-motive, I'll be bound; he'll travel a hundred miles a-day, and never vunce think out; them's the kind of legs vat never fails.' Vell, this ticks the gen'man, and he sez to 'imself, that 'ere 'onest countryman's a rare judge of a horse, so, please you, yer vurship, he buys 'im, and tucks off. Vell, then I goes up to the man vat keeps the stable, and I axes 'im, 'Vell, vat are you going to stand for that 'ere chaunt?' and he gives me a surrin. Vell, that's vat I call 'orse-chaunting, yer vurship, there's rale little 'arm in't; there's a good many sorts on us; some chaunts canals, and some chaunts railroads."

BLACK RAIN.—The *Aberdeen (Scotland) Journal* gives the following account of the black rain showers which are now so well known in Scotland, and which scarcely occasion greater astonishment in the regions where they occur than would a snow storm in New England:

Between the beginning of January, 1862, and the middle of January, 1866, there have been no fewer than eight authenticated black showers in Scotland. Seven of these fell in Slains, and the extensive surrounding district. Two of them were accompanied with pumice stones, some of the balls measured eight or ten inches in diameter, and weighed upwards of a pound avoirdupois. The first four, including the Carlisle shower, and the eighth, were contemporaneous with outbursts of Vesuvius, and the intermediate three with those of Etna. But now, through the instrumentality of the Rev. Mr. Rust, of Slains, who was the first to draw general attention to the Scotch showers, it has been discovered that England gets her share, likewise, of black showers, although she did not think that she was so distinguished. On the 3rd of May, of the present year (1866), the town of Birmingham, and the surrounding country, were twice, for three-quarters of an hour, each time, enveloped with black clouds producing darkness and rain. Accidents took place in the streets, vehicles were upset, gas had to be lighted at some of the crossings, and nearly in all places of business. Mr. Rust, writing for information, got inquiries instituted, and the result is found to be that a large quantity of black rain, similar to the Scotch, fell, and blackened rain water in tanks, and clothes on greens, not only in Birmingham itself, but at rural places many miles distant, unaffected by soot and smoke, and even windward of that town. So far as known, however, no word has yet arrived of any volcanic outburst, although, judging from what has taken place in Scotland, a probability exists that some volcano has been in a state of activity, emitting its contents, whether it be heard of or not.

Advertisements.

Great Sale of Blood Stock.

CATTLE, SHEEP AND HOGS.

I WILL sell at Public Auction, without reserve, on WEDNESDAY, 30th JANUARY, 1867, at my farm, 4 miles from Brampton Station, G. T. R., and 20 miles west of Toronto, the following Thorough-bred Stock, viz:—

- 12 Short-Horn Cows and Heifers.
8 Short-Horn Bulls, including "Baron Solway."
11 Galloway Cows and Heifers.
6 Galloway Bulls, including "Black Jack."
10 Leicester Ewes in Lamb.
8 Leicester Ewe Lambs.
1 Leicester Shearling Ram.
6 Leicester Ram Lambs.
1 Cheshire Boar, 2 years old.
6 Young Cheshire Sows.

This includes my entire herd of Galloways, which is unquestionably the best herd in America. The 7 yearling bulls, by "Baron Solway" and "Baron Renfrew" are a lot of superior animals. The stock has not been pampered, or overfed, all are in fair breeding condition.

Catalogues with full pedigrees will be sent to any one making application.

Teams will meet the trains at Brampton on the day of sale and the evening before, to convey parties to the farm. Entertainment will be provided for those who wish to come the day previous to the sale.

TERMS.—All sums under \$40, cash; over that amount 9 months' credit will be given on approved notes, or a discount of 8 per cent. allowed for cash.

SALE TO COMMENCE AT HALF-PAST TWELVE.

JOHN NELL,
Edmonton P.O., C.W.
v3 24-31

Edmonton, Dec. 1st, 1864.

Farmers of Canada, do you wish to know about the King of Canadian Stock, Anglo-Saxon? Do you wish to know about the Agricultural Emporium? Do you wish to see the Management of the Provincial Exhibition exposed? Do you wish to see an Agricultural paper established in Middlesex? If you do subscribe for the Monthly Farmers' Advocate, only fifty cents per annum, postage free. A large handsome engraving that took the first prize at the Provincial Exhibition presented to each subscriber.

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THE TRUST AND LOAN COMPANY OF UPPER CANADA have funds for investment on the security of first-class town and farm property, and are also prepared to purchase good mortgages.

The rate of interest on loans is 8 per cent. No commission charged, and expenses reduced. The loans are usually for five years, but can be made payable in yearly or half yearly instalments if desired by borrowers.

A deposit of \$10 required with each application. For further information apply at the Company's Office in Kingston, or to the Valuator's Office in each District. KINGSTON, 8th October, 1866. v3-20-4t

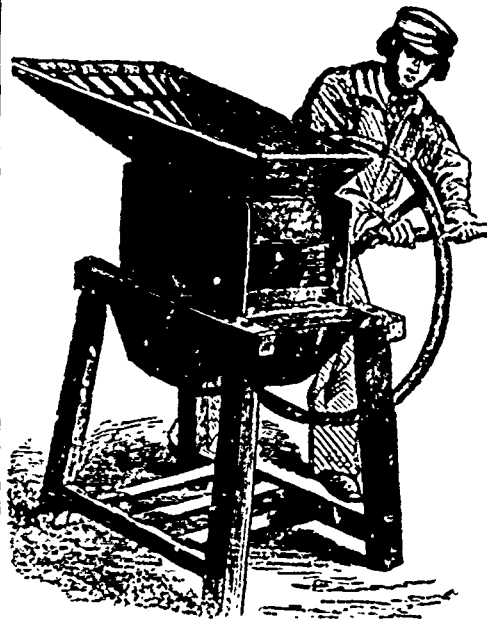
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Will be glad to send, on application, special quotations of FARM AND GARDEN SEEDS, of their own growth, from choice Transplanted Stocks. v3-11-24t

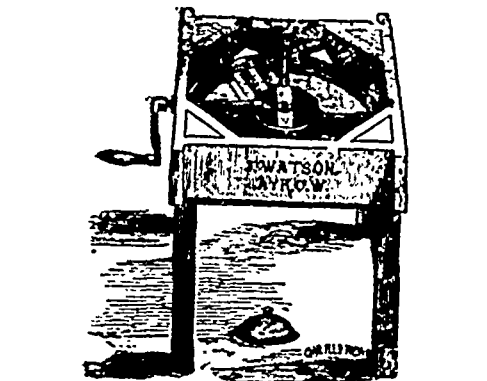
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Manufactured and for sale by JOHN WATSON, Agr Foundry, v3-24-11



CANT'S PATENT DOUBLE-ACTION ROOT-CUTTER.

Manufactured and for sale by JOHN WATSON, Agr Foundry. v3-24-11

Markets.

Toronto Markets.

"CANADA FARMER" Office, Dec. 15, 1866.

Cold piercing wind has prevailed during the past week. The past week has been one of the dullist of the year in commercial circles. Few or no transactions in produce have taken place, and quotations are, therefore, for the most part merely nominal.

Provisions.—Hams, smoked, 11c; in salt, 11c; Lard, 12c; Eggs, scarce, selling in lots at 20c; Cheese, 10c to 12 1/2c.

Butter.—Very dull; store-packed selling at from 11c to 14c. Dressed Hogs.—Selling at from \$4 75 to \$5 75; the latter price being only paid for extra heavy.

Bacon.—Rolled Bacon, spiced, 13c; Cumberland cut, smoked, 10 1/2c to 11c; rough, in salt, 9c.

Pork.—Mess, \$19 to \$20; prime mess, \$16 to \$16 50.

Cattle.—Price ranged as follows, per 100 lbs, dressed weight:—1st class Cattle, \$4 to \$7; 2nd do., do., \$5 to \$5 50. Inferior, \$3 50 to \$4. Sheep, prime, \$5 to \$6 50. Common, \$4 to \$4 50; Lambs, scarce and in demand, at \$2 50 to \$3. Calves, \$7 to \$8. Deer, \$7 to \$10.

Hides and Skins.—Green, from butchers, \$3; green, salted, \$4 to \$8 25; calfskins, 12c; green salted, 15c to 16c; sheepskins, 90c to \$1.

Wool selling at 30c. Poultry.—Chickens 20c to 30c per pair, Turkeys 60c to 70c each. Geese 40c to 50c each. Ducks 40c to 50c per pair. Apples.—\$1 50 to \$2 per bbl. from farmers' waggons. Onions.—No demand. Wax, nominally from \$1 to \$2 per 100. Hay and Straw.—Hay, \$10 to \$14 50. Straw, \$8 to \$10.

Latest Corn Exchange Report.—Flour.—No receipts Market inactive. Sales, 103 barrels No. 1 superior at \$6 30; 100 bags do at \$6 50; 1,000 barrels do inspected, sold at \$6 30, with delivery any time during a month at sellers' option; 100 bags extra cleared at \$7 05 without buyers. Superior nominal.

Wheat.—No receipts; spring wheat held at from \$1 28 to \$1 41 without sales; fall wheat nominal.

Oats held at 32c. Barley.—Nothing doing; prices nominal.

Peas.—Nothing doing in round lots; selling on the street at from 60c to 65c.

Dressed Hogs.—unchanged, selling at from \$4 75 to \$5 75, the latter price being only for extra choice.

London Markets.—Fall Wheat, per bush superior, \$1 40 to \$1 60; do inferior, \$1 25 to \$1 40. Spring Wheat, \$1 30 to \$1 35. Barley, 40c to 45c. Oats, 25c to 28c. Peas, 58c to 61c. Corn, 55c to 60c.

Quebec Markets.—Fall Wheat per bush, \$1 50 to \$1 65. Spring do., \$1 25 to \$1 35. Oats, 25c to 32c. Peas, 60c to 60c. Barley, 40c to 46c. Hides, per 100 lbs., \$6 50. Wool, per lb., 34c. Eggs, per doz, 15c to 16c. Butter, per lb, 12c to 15c. Apples, per bush, 60c to 60c.

Galt Markets.—F. W. Flour per 100 lbs, \$3 75. Spring Wheat Flour, do., \$3 25. Fall Wheat, per bush, \$1 60 to \$1 75. Amber, do., \$1 40 to \$1 45; spring do., do., \$1 35 to \$1 40. Barley, do., 45c to 62c. Oats, do., 25c to 28c. Butter, per lb, 15c to 17c. Eggs, per doz, 16c.

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