

VOL. VI. { WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor. }

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**Persecution.**

James Johnston's recent futile attempt to injure the Farmer's Advocate, and the Canadian Agricultural Emporium, have been of such a public nature as to excite a little commotion among some leading politicians and strong party men in this locality, and the desire now is by Johnston and his supporters, to be as quiet as possible about the matter, in order to divert attention from his recent acts, and to spread a report that we are opposed to the Western Fair, that we are injuring the interests of local manufacturers, and that our paper is a political engine. We deem it our duty to inform you that our words or acts are in no wise bribed by either party, that we are only acting in such a way as our judgment directs for the best interest of farmers. We have as yet allowed no promised aid to control us, and have received none from either party. Our support has been entirely from farmers, and we hope to be able to maintain our independent and untrammelled course. But the numerous acts of Johnston, Carling & Co., have been such that we cannot endorse them all, and are almost driven into the opposition ranks. However, we still follow the non-political course, as we believe that agriculture should be the main ruling power. We quote the resolution that Johnston got passed at the Western Fair Board: "Mr. J. B. Lane moved, seconded by Mr. John Stewart, that this Board regrets to notice that there are from time to time articles in the Farmer's Advocate, vilifying the officers of the Western Fair Association, and especially touching the character of the ex-President. This Board deems it its duty to protest against the articles in question as being false and utterly without foundation; and calculated to lead the mind astray; and we deem it our duty to the public that this resolution be sent to the press for publication, and that we refuse to take the Farmer's Advocate any longer." Carried.

The effects have not been very injurious so far—as the Board only took six copies for six months, and have not paid for them yet; this is not much support for an agricultural paper of six years' standing, published in their own county. One member of the Board, and one dealer in spirituous liquors, have stopped their papers, but to counteract this loss we have had the pleasure of entering more new names on our list than ever before during the month of July. The object of the resolution was, we believe, to cause a doubt of our verac-

ity, as some very important evidence depends on our testimony in regard to the public management of our agricultural affairs, we sent the following challenge to the Secretary of the Western Fair Association:

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE WESTERN FAIR.  
London, 26th June, 1871.

GENTLEMEN,—  
"I hereby challenge the President, ex-President, or any of the Directors of the Western Fair, to a public discussion, to be held at any place out of London, when I will be prepared to prove the correctness of the statements made in the Farmer's Advocate in regard to their official acts, the judges in the discussion to consist of three wardens, selected by ballot from the twelve nearest counties to this, and for the payment of their expenses I will deposit \$50 against \$50 to be deposited by either of the parties accepting this challenge, the victor to have his money refunded, and the vanquished to pay all expenses of the said debate. The questions for debate to be selected from the Farmer's Advocate by the judges, and all other matters connected with the discussion to be arranged by them.

W. WELD.

P. S.—Being desirous to have the question put right with the public, as your late accusations are calculated to mislead them, an answer is respectfully requested within ten days from date.

W. W."

The first part of the challenge appeared in the two leading local dailies, but it has not been accepted, they have not dared an open and fair discussion. Had they done so it would have weakened Johnston's power in the Board to such an extent that he would not dare attempt any further opposition to the Provincial Board of Agriculture or to the Farmer's Advocate. But deep, dark, cunning intrigue appears to be preferred, and anything and everything must be cunningly brought out and agitated that can possibly injure us.

The great cry now made is, that we are opposed to the Western Fair.

We have continually advocated Agricultural Fairs and Agricultural Exhibitions, but we wish them to be conducted in such a manner as to be of advantage to the farmers. If so conducted they would be of more real value to the citizens than if the interest of the citizens is first looked after. We also say that political or sectarian influence should in no way interfere with agriculture. We contend that an Agricultural Fair should be for the sale of Stock. We have long since advocated the establishment of a Stock Fair here, and at other places, either monthly or quar-

terly; but the Western Fair does not afford a general market for Stock such as farmers can patronise for such a purpose.—The great charge for entrance fee for stock, or for dealers, prevents this, and the compulsory regulation of making farmers keep their stock on the ground four days would not answer for such a purpose. These things must be altered before the Western Fair can attain the right position of what we think a fair should be.

We should be sorry to see the Provincial Exhibition discontinued; it has done and is doing a great good to the country; and because we write in favor of it, and do not condemn it, we are said to be injuring the Western Fair; and for that reason we must be obliterated.

**Board of Agriculture.**

Is the Provincial Board of Agriculture to be maintained or not?

We all know that mismanagement crept into the old Board. It was exposed and checked. Notwithstanding all the mismanagement of the old Board we must admit that it did a vast amount of good, and has been worth to the country all that it cost. The new Board appears to be doing everything their united wisdom and power can do to advance the interest of agriculture, and we think they should be maintained. There are many practical men in the Board who know the requirements of the country. We consider that the new Board did right in refusing to dispose of their present building, and to remove their establishment into the Parliament building, as they were requested to do. We do not think that the new Act, which the Minister of Agriculture has made law, compelling the members to be elected every year, is a judicious step. It involves the members in a great deal more expense and trouble, and new men are not so well prepared to conduct the business as those that have had some experience. We fear the new Act has been brought in on purpose to endeavor to get a particular friend of the Minister of Agriculture into office in the Board, and in other positions. We have too great reason to believe that attempts are made in several ways to make agricultural expenditure a strong political scheme; and

we consider that by making it a political engine a great injury would be done to the agricultural interests of the country.

**An Example Worth Following.**

We were favored with a call from Mr. and Mrs. George Alway, of Komoka, on the 14th of last month, and were pleased to learn that having got their hoeing and haying over and a good start ahead of their work, through taking time by the forelock and good management, were just returning home to commence harvesting the following Monday, after enjoying a week's holiday, going back to the labors of the farm with renewed vigor and pleasure. How many of our farmers deprive themselves of a little recreation between haying and harvesting, and have to plod all the hot summer through in consequence of always being behind one day with the work, instead of being one or two days ahead of it. Let such be taught by the above fact, when they will have more pleasure in their work and it will be better done at the same time. Perhaps Mr. and Mrs. Alway may be inclined to broom-stick us for the liberty we have taken, but we willingly run the risk, hoping that by their example many may be induced to adopt a similar course, and thus be enabled to give themselves and wives a holiday in midsummer.

**The Potato Bug.**

These pests are gradually extending their way eastward, and are increasing in their destruction. The majority of the farmers here and to the west of us, in Canada, have, by patience, perseverance and watchfulness, been able, so far, to save their potatoes. But every here and there some ignorant, careless or negligent person has allowed the beetle to destroy his crop, and propagate enough of the pests to stock a county. Such careless farmers ought to be more severely punished than by merely losing their crop of potatoes, because they cause, by their neglect, the increase of the pest.

On the 13th of July, 1871, we received the Government Report concerning the potato beetle, and found therein very little more information than we gave a month ago, and some that we gave last year. The most remarkable thing about the Report

is the Government advertising a Toronto chemist as a supplier of Paris Green, and arrangements having been made by them to supply it at wholesale rates, namely, at 30 cents per pound. This is nothing more than any wholesale chemist in this city will be glad to do, and have been doing, and this of the very best imported quality. Of course it is 25 per cent. more to handle poison and divide it into small lots.

About 3 pounds are sufficient to dress an acre, mixed with 12 pounds of flour. Flour is found to be preferable to plaster or lime to mix with the Paris Green, as it will stick better to the leaves and does not wash off as easily.

Some careless individuals make an excuse for not killing them. First, they say they are poisonous; secondly, they say the potatoes will be poisoned. The Paris Green has not been known to injure the tuber, and it is doubtful about the tales of the poison of the insect itself. But even should they be so fastidious, they could adopt the following plan, which we clip from the *Michigan Farmer*:—

**THE POTATO BEETLE.**—One of the simplest and most effective plans of diminishing the numbers of the potato beetle we saw practiced last week on the farm of E. L. Boyden, of Delhi Mills. At the present season the larvae of the beetles has grown and increased so that it is a very bloated looking, soft skinned, orange tinted insect, somewhat roundish in form, and consequently easily made to quit its hold on the leaf. It is just preparing to drop to the ground and to bury itself preparatory to entering upon its changes into the perfect insect. Mr. Boyden has two acres of peachblow potatoes planted, which look very fine and promising. On Saturday afternoon he started a man and a boy into this potato patch with a tub of hot water, a bushel basket, and a good sized hand-broom. The boy held the basket so that the potato-tops of each hill were bent over into it, and the brush was used to sweep off the insects into the basket. Every hill was gone over in this way, and the bugs emptied into the tub of hot water. Fully a third of a bushel of the insects were gathered in this way and destroyed from the two acres by eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and the potatoes were left pretty clear of the bugs, but not altogether, as a visit to the field the day after showed us a few of the insects on the vines. This method of clearing the crop of potato bugs seemed effectual, speedy and cheap at the present time, and is about as good as any that has come under our notice. The attempt to pick them each off by hand from a large field, is too slow, and this is certainly an improvement that may be adopted at this season with considerable success, as a plan of at least checking the insect, in a stage of its growth when it can be most destructive, in preventing its increase.

**Fall Wheat.**

Seed time will be here immediately.—Many farmers have already made up their minds what kind they intend to sow. Of course we all wish to sow the best and most profitable, but it is with wheat as with animals, localities and circumstances differ. A whale, a seal, or a polar bear would not thrive well at the equator; neither would an elephant, alligator or monkey thrive on the coast of Labrador. From our limited means of observation it is our opinion that the Scott wheat is the largest yielding variety that has been in any way extensively tested. It is a white chaff, bald, red wheat. From the most reliable information and observation we believe it will yield more bushels per acre than any other

variety in Canada,—taking the whole amount sown. This wheat is stiff in the straw and stands the winter well. It is of good quality, and yields from three to five bushels more per acre than the Diehl or Treadwell.

The Diehl is giving satisfaction to all that sow it on good loamy soil, or sharp, dry land in good order. It is a very fine white wheat, but will shell worse and sprout quicker in the head than any other wheat we have noticed. It is now extensively raised in nearly every part of Canada where fall wheat is raised.

The Treadwell is more adapted to the strong clay land. It will not winter-kill as easily as the Diehl, or many other varieties. It has been and still is deservedly a favorite wheat for clay soils. It stands well, and does not shell or sprout as easily as the Diehl. It is of an amber colour, neither red nor white, but in quality of flour it is very good, better than it looks; and some good judges consider it superior to the white wheats in strength and quality.

The Weeks wheat is a bearded, white chaffed, white wheat. It is well liked, stands the winter very well, and is not liable to lodge. We like this wheat as well as any raised by us this year. We have sown it three years, and find it of good quality, hardy and yields well. It is well adapted to either light or heavy soils.

The Mediterranean variety is still in favor with many. It is as hardy as any yet introduced, yields well, and on low, wet, damp ground, or on badly cultivated land, is equal to any kind we know of; but the quality of grain is not equal to some other varieties. The Mediterranean, however, is now greatly improved from constant sowing in our climate. In fact, all wheats appear to become finer by cultivation with us.

The old Soules wheat, is now again coming in vogue. The midge does not appear to be affecting our crops as formerly. Parasites have increased and destroyed them, and all old farmers who made money from the above variety of wheat before the midge prevented them from raising it, will be very apt to take to it again. Those who have raised it this year are well satisfied with the result, so far as we have heard.

The Boughton is the earliest wheat to ripen. It is a week earlier than any other kind. This might be of great advantage to those north of us, and any place where the midge is bad. It is very short in the straw, and stands well. It may not be quite as hardy as some other sorts. Many like it well, but we do not think it will come into vogue as much as many other varieties.

It being too early in the season to determine what will be the probable value of seed grain, we cannot quote definite prices, although we do not anticipate any serious departure from those now ruling. Those who may desire to purchase may have our fixed prices sent to them on application, when the season is a little further advanced, and the yield of the present crop somewhat better estimated. A few lines on a Postal Card, which only costs one cent, postage included, will be promptly attended to by us, and the requisite information given.

The fall wheats are all coming on well in this part of the country. We cannot state how the different kinds yield until they are threshed. The machine is now in operation, and some wheat has already been sold, but as yet not enough to enable us to positively state the difference in the yield.

We shall have a very choice lot of hand-picked Diehl and some good hand-picked Bearded Treadwell, but of the majority of the old varieties it will be impossible for us to supply them entirely pure, as the most of farmers have them somewhat mixed. If any of our readers have a really pure sample of Soules wheat unmixed, we should thank them to inform us, as we wish to procure some.

There will be three new varieties of fall wheat offered this fall from different parts of the country, namely, the Hex wheat, the Arnold wheat, and an American wheat. These wheats will be procurable at \$4 and \$5 per bushel. We shall be able to supply them, but wish to know more about them and the results of the yield before giving an account of them, and wish to compare statements and samples before writing about them.

**Trial of Implements.**

The Provincial trial of Implements—which took place at Paris on the 19th and 20th of July—was a grand success. We consider it the most beneficial step that has been undertaken by the Board of Agriculture for many years. In fact, it was the best test of implements that has ever taken place in the Dominion.

The weather was favorable, the fields were all convenient, and of ample size, situated near the railway Station and the town. The attendance was large, and the entries of different kinds of implements were numerous. The Judges appeared to be men that understood their duty pretty well, and were determined on arriving at as correct decisions as possible; and we believe a greater feeling of satisfaction was expressed at this trial than at any exhibition that was ever previously attended. Both the Grass and the Grain were very light—such as any machine could work in. We only noticed one small corner of lodged grain. Many would have preferred seeing the implements work in heavier crops, but matters cannot be arranged so as to suit everybody. If the reaper and mower men had an easy time of it, the ploughmen had it hard enough. The land was a sod field that had been badly run down, and so stoney that if the teams went at an ordinary rate the ploughman might have been pitched over the plough. However, they managed to make a test. Only a few ploughs were entered.

The trial of Sulky Horse Rakes was a new feature in our exhibitions. We believe these implements will come more into use as they become better known.

The Cultivators, Threshing Machines, Harrows, Grain Crushers, &c., were all of the best kinds, as the manufacturers of inferior implements knew it was better for them to stay away. In some classes it was very difficult for the Judges to decide which was the best—the merits of two or more machines being so near equal. Of course, some that do not get the prizes feel aggrieved—especially in the reaping and mowing classes. There were many really good machines, and each machine had its retinue of admirers, who considered it superior to all the rest. We cannot speak too highly of the machinery in general.

Not feeling quite well we left the ground before the completion of all the

tests, and have to rely on the reports from the Globe, of the result of the trial.

As our paper is made up early for the month, we will have to give fuller reports in future numbers.

The Local Society gave the Exhibitors and visitors a dinner, and aided the Provincial Board in every way that laid in their power.

We regret that Middlesex should not have been represented by its manufacturers.

The following is the award of prizes, as nearly complete as had been officially notified:—

**PRIZE LIST.**

**SINGLE MOWERS.**

- 1st Prize, Brown & Patterson, Whitby.
- 2nd " Bell & Son, St. George.
- 3rd " J. Watson, Ayr.

**SINGLE REAPERS.**

- 1st Prize, Brown & Patterson, Whitby.
- 2nd " Harris & Son, Beamsville.
- 3rd " D. L. Sawyer, Hamilton.
- 4th " Massey, Newcastle.

**COMBINED MOWERS.**

- 1st Prize, J. Forsyth, Dundas.
- 2nd " Noxon Brothers, Ingersoll.
- 3rd " A. Harris & Son, Beamsville.

**COMBINED REAPERS.**

- 1st Prize, J. Forsyth, Dundas.
- 2nd " Noxon Brothers, Ingersoll.
- 3rd " J. H. Groat, Grimsby.

**HORSE HAY-RAKE.**

- 1st Prize, J. Davis, Guelph.
- 2nd " J. Soutar, Chatham.
- 3rd " J. Watson, Ayr.

**THRASHING MACHINES.**

- 1st Prize, J. Watson, Ayr.
- 2nd " Glasgow & Macpherson, Clinton.
- 3rd " Maxwell & Whitlaw, Paris.

**HARROWS.**

- 1st Prize, Alexander Robb, Indiana.
- 2nd " John Campbell, Norwichville.
- 3rd " R. Lean, Stratford.

**CULTIVATORS.**

- 1st Prize, J. Borer, Dundas.
- 2nd " C. Thain, Guelph.
- 3rd " T. Clarke, Hampton.

The following are the names of the judges in the respective classes:—Single Mowers and Reapers—A. E. Goodfellow, Guelph; J. Anderson, Rednersville; Wm. Bell, Rogersville. Combined Reapers—George Hyde, Shakespeare; W. Patterson, North Easthope; John Tennant, Paris. Combined Mowers—J. Rymal, M.P.; James Stinton, M.P.P.; Alex. Dobson, Ploughs and Cultivators—A. McKellar, M.P.P.; George Bell, Tuckersmith; W. Robson, Falkirk. Threshing Machines—Geo. Robson, Lebo; H. Paxton, Port Perry; James Nelis, South Dumfries.

**DRAFTED MACHINES.**

With the single machines the drafts were as follows, the width of cut being also taken into account:

Exhibitor.	Reaper.	Cut.	Draft
		ft. in.	lbs.
A. H. Harris	Burdick	5 9	200
Brown & Patterson	Johnston	5 3	228
L. D. Sawyer	Johnston	5 2	220
J. Watson	Dropper	6 0	175
Massey	Woods	5 9	205
Paxton, Tate & Co.	Marsh Harvester	4 8	308

**COMBINED REAPERS.**

These were tested in a similar manner, and were on the ground in great force, and came more nearly up to the actual number of entries than any other class of implements at the trial. The following is a summary of the drafts as shown by the dynamometer. As will be seen, there was a remarkable uniformity in this respect:—

Exhibitor.	Reaper.	Cut.	Draft
		ft. in.	lbs.
Massey	Hubbard	5 6	225
A. Harris	Kirby	5 0	241
J. Bingham	Dodge	5 6	241
J. Bingham	Buckere	5 0	225
J. Forsyth	Johnston	5 0	233
J. Forsyth	Johnston	5 0	225
L. D. Sawyer	Dodge	4 6	250
J. Watson	Johnston	5 0	233
Noxon Bros.	Ohio Buckeye	5 6	225
Noxon Bros.	Standard	5 6	225
J. H. Groat	Dodge	5 0	250
J. Eastwood	Ohio Buckeye	5 0	225
J. Eastwood	Ohio Buckeye	5 0	225
Oswald & Patterson	Ohio Buckeye	5 0	226

Great Britain.

**THE ARMY PURCHASE SYSTEM.**—The opposition of the House of Lords to the abolition of this grievance has been completely overcome, by the Queen cancelling the royal warrant legalizing the purchase of commissions in the army. Mr. Gladstone advised her Majesty to take this step—which cannot fail to give great satisfaction to the body of the people, although the Lords and other aristocrats will feel their rights assailed by this rather unusual step taken directly in opposition to their branch of the Legislature. Progress is the order of the day, and there can be no doubt but this is progress in the right direction.

This subject is not quite in our way, but believing many of our readers may feel an interest in it induces us merely to mention it.

Letter

To the Directors of the Provincial Board of Agriculture.

Gentlemen.—I sincerely thank you for the honor of being requested by you to act as one of the Judges at the late trial of Implements at Paris; but being desirous of being left open to make my own remarks on implements and agricultural affairs in general, and knowing that many hundreds of farmers were present as capable of acting in that capacity as myself,—led me to decline acceding to your request. I hope, therefore, that my refusal will not appear to you as if I took no interest in the exhibition, as I can assure you I was highly gratified to mark the great progress and efficiency that has been made by our manufacturers in their various machines. Wishing the agricultural interests of the Dominion every success, I remain yours respectfully,

W. WELP.

Patent Washing Machine.

We are continually called upon by patentees of new implements and machines, and of all our callers, the churn and washing machine men are the most numerous, and we are often compelled to act abruptly to get rid of these pests, as we call them. However, Mr. W. Mathewson, of Brooklyn, called here on Saturday with a new washing machine and with numerous testimonials from his section. We directed him to have it tried by Mrs. McKellar, wife of Mr. McKellar, the carriage maker in this city, as they have a lot of dirty clothes to wash from the numerous hands employed in the machine shop. We had previously sent other washing machines on trial, but they were always found deficient and rejected. But Mr. Mathewson's gave entire satisfaction; it washes easily, does not injure the clothes, and will do its work well and speedily. We went to see it in operation, and must say we believe it to be the best yet invented. It works on a rocking principle, and presses the clothes between two grooved boards tightly. The clothes revolve with each motion. We wish Mr. Mathewson success in the sale of his patent rights. Every farm house would be benefitted by having a machine; and we all know our wives and daughters have to work too hard. Anything to aid them is an advantage to the country. We may state that what took Mrs. McKellar

a full day to wash in the ordinary way, Mr. Mathewson did to her satisfaction in one hour and ten minutes.

The Races.

The Races took place in this city on the 21st and 22nd of June, and were well attended. They went off well, giving more satisfaction than usual. There was less fighting and drunkenness than generally takes place on such occasions; indeed we did not hear of a single fight, and only of one runaway.

The annual sale of thorough-bred and trotting colts on Alexander's great breeding farm at Woodburn, Ky., June 28, says the Western Farmer, was very successful, as shown by the following averages:—22 thorough-bred yearling fillies sold for \$12,065, an average of \$548.41 each; 24 yearling thorough-bred colts sold for \$14,635, an average of \$609.80 each; 10 trotting colts of various ages sold for \$3,285, an average of \$328.50. The highest prices obtained were \$3,800 for a thorough-bred yearling colt, and \$2,500 for a thorough-bred filly. Of the 46 thorough-bred colts and fillies sold, but seven brought less than \$200 each—\$100 being the lowest price for any one. The thorough-bred colts were by Lexington, Imported Australian, Asteroid and Planet.

**THE POTATO BUG AGAIN.**—In using good Paris Green it is found best to mix it with twenty times its weight of flour or Plaster of Paris, as it kills the bugs better. It has been noticed that an overdose of the poison does not kill them as well as a smaller quantity. It is said that large doses have been vomited by the bugs, and they have in some instances recovered.

**Loss.**—We regret to learn that W. F. Stone, of Guelph, recently lost two very valuable Durham Cows during a heavy gale in the Atlantic. He also lost eight Berkshire Pigs. Six Durhams, we believe, arrived all right.

Mr. Orlando Allen, of the Township of Zone, has purchased the Durham Bull Calf from E. Marshall, advertised in our last paper. We believe this is the first thorough-bred Durham taken into that Township. We hope Mr. Allen's neighbors will appreciate his enterprise.

Bee-Keeping versus Dairying.

The Middlesex Bee-King, Mr. Atwood, of Lobo, called in our office a few days ago, from whom we elicited the following information:—He wintered over 11 skips of bees in 1870, which he increased to 33 skips for wintering. From this stock he sold \$225 worth of honey, and from the sale of bees and hives he realized for his profit for two months' labour attending their sales, fairs, &c., \$400. He also kept 12 cows last year, and made cheese, and realized \$100 more profit from bees than from all the cows. This spring he had 20 skips, having disposed of the others in the fall. From these he has already (July 6) taken a little over 1100 lbs. of honey, and expects to take 250 lbs. more from them. He increased his stock from the 20 to 40; he did this before taking honey from them. He attributes his success to a good season, the Italian Bee, the Honey Extractor, a good hive, and knowing how to manage.

Feed for Calves.

A highly intelligent correspondent of the National Live Stock Journal, after having visited most of the leading herds of Ayrshires in this country and Canada, expresses a fear that the future usefulness of Ayrshire dairy cows is threatened by the attempt of American breeders to make them resemble the Short Horns, or some other model. In Scotland he says the calves are soon turned to grass, and generally appear lean; there slower development and later maturity obtains than in this country. He has also observed that Ayrshire cows show to best advantage in fields of ordinary rather than high fertility, and that when taken to England from the poorer pastures of Scotland, the dairy qualities decline, and the grazing qualities become more prominent.

Dr. Wilkens, of Pogarth, Austria, is the owner of a large dairy, and has carefully investigated this subject, and says he now aims at the slowest possible development of the calf, so that it brings its first calf at from two to three years old. He favors keeping calves raised for beef, fat at all times, feeding them largely on milk; those raised for milking he would keep lean, and early teach them to eat more bulky and less nutritious food than milk—as the grasses.

In commenting on this, E. W. Stewart, in the New York Tribune, while agreeing in part, dissents from some of Dr. Wilkens' positions. He is not in favor of slow development of heifers. His experience in raising 40 or more heifers is that one sufficiently developed and coming in when two years old makes a better milker than one coming in at three. He has had good success in raising heifers on skimmed milk after being taken from the cow at three days old, giving three ounces of oil meal per day for the first three weeks, increasing the amount, and also tempting them to eat grass.

This question is one of much importance. It seems to be generally admitted that a heifer designed for the dairy should not be kept loaded with flesh, but as to the degree of flesh that may be allowed, and the best kinds of foods to develop milk-giving qualities, there is much difference of opinion.

Eating in the Cars.

Hall's Journal of Health says:—Most of the benefits of summer travel and recreation are over-balanced by the almost universal habit of passengers in railway trains purchasing something to eat of nearly every peddler of lozenges, candies, apples, cakes and other trash, who passes through the cars, with the result of leaving but a little appetite for the regular meal, besides a general indefinable feeling of discomfort, of wanting something, they know not what.

Parents of small children seem to think that the best way to keep them from eternal yelping is to stuff them with sweet cakes and candies, and as fast as one supply is disposed of another is provided,—making such a mess on the floor and seats as would disgrace a common pig-pen or hen-coop. By providing sweet cakes and candies thirst is induced, then fulness, then indigestion, wind, and a universal caterwauling of squalling brats, who ought to be spanked within an inch of their lives, a single vauper being enough to keep a car-load of sixty or a hundred travellers in a disturbed condition.

Young children on the cars should not be allowed to eat anything but dry crackers; then they would not grease the seats, nor eat to excess, nor be squawking with the stomachache half the time; and as for grown persons, not an atom should be eaten all day long, except at morning, noon and night meals.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

OUR COURSE APPROVED.

My Dear Sir,—I have been much pleased (and so have several others in this locality) with the independent course you evince in the management of your valuable journal. It seems strange that the present minister of agriculture should give such small encouragement to a laudable undertaking in the interests of Agriculture, like yours; but likely any assistance at his disposal is given to the Ontario Farmer, a sort of half ministerial organ. I imagine that Carling's term of office will be of short duration after the new house meets, but I am afraid that even were the present opposition in power you might not expect any encouragement from them, as they would most certainly support Brown's paper, the Canada Farmer. But still, if you keep on as you have done, in the straight manly course, you will succeed in the end, irrespective of either party. You may have trials and troubles, but you will most assuredly conquer in the end, and have the sympathy and support of the sincere and true friends of agriculture.

I was very sorry to hear of the dastardly manner in which you were used by the Western Fair party, but such acts will only recoil on their own heads, and destroy the object they pretend to uphold. I sincerely trust you will outlive, as a journalist, the machinations of so miserable a clique as the Western Fair Committee, or other enemies of progressive enterprise.

The circular you addressed to the different County Councils was, I think, a step in the right direction, but to bring the matter more home to the farmers themselves, it would be better to send a similar circular to the various Township Councils, and it would most likely have the desired effect.

I have been thinking of writing or sending some correspondence for insertion in the Advocate, but from the very able staff of correspondents you have had writing for you from time to time, it would be superfluous, perhaps, on my part to send anything for your valuable and well conducted journal.

Wishing you every success, and that you may be long spared to continue the independent course you have hitherto followed, I remain, my dear sir,

Respectfully yours,

R. H. McMANUS.

Tecumseh, Bond Head P. O., July 17th, 1871.

We insert the above as a specimen of the numerous encouraging letters that we are in receipt of. We take the liberty of publishing it, as our correspondent has contemplated writing for the paper; and we would like to hear from him on any agricultural subject. We are not aware that we have met the gentleman at any place, but hope we may have that pleasure some day. It is consoling to have the inhabitants of the country, generally, approving of our course. We still continue to solicit correspondence; and will be pleased to insert articles, even should they differ from our own views. We wish both sides to be heard.

**THE ENDURING THING.**—Wealth, and power, and prosperity, how peculiarly transitory and uncertain! But religion dispenses her choicest cordials in the season of exigency, in poverty, in exile, in sickness, and in death. The essential superiority of that support which is derived from religion is less felt, at least it is less apparent, when the Christian is in full possession of riches, and splendor, and rank, and all the gifts of nature and fortune. But when all these are swept away by the rude hand of time or the rough blasts of adversity, the true Christian stands, like the glory of the forest, erect and vigorous, stripped, indeed, of its summer foliage, but more than ever discovering to the observing eye the solid strength of his substantial texture.—Wilberforce.

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Orchard Grass.

This grass is a native of Europe, where it has been cultivated for over a hundred years, meeting with great favor for pastures and meadows. It thrives tolerably well under the shade trees, hence one of the names, orchard grass. It ripens early, about the time of red clover; and starts very soon after being mowed. It is very nutritious, and much liked by cattle if not allowed to get too old and large. It should be sown thickly and cut early for meadow. It is apt to grow in bushes or tufts. In many places of England it stands highest of all grasses in value. In some parts of Kentucky it is sown almost exclusively with red clover. In some rich, new timbered land we know it has, after a few years, nearly run out when sown with white clover, June grass and red top.—Where it succeeds, if grazed down and the stock are turned off, it will be ready for re-grazing in less than one-half the time required for June grass. In summer it is said to grow more in a day than June grass will in a week. It has been neglected because it is the fashion to sow timothy and clover. Fashion is as much a tyrant among farmers as among the ladies, though showing his power in a different mode.

Mr. Hyde, of Massachusetts, says in a recent lecture that he has mowed one piece for eight years, twice a year, and that it is as good as ever. It must not be allowed to get too old before cutting, else the stocks become too hard and coarse.

In Great Britain it is said to endure drought when everything else is burned up. An eminent farmer of Scotland says: "Cock's foot is probably the best known and most productive and valuable of our indigenous grasses." Flint, of Massachusetts, says: "Its rapidity of growth, the luxuriance of its aftermath, and its power of enduring the cropping of cattle, commend it highly to the farmer's care, especially as a pasture grass." All agree that it should be closely cropped. Some praise it, others call it worthless.

Sow with other grasses on account of its forming large tufts when grown alone. One author says do not sow it for lawn, because it grows so fast you would be obliged to cut it every morning before breakfast.

The grass is worthy of a fair trial on various soils and in various climates. We should be glad to hear from some who have found this grass to succeed in Iowa, Illinois, or other Western States; the soil and treatment of the grass. We advise experiments on all prominent grasses.

A Potato Bug Parasite.

I have found an enemy to the potato bug in my patch. I hesitated to speak until I caught the fellow three different times with his lance into a young potato bug. The first two times, the P. B. was dead before I saw him, but the last time I saw the whole affair. The Doctor advanced, and made an attack on the young P. B., by running his bill or lance into P. B., when P. B. rolled himself up into a round ball, making quick movements with his legs. The Doctor kept backing up and down the vine, as long as there was any movement. When the movements ceased on the part of P. B., Doctor stood still and drank his fill. I took Mr. Doctor around among my friends to see if they could tell me what kind of bug he was. Some thought it the squash bug; all the boys who saw him said it was the pumpkin bug. I went to my squash vine and found a bug resembling him very much, with this difference: Mr. Squash Bug was much larger, and very dark both

on breast and back, while my Doctor is of a light drab color on the back, and still lighter, with a golden tinge on the breast.

The following doggerel has been suggested while meandering through the potato vines:

What will I do with my Early Rose, To keep them clean and free from foes? I've tried to "bug" with kerosene, But that I find won't keep them clean, For if too much on the plant is put, It kills the potato down to the root. The next I tried was tobacco tea. Some said 'twas good. I thought I'd see. I'm satisfied that that won't do. For I really think the bugs can chew. I read in "The Farmer" of Paris Green, The best remedy yet tried had been; The mixture one-third to two of flour, Shook over the plant at an early hour, When the bugs want to break their fast, They'd keel right over and breathe their last. Paris Green is good I'm satisfied, The best of all the things I've tried. But one thing more I wish to say, Of what I saw the other day; The bug that infest the pumpkin vine I begin to think is a friend of mine, I caught him killing a potato bug. Of two evils, the least is what I'll hug. —P. Prairie Farmer.

Breaking Heifers to Milking.

Frye, Jr., writes as follows to the Lewiston Journal on this important subject:

"All domestic animals require some sort of training or education. The steer may require more training than the heifer, because the uses are varied to which he has to become accustomed to make his labor "skilled" and practicable. While the cow may not need to be schooled in these higher branches of practical studies, she should be taught that to stand quietly while being milked, and to "hoist" the right foot and place it back of the other, are virtues to be commended and rewarded (by kindness at least). No animals should ever be allowed to pass their first winter without being thoroughly "halter broke," so they can be led by the horn, or with a rope around the neck, gently and peaceably. Doing this when they are young and easily handled saves a vast amount of subsequent hard work and perplexity, and may be, the animals many kicks and blows. There is a great difference in teachers in this kind of science as well as in the four-footed pupils. Some teachers I have seen did not evince half the sense as the cattle they undertook to train. On the other hand, there are some animals so perverse or non compos mentis that it seems almost impossible to teach them the first rudiments of good manners. But, certainly, in most cases there is nothing gained by letting them grow up in these uncouth ways, thinking to take them in hand at a later day. Train while young should be the motto of the barnyard.

"Many an otherwise excellent milker is spoiled for life by harsh treatment. It is better to govern by gentleness and kind treatment than by harsh means and fear of the master. A heifer if well broken to the milk-pail, is thereby made worth at least twenty-five per cent. more—an increase which will pay for much painstaking. The handling of the udder and the process of milking is a very unusual proceeding, and, in addition, the teats are often tender, and the bag caked and inflamed so as to be painful under even the gentlest touch. How often in such a condition from pain and apprehended danger she almost unconsciously lifts her foot and knocks over the milk-pail, and perhaps hits a well-deserved "thwack" upon the shins of the bungler upon the milking stool, and then kicks and bruises are freely interchanged between the frightened brute and the irritated master.

"First teach all your animals to love rather than fear you. Learn them to welcome your coming by presents of a nubbin of corn, an apple, a little salt, etc., on all occasions when practicable. Handle them freely, and get them accustomed to your touch by rubbing and scratching them. Heifers thus accustomed to being handled will soon come to seemingly like the operation of milking. I once had a heifer that from having exceedingly sore teats contracted the habit of running away from me, when milked in the yard, before the milk was half down. All my endeavors to break up the habit failed till, as a last resort, when she started away from me, I caught up the pail with one hand and seized one hind leg with the other, and held on firmly. After hopping a few steps and some pretty severe kicks and jerks to free herself, made all to no purpose, she "accepted the situation,"

and calmly submitted to the process till milked clean. Two or three such lessons cured her entirely. Such usage would probably have frightened her and made the habit worse had she been unaccustomed to being handled and petted. But a few lessons gave her an understanding of what was required, and subsequently any attempt of a repetition of the misdemeanor would be suddenly checked by merely placing my hand gently upon her leg.

"It is very important that cows of any age be milked clean; but more especially should this be practiced with heifers. One of the secrets of butter-making lie just here. I need not tell those that are used to the care of cows and dairying that the last drawn gill is nearly all cream, and when one of these little measures of milk is left in the udders of several cows, as a careless milker will often do, no insignificant quantity of the richest milk is lost every day.

"But this is not all or perhaps the greatest loss. Leaving milk in the cow's bag has a most deleterious effect upon the cow. Undoubtedly many cases of garget might be traced to this neglect. And the habit, if persisted in any length of time, will cause a gradual falling off in the milk, and the cow will be very unlikely to regain her full milking powers again. This matter is worth more than a casual thought. Heifers, the first year of their coming into the dairy, should be trusted to no inexperienced or careless milkers. A good milker will draw the milk in silence and quickly. Never allow yourself to leave a cow half milked, and then return and finish, thinking to get the full complement that the cow would give. This habit is nearly as bad as the one spoken of above, and its practice brings about the same results. By such means heifers often contract the habits of withholding their milk; a most perplexing habit and often not easily cured. A good milker will attend to his work and draw the milk clean as quickly as possible and establish the habit of giving down freely—a valuable item in a young cow."

We extract the above articles from the Michigan Farmer. There is a difference of opinion expressed in them in some ways, but both are right in others. Farmers, to know our business we must read and observe and learn from both sides of an argument. There are thousands of farmers that say agricultural papers are of no use; they can do without them; many things are wrong in them. Can you now say which is the best—to put our animal on, or leave it to its natural course until required to be utilized?

On the Breaking of Colts.

Wm. Strong of Kalamazoo, writes very sensibly a few hints to the Country Gentleman on the breaking of colts and their handling, which are sensible and proper. We believe that colts are better left alone, unless thoroughly broken when taken up for that purpose, but there is a difference between handling them judiciously and petting them so that they become vicious and stubborn. Mr. Strong thus comments on the "milk and water" plan as he calls it, by which pets are made.

"It is to commence breaking the colt when he is very young, say a few weeks old, and by good management and careful handling for two or three years, by the time he is old enough to be put to work, he will be all right, and will take hold and do just as you would have him.

"Now this all looks very plausible, and in some cases this treatment will no doubt answer, as some colts will make no trouble with any treatment. But in my experience, which extends to the breaking of many colts always attended with good success. I have almost always found that those colts which had been petted and had been taught many fine things, were by far the most stubborn and wilful, while colts as wild as deer and had never been handled a particle, when they found themselves in the hands of some one more powerful than they, would readily yield obedience, as fast as made to understand what was wanted.

"It does not take a colt a great while to learn the things necessary to make him handy to ride and drive. It is not to be understood that he can be made an old horse in two or three days, but he can be made in that time a kind and teachable colt, provided he has not

been nearly spoiled by petting. Which heifer is it that is inclined to use her horns too freely, when the owner comes too near her head? The pet always. Which sheep are the boys most afraid of? The pet of course. So it is with the colt. If he has been petted all his life, he has learned more things that are an injury to him than benefit, and it takes time to unlearn them."

The foregoing must not be construed as recommending unkind treatment, as scaring the colt, or throwing clubs at him when in reach, to make him wild, but to let him alone till old enough to use.

How to Acquire and Keep Property.

I would never advise a young man to learn a mechanical trade with a view of following it for life as a means of subsistence and a competency in old age; but I would carefully advise every young man to become familiar with, and, if possible, master of, the trade most nearly allied to the occupation he intends to pursue. For instance, if I thought of dealing in cloths or ready-made clothing, I would learn the tailor's trade; if I thought of spending my life in a shoe store, I would learn the shoemaker's trade; if I intended to devote myself to farming—the best and noblest occupation of all, as it is the base upon which all other trades and professions rest—I would rather learn the carpenter's and joiner's trade than any other, as it will often come into use on the farm. That farmer who understands this trade has many advantages over one who does not, and has to run to a mechanic for every little job required to be done on a farm. Even if you work but a short time at the trade, say one season only, under a good master, you will find the knowledge of great benefit to you many times. If a young man is robust and healthy, this trade, in connection with a good practical education, sufficient to qualify him as a teacher of a district school in the winter season, with the judicious use of his time in summer, devoted to his trade, is about as good a start in life as any young man can have, who is not furnished with a capital ready to his hand, and the rare faculty to know how to use it. Whether he learns the trade or not, let him, by all means, be sure to acquire a good practical school education, sufficient at least to fit him for a first class common school teacher; for in no other way can a young man who has to lay the foundation of his own fortune do so well, learn so much of human nature, which will be of the greatest use to him in after life, as to follow for a few seasons the occupation of a district school teacher.

A Chinese Will.

A Chinaman died, leaving his property to his three sons, as follows: To Fum-Hum, his eldest, one-half thereof; Nu-Pin, his second son, one-third thereof; and to Ding-bat, his youngest, one-ninth thereof. When the property was inventoried, it was found to consist of nothing more nor less than seventeen elephants; and it puzzled these three heirs to decide how to divide the property according to the terms of the will, without chopping up the seventeen elephants and thereby seriously impairing their value. Finally they applied to a wise neighbor, Sun-Punk, for advice. Sun-Punk had an elephant of his own. He drove it into the yard with the 17 and said, "Now we will suppose that your father has left these 18 elephants. Fum-Hum, take your half and depart." So Fum-Hum took his nine elephants and went his way. "Now, Nu-pin," said the wise man, "take your third and get." So Nu-pin took his six elephants and travelled. "Now Ding-bat," said the wise man, "take your ninth and begone." So Ding-bat took two elephants and absquatulated. Then Sun-Punk took his own elephant and drove home again. Query: Was the property divided according to the will?

The Farmer's Advocate.

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- List of Officers and Bureau members including names like A. Kenne, T. McE, H. Hadden, G. Ben, A. J. He, etc.



### Clover as a Security Against Drouth.

In the Country Gentleman of June 22nd, we printed an article in which occurs this paragraph:

"There is a clover field of seven acres near by. Three pecks of seed, half clover and half timothy, were sown to the acre. The land was rich and mellow, and the catch accordingly. There is already sufficient growth for a fair crop—more than an average—and yet the growth of grass, it may be said, has but fairly commenced, thus early in the season. Now, all the drouth that may occur between now and the middle of June will not prevent a good, a superior crop, say of three or very nearly three tons to the acre."

The crop has been harvested, and the yield is a trifle over three tons and a half. There are seven acres and a fraction of land. This is the first cutting. The second would yield nearly the same, but it will be kept for pasture. There were some showers to moisten the ground; this will give it a start—the rest is secured. Once covering the soil as dense as it occupies it (the stand), there is a constant, perfect shade and moisture; it was so in this case during the spring. Whether for pasture or meadow, it is the same, providing the grass is not fed too close.

Everybody passing by wondered to see such a crop amid such surrounding sparseness.—How came it to pass? Was it the land, a low interval? What was used upon it? These were some of the questions.

The stem averaged nineteen inches, and was rather slender, making thus the better feed. There was an almost continuousness of heads—it would have been a perfect one had all been brought to a level. Of course this body of slight stems did not continue in an upright position. A heavy rain storm bent and lowered it some, and whirled it in some places; but it was not flat on the ground, the mower taking it all except here and there a somewhat long stubble. Better appliances would have made a clean bottom. It was cut one day, half of it, and exposed by fork and tedder to the sun and air—the tedder (rake and tedder combined) finding rather more than its match; the next day, pretty well cured, it was put in cock, and left there a day and two nights, then spread apart, turned, raked up and taken in. The last went in to-day, July 1st, and shows here and there a head turned, but most are still red and the stalk green, the leaves also intact.—As feed, it can only be surpassed by such as has been cut earlier, and then not much. This will feed well to all kinds of stock, and will winter cattle, sheep, and horses out of work, without any other feed. But it would be better had it been cut earlier; stock would grow more thriftily, cows yield more milk, and horses could work some on it. We speak this from what we know of similar effect, and therefore with confidence. The crop would have been cut earlier had not the weather been threatening and rainy.

It is not the soil, rich alluvial as it is, that has given this crop, while all surrounding crops are comparative failures, even in what is called rich soil. There is land as good as this that fails. The secret in connection with the soil is thick, even seeding on a mellow seed bed. All grew, or seemed to, and was healthy and even, shoulder to shoulder. At once it occupied the ground.

There is another spot of half an acre, soil and treatment the same, that has fully as good a yield; still another—clover also, and last year's seeding—that is nearly as good, all sown thick and even, and the ground well prepared. The culture is deep, and then mellow throughout. Here the roots of the clover luxuriate; there is a warm bed to keep them, so that when spring opens there is a start at once—and this means an occupancy of the soil at once, so that the sun and the dry air have but little effect.

Here, then, is an actual guard against early drouth, which is usually the bane of the hay crop. The thing is clearly and satisfactorily demonstrated this year. While all the crops, without exception, in old meadows, are light, are a comparative failure—perhaps never worse—here are fields yielding not only a usual good amount, but heavy crops, highly remunerative. And what has been done can be done again and always. We are safe then so far as our stock, our fodder, is concerned—that is, if we feel disposed to have it so; and, mind you, the land is improved at the same time. That is the experience here, that clover, such a crop (of roots) will do it. We always find our land improved by clover—a heavy crop—alone, the crop removed, or rather several crops, the last one of seed or otherwise, it is all the same. Our individual ex-

perience is that the best crops are raised after a seed crop has been removed. This seems to agree also with experiments made by Voelcker we believe.

Shall we then trust more to clover? Ought not every dairyman have at least one lot of clover seeding each year, such for instance as we have described? But do not spare your seed and put it in in the usual manner. This, in an early drouth, will give you a light crop, even if the soil is rich. But the same soil cultivated deeply (if it will bear), the ground made mellow throughout, and then the seed put in early, not with a growth of thickly sown oats, but with wheat or barley, or better, no grain at all, unless the ground is very rich—this is what is wanted, and this will secure the crop, secure a thick stand of fine stems, making the best of hay if cut early, cut before lodged much, when all green and fragrant and nutritious. But do not spare the seed: this is the evil generally, and sow even. This last you will see is important, if all the surface is to be covered. Sow not less than twelve, but better fifteen quarts of seed (clover) to the acre. Your land in good tith, even and mellow, and if sown to spring grain, brushed in—this as early as possible—or if prepared in the fall, sown on the snows in the spring—if this is done you may feel safe.—*Cor. Country Gent.*

### Health an Element of Success.

It is no exaggeration to say that health is a large ingredient in what the world calls talent. A man without it may be a giant in intellect; but his deeds will be the deeds of a dwarf. On the contrary, let him have a good circulation and digestion, the bulk, the sinews of a man, and the alacrity, the unthinking confidence inspired by these, and though having but a thimbleful of brains, he will either blunder upon success, or set failure at defiance. It is true, especially in this country, that the number of centaurs in every community—of men in whom heroic intellects are allied with bodily constitution as tough as horses—is small; that, in general, a man has reason to think himself well off in the lottery of life if he draws the prize of a healthy intellect with a crazy stomach.

But of the two, a weak mind in a herculean frame is better than a giant mind in a crazy constitution. A pound of energy with an ounce of talent will achieve greater results than a pound of talent with an ounce of energy. The first requisite to success in life is to be a good animal. In any of the learned professions, a vigorous constitution is equal to at least fifty per cent. more brains. Wit, judgment, imagination, eloquence, all the qualities of the mind, attain thereby a force and splendor to which they could never approach without it. But intellect in a weak body is "like gold in a spent swimmer's pocket." A machanic may have tools of the sharpest edge and highest polish; but what are these without a vigorous arm and hand? Of what use is it that your mind has become a vast granary of knowledge, if you have not strength to turn the key?

### Want in Life.

There is nothing more fortunate for moderate genius than to be born poor. The "silver spoon" class are a very comfortable people, no doubt, but the great trouble with them is, their education is mainly of this order, and if they don't become very great they are extremely likely to become the very opposite. There is no middle ground for them, for they were not taught to regard any, and consequently they are, as a general thing, unfitted for it. Poverty has helped men to solve some of the greatest problems of life. Half its brave deeds have been a necessity, and the most of its noble sayings have been born of a determined opposition. It does a man good to put him at his wit's ends. Emergencies make men, and the best kind of men. Any man can be a general or a pilot in a calm; but storms show the metal. Reputation is made more by boldness and will, than by ability and patience. Life is too short to wait for the tide whose ebb leads on to fortune. We must make the most of present opportunities, but we shall hardly do it, unless present opportunities are in the main present necessities. The man who works out these to the fullest extent is the most successful man.

### Notes for Cheese-Makers.

Not long since I received a letter from a cheese-maker in a factory in New-England, containing the following queries: Will you please tell me what advantage there is in letting a curd 'change' before taking it out? In cooking I raise the heat to 96° or 98°, but

before the acid is perceptible the curd gets hard. Would the curd do as well if the heat was not carried so high—and why does it become so hard? Will a curd that is taken out perfectly sweet, cure as fast and become ready for market as soon as one that is changed?

The reply to the first question of my correspondent would be—much, every way. From the time that the cheese factory system began to extend beyond the immediate region where it originated, and American cheese became an article of export in any considerable quantity, say from 1861 down to the year 1865, the great complaint of cheese dealers, shippers and English consumers, was the porosity, bad flavor and ill-keeping quality of American cheese. Those three ailments seem to exist together almost invariably, and they condemned the product of our dairies to a very humble place in the markets of Great Britain.

How to avoid these ills became the study of cheese-makers, but up to about 1865 the agency of acidity or souring the curd to a certain extent, to accomplish this purpose, was little understood and less practiced. The fear of having sour cheese had deterred cheese-makers from venturing into this unexplored and forbidding field of inquiry. The cheese generally produced at that time was full of holes, and if not used when about thirty days' old, it speedily took on a sharp, pungent, acid flavor, very objectionable to those whose tastes in cheese are educated to appreciate a really fine article.

Thoughtful cheese-makers noticed that sour cheeses were invariably solid—very nearly or quite free from these pores or holes—and this observation led them at length gradually to experiment and see whether this same acidity, which in the form of sour cheese was very objectionable and damaging, might not be used to advantage if carried to a certain limit and kept well under control.

The result was successful beyond the highest expectations of the few cheese-makers who here and there had been investigating the matter, and eventually there was wrought a revolution, quiet and unostentatious, and yet real and wide-spread, in the system of cheese-making in the best dairy regions, and in the principles governing that system. At first the idea met with opposition, sometimes with ridicule, but it has won its way into almost universal practice. I remember that at the Dairyman's Convention in 1864, when the idea of purposely souring the curd slightly first began to be broached, a gentleman largely and successfully engaged in the manufacture of cheese in Western New York, opposed the idea very strenuously, and in the report of the operations of his factory for that year, he says: "I want the milk to be sweet when it is brought to the factory, want it sweet when set, want it sweet during the working, and want the curd sweet when put in press. I have no sympathy for sour milk or for sour cheese."

The next year he came to the Convention a thorough convert to the new principle in cheese-making, which he had before so vigorously opposed. A proper degree of acidity or souring or "changing" in the curd before removing it from the whey, or at least before salting, results in a cheese close and solid in texture, purer and cleaner in flavor, and of a character to retain that purity of flavor in our warm climate a much longer time than it otherwise would. With such cheese, too, there is far less trouble from luffing or bulging and from getting out of shape, than with softer descriptions of cheese. Of course it is a fine point to be able to tell precisely the condition of the curd at this stage, and to know just how far it is safe to allow the acidity to advance. And it is just here that bungling and incompetent makers fail, it is here that the arguments of those who consider cheese-making merely a mechanical operation, are refuted.

To the second question advanced by this cheese-maker, I will give a moment's attention. Ordinarily the hardening of the curd takes place at the same time that the acidity or "change" mildly puts in an appearance. Indeed the former is an indication of the presence of the latter. And yet the hardening may occur without the souring, at least to a good degree, (for the term hardening is too general and indefinite a term when applied to curd, to enable one cheese-maker to determine just what is the condition of a curd which another maker calls "hard," unless he can see and handle it). If I was troubled with curd hardening prematurely I would use less heat, and would apply it very slowly and gradually. Many good cheese-makers believe that a temperature of 90° to 94° gives better results in cheese-making than to warm the curd to 95° or 100°, always provided the milk is in

a condition to give full and ample time in elaborating it into cheese.

The third question proposed has been partially answered in the remarks that have preceded. Curds taken out when perfectly sweet cure faster than these which are allowed to sour a little; indeed, such cheeses are generally fully ripe and ready for the knife when thirty days old. If not promptly used then they deteriorate in quality and assume a sharp flavor—go into a species of decay, in fact. Cheeses thus made are quite unfit for export, but frequently are better liked by retailers in our home market than the closer made and more tasteful ones which suit the foreign market so well.

Where such cheeses are preferred and meet with ready sale and full prices, it is more profitable to manufacture them, because a slightly larger yield of cheese is obtained from the milk than by the other process. Such is rarely the case, however, and it is far wiser and more politic for the great mass of cheese-makers to seek to raise the standard of quality rather than to do aught that shall result in lowering it.—*Gardner B. Weeks, in Country Gentleman.*

### The Horse Disease in Goderich.

On Tuesday night last a disease broke out amongst the horses in Mr. Polley's livery stable, of a very deadly description. All but the infected horses were removed to his farm, but after arriving there no less than four were attacked. Up to this time four valuable horses have died—three in town and one on the farm—and there are at present three sick in town and three on the farm. The gullett seems to be the part affected, which closes up almost entirely; the muscles becoming dead, so that the animal can neither swallow food nor water. The fore legs by-and-by begin to shake, and the horse expires. Everything that veterinary skill, assisted by medical advice, could suggest, has been tried, but so far without success. A post-mortem examination of one horse revealed a complete obstruction of the passage of the throat. The bronchial tubes are not affected, as all the diseased horses have been able to breathe freely. The symptoms are something like those of diphtheria or typhoid fever in the human being, but are not recognized as those of any known diseases by any veterinary surgeon in this section.—*Signal.*

In our last month's issue we called attention to the disease that was destroying many horses in New York, but we do not know if the disease spoken of in Goderich is the same. We hope prompt measures may be taken to check the spread of the disease if it is found to be contagious.

### Quality of Pork Influenced by Feed.

The quality of pork is greatly influenced by the feed. The dairy makes poor pork, flabby and soft—pork that will fry away much, and be worth little what is left. This is the case whether milk or whey is fed. But it is remunerative to make this pork; it is therefore made. If you want pork for your own use, solid, bearing the heat, and a sweet morsel when cooked, you must feed the grains.

Old corn makes perhaps as good pork as anything. Peas are excellent and pay well. We used to, formerly, fat with peas with good results. But a mixture of these or of the grains, is also good. Soak and then feed, and give cold water to drink.

Cold water also to cool the heated body of the hog in hot weather, that is, access to water, better if showered or dripping copiously, as we have a case in town, where the raise of a mill is made to do this, keeping the hogs and the pen clean and cool. There is evident comfort and prosperity in this pen. There is little or no stench, which affects pork, making your finest Berkshire taste strong. Plenty of litter, absorbents, this is wanted. Any dry material will do, particularly dry muck, or the cooling sawdust, or dust from the road. When will farmers avail themselves of this, and thus increase largely the manure pile, abate a nuisance (in the escaping effluvia), and improve the quality of their pork?—*Cor. Utica Herald.*

For the Farmer's Advocate.

**Fatal Malady.**

BY I. F. INCH.

There is a strangemalady stalking about in its ghostly form through our peaceful Dominion. It is a malady that few escape, yet little notice is taken of it. Little children, as soon as they begin to talk, are often unconsciously smitten. Boys and girls who attend school, and particularly those who do not attend any place of instruction, are very subject to this dire disease. Youths and maidens, men and women, old and young, rich and poor are all, more or less, inclined to be led by this treacherous enemy.

It is a curious fact that the only persons who are entirely free from the foul breath of the pestilence are the deaf and dumb. Even the blind are not free. Another item to be remarked is, that the tongue is the only means through which we are made acquainted with the alarming fact, that our friends or acquaintances are victims of the enemy. It is not the color or shape of the tongue, but its movements that reveals to us the terrible truth. This contagion passes so lightly over some that with great skill and perseverance it may be eradicated out of the system.

But I am wearing out the reader's patience. Perhaps some little bright-eyes may think this too long a piece and throw away the paper before they find out what the disease is. Well, think now. How is it that some people can never be trusted? What is the reason that we sometimes doubt the word of our nearest relations? Ah, it is the fatal malady, that is, telling "fibs," or "untruths" or lies, whichever name you choose to call it. "White lies," I heard some little girls say the other day, "can't do any harm." I have also heard some little boys argue with their parents that "lies in fun were no lies at all." When a little boy is sent on an errand and stays to play on the road, then tells his mother that he lost his way through the meadow—is that telling the truth? When a little girl is left to finish a piece of sewing, and auntie or sister does it for her, would it be right to allow her good, kind mamma to believe she finished the task alone? No, no, little friends, let us all be truthful, no matter what the consequences will be. Suppose we should escape a punishment by telling a lie, let us much rather suffer the slight punishment and have a clear conscience, than to escape and be tormented by a guilty conscience.

Oh let us be truthful wherever we dwell,  
In mansion, in palace or cot;  
"Whatever we preach let us practice as well,"  
To be trusted will then be our lot.

Be sure we deceive not the innocent child,  
Who catches each word from our lips;  
Perchance we may rue it with agony wild  
While the dregs of life's poison he sips.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

**Appearance of Seeds.**

MR. W. WELD.—Can you inform the readers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE what are the distinctive features of the appearance of White Globe, Yellow Aberdeen and Swede Turnip seeds, as seen under the microscope? and oblige.

Yours respectfully,  
A. B. UYER.

Belmore, 19th June, 1871.

We have no microscope in the office, and we are too fully employed to devote time to the matter, even if we had one. If the Government would pay us for our land that they deprived us of, and pay us fully for other just claims, we should be in a position to purchase a microscope; and had we assistance to release us from some of our work, we would be able to examine and write upon the above question. Perhaps some of our readers can furnish the information required,

**Hints to Cattle Breeders.**

Prof. Miles, of Michigan Agricultural College, delivered an interesting lecture on Breeds of Cattle, before the Farmers' Institute, at the Illinois Industrial University. We take the following practical suggestions from an abstract of the lecture published in the Report of the Trustees of the University:

It is important to acknowledge in the start, that our breeds are not the result of accident; and this leads me to enumerate some of the qualifications which a good breeder must possess to attain the highest success in the art.

1. Definite ideas as to the kind of animals he wishes to produce. With many there is a lack of analytical power in determining good points. A man judges as a whole instead of in detail.

2. Persistence and perseverance in adhering to the plan marked out. A change of standard will result in failure.

3. A correct and educated eye, capable of detecting slight variations in form and quality. One must keep the balance adjusted in breeding and be able to correct slight variations.—Anatomy and physiology should be understood, though not technically.

4. The breeder should be free from prejudice and bias. The ownership of an animal should not blind him to its defects.

5. He should have good judgment and be apt in tracing causes and effects. Many have failed in this respect.

6. He should be cautious, and not prone to jump at conclusions from insufficient data.

7. He should be an artist, capable of forming an ideal model of perfection, and then of approximating to the conception already formed by moulding the plastic organization of the animal, so as to give it expression. Bakewell, Collins, Booth, Bates, Webb, Quarterly, were men of this class. Breeding, in fact, is a fine art, and one of the most interesting and fascinating of pursuits.

Our native cattle are of diverse origin and have serious defects, the result of their mixed origin, and a hap-hazard mode of breeding. One of the most marked types is the Texas cattle, originated from the Spanish cattle, and still somewhat resembling the cattle found around the Mediterranean. Our native varieties, also, have little in common, and vary a great deal among themselves. Hence it is desirable to improve our breeds.

In agriculture, generally, we find an advantage in the division of labor, and so in breeding. It is desirable to breed for milk and for beef. It is hardly possible to combine the two with the best success. The native animals have no special qualities, or definite character.

The advantage of the improved breeds is, first, that they have a definite character from a long course of breeding. The quickest way to get this fixeness is to get established breeds. The attempts to make breeds in this country have generally failed. Col. Jacques, although a cattle man, failed in the attempt. There is too great a variety of elements to work with, and it is a saving of time to begin with the established breeds. In the second place, we can select according to our needs and the locality. Different places need different breeds. At one of our Michigan fairs, farmers were inquiring: "which is the best breed of sheep?" I replied: "you might as well ask which is the best turnip or potato. I don't know your farm or mode of farming. Each breed is adapted to a particular purpose, and you must choose accordingly."

Mistakes will occur from the diverse modes of treating the same breed. Mistakes are made in condemning small breeds, as the Devon, Galloway, etc. These are adapted to peculiar places and purposes. The Short-Horn is admirably adapted to certain ranges. In selecting animals, look first to purity of blood. The pedigree is the recorded evidence of breeding, but does not necessarily show purity of blood. The value of a pedigree depends on its completeness, and the character of the ancestors. Two animals of un doubted purity of blood would differ in value, if their ancestors were not of equal merit. "Like produces like," not precisely, but like the various ancestors as a whole. Ancestors of unequal merit result in unequal offspring.

Herd books are not always reliable. There are the dangers of accident and imperfect recollection. The breeder should also be familiar with the history of the breed he adopts, and with the origin and peculiarities of certain families. Certain strains will not sell among breeders.

These general observations apply to all the breeds.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

**SWINDLING.**

DEAR SIR,—Our country seems to be greatly infested at the present time by men going through it swindling the inhabitants in various ways, generally representing themselves to be agents of various kinds for the sale of trees and different farming implements. It seems to me to be quite astonishing that people will allow themselves to be swindled year after year by these vagabonds without getting their eyes opened more to their swindling operations. Instead of dealing with responsible agents in their own neighborhood, they will patronize some oily-mouthed stranger that they know nothing about, and in nine cases out of every ten they either get swindled out of their money entirely, or get some inferior article palmed on to them for twice what it is worth. A few weeks ago I attended Division Court at Fort Erie, when there was an action brought by an American fruit tree agent against a resident of Fort Erie, to recover pay on a certain order for fruit trees, alleged to have been given by defendant. The defendant swore that he met the agent one morning while going to his work on the railroad, when he was asked by the agent if he wanted any trees; he said he would like about a dozen, and would like to take more, but he had no place to plant them, as he had only one-fifth of an acre of ground and twelve trees would be quite sufficient.—The agent told him that he had to bring trees to Fort Erie, so he might just as well bring his along with the rest. A few weeks after he received notice that his trees had arrived, and were on the dock at Fort Erie. He accordingly went for his trees, and, to his astonishment, there were some ninety trees for him (poor ones at that) at extravagant prices. He refused to accept of them, when the agent entered an action against him for the price of the trees, produced the order with defendant's name attached, swore that it was correct, and his victim was put in for the whole amount sued for and cost of court. The following prices are what the agent sued for: apple trees, fifty cents each; pear and cherry trees, one dollar each, and grape vines from one to five dollars each, prices which would at once show him to be a swindler. Now if this gentleman had ordered twelve trees from his nearest nurseryman, which is only a few miles from Fort Erie, he would have received just the number and no more, and would have paid twenty cents each for apple trees, forty cents each for pear and cherry trees, and from twenty-five to fifty cents for grape vines, considerably less than half that he paid the Yankee. This is only one case out of almost numberless cases of a similar character.

J. A. R.

Sherkstone, July 5th, 1871.

**Washing Butter.**

At a meeting of the New York Farmers' Club, Homer Hecox thus described his plan of washing butter, which he claims to be new:—I use a plain crank churn; goes by hand; average time, twenty minutes for large, twelve for small churnings. I do not claim to make more or better butter from the same cream than with a dasher, but I claim that I can do the work in one-half the time and with half the labor. Much of this saving is caused by the convenience of washing, getting rid of the buttermilk water, and in working the butter. As soon as I discover that the butter begins to separate, I put in a quart of cold water; this is to thin the milk, which is to cause it to free itself more readily from the butter. I then churn until the particles are about the size of a large pea. I then draw off the milk and put in a gallon of water, churn and draw again, and sometimes put in one more washing. The common way is to churn until the butter is about one solid mass. But how is the water to take effect on the inside of these lumps of butter? I should about as soon think of washing the inside of a glass bottle by washing the outside. I think that in order to make the most and best butter

in hot weather, it is particularly necessary to cool the milk immediately after milking. Milk in tin pails; have a tub similar to a wash tub, for each pail; set the pails in the tubs filled with cold water from a good spring well; stir the milk and water every few minutes until the milk is as cool as the water. If you can get the milk quite cool before setting, and set in shallow pans, it is better not to let pans stand in water while cream is rising, as the cream will be all up before the milk becomes very thick. Skim as little milk as possible with the cream, as that is the great secret about quick churning.

**Salt for Oats.**

At a meeting of the Farmers' Institute of Eastern Pennsylvania recently, P. Morris exhibited to the Institute a sample of oats grown by H. Ingersoll, of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture. This was of extraordinary size and early maturity, produced by the application of six bushels of salt to the acre. The stalks were much larger than usually seen, the leaves broader, and in every way superior to other samples exhibited. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the advanced condition of his oats, as well as the unusual size of the stalks, was owing to the fact that he had sowed broadcast upon the field six bushels of salt to the acre after sowing the oats. A large quantity of salt could be used, but never greater than forty bushels. Salt, to be efficacious on oats, wheat or corn, should be put on a sandy soil, and not on stiff clay lands. Mr. Ingersoll had been using salt for a number of years, and found that not only the grain crops were benefited but the after crops, particularly clover.

CUCUMBER AND SQUASH BUGS.—As these pests are upon us again, I give the best method I have yet found for opposing them. For the striped bugs, I know of no simpler or easier preventative than the one I made known last year (for the cut worm also) viz: Sprinkling the plants with saw-dust saturated with carbolic soapsuds. I use about a pound of the soap called "Carbolic Plant Protector," dissolved in 8 or 10 gallons of warm water and pour this over 4 or 5 bushels of saw-dust stirring it and leaving it to soak and swell, then keeping it in a covered box to prevent its drying. A little of this saw-dust scattered over and around the plants once a day during the worst onset of the bugs, and every other day afterward, I find quite effective and less labor than any other method. For the black squash bug, I find the "Ransom Curculio Trap" the best mode of catching them, viz: Place 2 or 3 bits of a shingle or thin board near each hill of plants—having the ground a little rough so that the bugs can crawl under these, which they will commonly do every cool night—then go early in the morning and turn these shingles or boards over, and kill the bugs with the sole of the boot.—Ohio Farmer.

WEEDS IN GARDEN WALKS.—I want to tell your readers how I keep the walk in my flower garden clean. It is a very simple plan, and the wonder to me is that I never thought of trying it long ago, for they are something that have given me much more trouble than the beds themselves, and I have never before been able to keep them clean without a great amount of help from Pat. One day last summer I happened to have a large quantity of boiling water to throw in the drain, as we never throw anything in the yard; so after a few minutes, consideration I said it should be emptied on the walks in the flower garden, as it would do no harm there, and sure enough it did not. The next day, when down in the garden for flowers, the walks attracted my attention they looked so uncommonly clean, not a green thing daring to stick up its head. Since then I have bathed them faithfully with scalding water once in two or three weeks, and the weeds are not only killed, but the ground is always hard and smooth as it does not have to be dug over.—Cor. in Country Gentleman.

**Effect of Feed on Wool.**

The character of the feed has much to do not only in the production of good sheep and good lambs, but also in the production of wool. A leading object in raising wool should be to keep the staple even through its entire length, and this can be done only by feeding regularly both in quality and quantity. If sheep have been fed upon sweet, nutritious hay, with occasional feeds of grain and roots, and then followed for many weeks by hay of a poor quality and the roots and grain denied them, an inequality in the wool will be produced—the upper part of the staple will be light, and the lower part much thicker; in this case the top part of the staple will break off in working it up. So it is impossible to produce good wool upon

pastures abounding only in coarse, wild grasses. Good bred sheep should never be turned upon such lands, for whatever the care of breeding may be, the coarseness of the feed will produce inferior wool.

In common with many other animals—including man himself—there is always exuding from the skin of the sheep an oily substance called yolk, or gum, especially designed by nature to protect the animal from too much moisture, and to soften the wool. This oil is feebly supplied by old sheep and those fed on meadow hay or other coarse fodder, and is more abundant in vigorous and well-fed sheep. This is an important secretion, and can only be supplied by generous keeping and proper care. If these are lacking, the secretions will not take place in sufficient quantity, and sheep, lambs and wool will be seriously affected; especially is this the case, when sudden

changes occur from good feed to bad. Great care, however, should be observed, that not too much of this oil is excited, as it then wastes the powers of the sheep, and becomes expensive to the manufacturer to remove it.

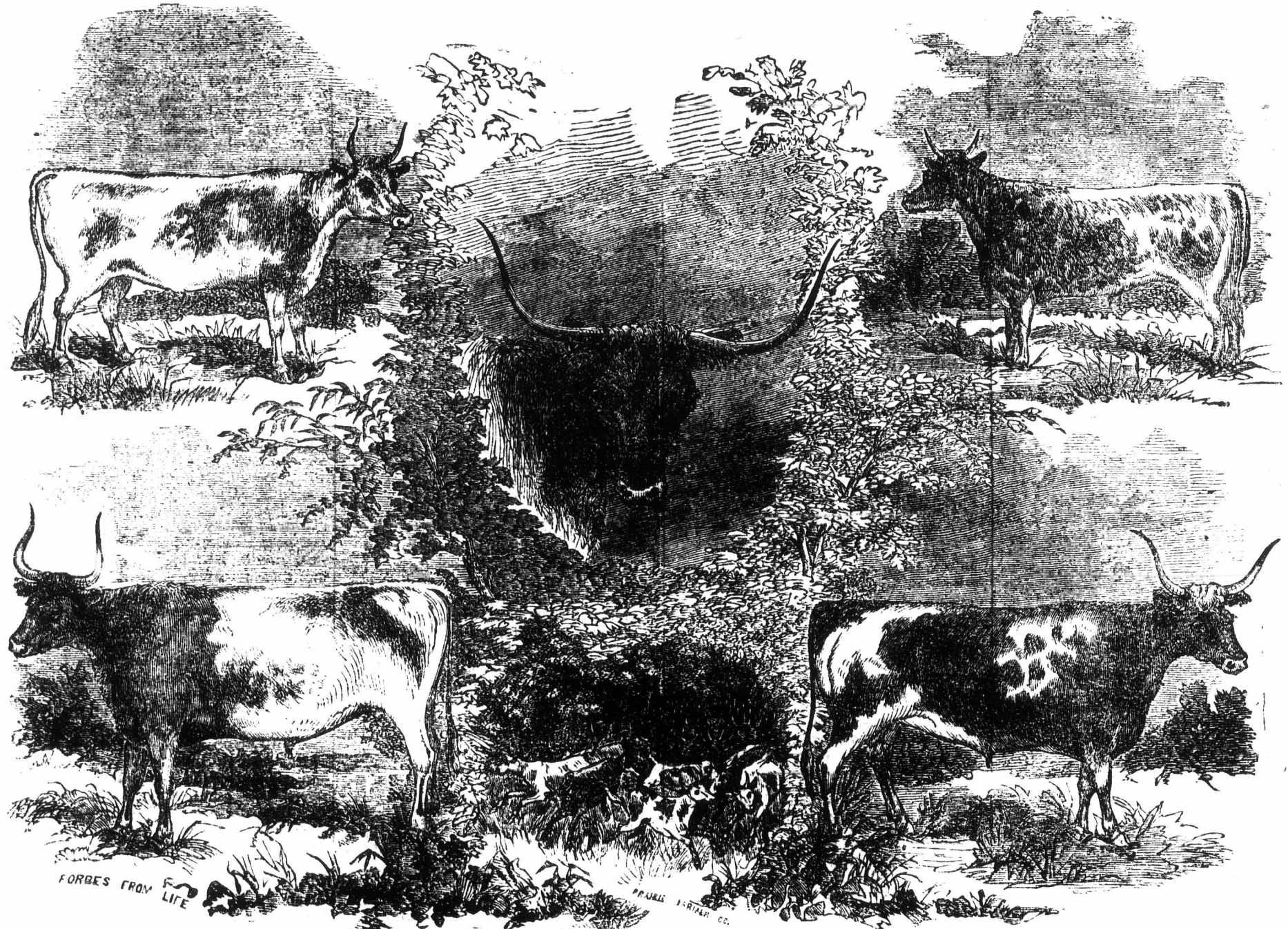
Wool is composed of the best flesh-producing substances found in the vegetable kingdom. The animal has no power to change the character of those substances, and the composition of the same kind of grass is materially varied by the soil upon which it is grown; hence the character of the soil has much to do with modifying the character of wool.

It has long been known that wool raised upon calcareous or limy soil is dry and harsh, while that raised upon argillaceous, or clayey soils, is soft and mellow; cultivation will materially modify this fact.

The black-faced, heath breed, raised up-

on the uncultivated moors of England, produce a short, coarse, harsh wool; but this is greatly improved when the same breed is raised where the land is cultivated, though the soil is the same, a fence only separating the two. On the other hand, if the highest bred long-wooled sheep are allowed to run upon the moors, the wool quickly degenerates, and soon becomes wild and harsh, like the low bred type.

We may learn from these facts that the food of the sheep modifies the character of the wool, and that we cannot have good wool from poor feed. The higher the type of sheep, the higher must be the character of the wool. We cannot escape this law. If we give poor feed, we shall have poor wool and light fleeces; if good feed, large animals, large lambs, good wool, and a generous quantity.—N. E. Farmer.

**Texas Cattle.**

As the immense resources of this continent are becoming developed, we are occasionally astonished by the enormous productions of some classes of industry, or the utilizing of that which has for centuries perhaps lain unknown. The enormous business now done in Texan cattle is little known to the majority of us, but as it must to some extent affect the value of our productions, we have procured the above from the *Prairie Farmer* Co., who had it engraved for their paper. They publish an excellent agricultural paper in Chicago, and if any of our readers desire more information in regard to the Western States, we must say that the *Prairie*

*Farmer* is the paper for them to peruse. We frequently give extracts from it.

**TEXAS CATTLE TRADE.**

The Abeline Chronicle gives the following as the most accurate figures yet given of the Texas cattle trade of this year: There are now near the line of the Kansas Pacific, by actual count, about 125,000; passed Red River Station, to be driven to that line, 100,000; for A. T. & S. F. Railroad, say 50,000; for Missouri River, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad, 75,000; for the Union Pacific, about 50,000; to be wintered in Kansas and Colorado, 50,000; leaving to be divided between the M., K. & T., and the A. & P. Railroads, 50,000. Total, 500,000. This is a lower estimate, by considerable, than has before appeared,

though it shows that the number to arrive this year will be larger than in any previous year. The idea advanced by one of our correspondents, a few months ago, that the days of cheap beef were over, proves to have been an erroneous one, though we are inclined to believe that the present enormous consumption of Texas beef must, within a short time, make his prediction true. In one way our western breeders can always command good prices, and that is by marketing choice beef alone. Improved breeds of cattle, fattened with care upon the grass and corn of the prairie States, will find a ready market at prices much in advance of the long-horns from the south-west, and we believe that this relative difference will continually increase as our farmers are forced into better breeding and better feeding. Scalawag beef cannot compete.

**THE TEXAS CATTLE KINGS—THE MIGHTY STOCK FARMS OF THE PLAINS—THE PARADISE OF FORTUNE HUNTERS.**

From the Pittsburg Commercial.

Texas alone has 3,800,000 cattle, divided into 950,000 heaves, 950,000 cows, and 1,900,000 young cattle. The plains on which these cattle roam contain about 152,000,000 acres of ground. The principal pasturages are on the Nueces, Rio Grande, Guadalupe, San Antonio, Colorado, Leon Brazos, Trinity, Sabine and Red rivers. The cattle are owned by scores of ranchmen, each of whom has from 1,000 to 75,000 head. On the Santa Catrutos river is a ranch containing 84,132 acres. It is owned by one man, Richard King, and has on it 65,000 head of cattle, 20,000 horses, 7,000 sheep, and 8,000 goats. This immense number of live stock requires 1000 saddle horses and

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300 Mexicans to attend and herd it; 10,000 hives are annually sold from the ranch, and 12,000 young calves branded. There is another ranch on the San Antonio river, near Goliad, which grazes 40,000 head of cattle, and brands 11,000 head of calves annually. Mr. O'Connor, the owner of this ranch, sells \$75,000 worth of stock each year, and his herds are constantly increasing. In 1852 he began cattle raising with 1,500 head, and his present enormous herds and wealth are the result of natural increase. On the Gulf, between the Rio Grande and Nueces, is a ranch containing 142,840 acres, and owned by Mr. Robidoux. It is on a peninsula, surrounded on three sides by water, and to enclose the other side has required the building of 31 miles of plank fence. Every three miles along the fence are houses for the herders, and enormous stables and pens for the stock. There are grazed in this enclosure 30,000 head of beef cattle, besides an immense number of other stock. A ranch on the Brazos river contains 50,000 head of cattle, 300 horses, and 50 herders. Jno. Hitson, the owner, drives 10,000 cattle to market annually. Ten years ago he was a poor farmer in Tennessee; but selling his land and going to the Brazos, he succeeded by dint of hard labor in getting together sixty cows and nine brood mares, when he went to raising stock. He has now 50,000 head of cattle, worth \$150,000, and he is still only forty years old. This man is establishing a stock ranch on the South Platte, in Nebraska, where he now has 5,000 head of cattle, and next spring will bring in 10,000 more. The whole number of cattle brought North overland from Texas during the year 1870 did not fall short of 100,000 head. Of these 20,000 went to Montana, 8,000 to Utah, 8,000 to Nevada, 9,000 to Wyoming, 10,000 to California, 11,000 to Idaho, and 30,000 to Colorado and New Mexico. The amount of money handled along the base of the mountains in transferring the stock was over \$1,250,000. At Abilene, the great Kansas cattle market, over 200,000 head were handled. The shipments in September reached 60,000 head, and in October nearly 75,000 head. This immense trade may be estimated when it is stated that it took 111 cars per day to transfer the stock and one bank in Kansas city handled \$3,000,000 cattle money. Texas, the great cattle hive of the country, has during the past year received 300,000 settlers, and already cattle growers there feel that they must soon look elsewhere for untrammelled ranges. A few more years like the past—a few deductions of a million acres of pasture lands in a single season, and Texas will be no more of a grazing State than New York, Pennsylvania or Ohio. Yet, compare these States, and how do they stand now? New York, with her settlements of 250 years old and a population of 4,000,000, has 748,000 oxen and stock cattle; Pennsylvania, with over 3,000,000 people, has 721,000; Ohio, with 3,000,000 people, has 749,000; Texas, with 800,000 people, has 3,800,000 cattle alone.

**Farmer's Clubs.**

We have often advocated the establishment of Farmer's Clubs over the different sections of the country. Much good would result from them to the farmers, as the various questions discussed at them could be reported through the agricultural and local papers.

We therefore lay before our readers, rules that might be adopted in them; organization, management and duties which are worthy of attention:

"A true Farmers' Club should consist of all the families residing in a small township, so far as they can be induced to attend to it, even though only half their members should be present at any one meeting. It should limit speeches to ten minutes, excepting only those addresses

or essays which eminently qualified persons are requested to specially prepare and read. It should have a President, ready and able to repress all ill-natured personalities, all irrelevant talk, and especially all straying in the forbidden region of political or theological disputation. At each meeting the subject should be chosen for the next, and not less than four members pledged to make some observations thereon, with liberty to read them if unused to speaking in public. These having been heard, the subject should be open to discussion by all present, the youngest and humblest being especially encouraged to state any facts within their knowledge which they deemed pertinent and cogent. Let every person be thus incited to say something calculated to shed light on the subject, to say this in the fewest words possible, and with the utmost care not to annoy or offend others, and it is hardly possible that any one evening per week devoted to these meetings should not be spent with equal pleasure and profit.

The chief ends to be achieved through such meetings is a development of the faculty and observation, and the habit of reflection. Too many of us pass through life essentially blind and deaf to the wonders and glories manifest to clearer eyes all around us. The magnificent phenomena of the seasons, even the awakening of Nature from death to life in Spring-time, make little impression on their senses, still less on their understandings. There are men who have passed forty miles through a forest, and yet could not name, within a half a dozen, the various species of trees which compose it; and so with everything else to which they are accustomed. They need even more than know an intellectual awakening; and this they could hardly fail to receive from the discussions of an intelligent and earnest Farmers' Club.

A Recording Secretary able to state in the fewest words each important suggestion or fact elicited in the course of an evening's discussion, would be hardly less valuable or less honored than a capable President. A single page would often suffice for all that deserves such record of an evening's discussion, and being transferred to a book and preserved might be consulted with interest and profit through many succeeding years. No other duty should be required of the member who rendered this service, the correspondence of the club being devolved upon another secretary. The habit of bringing grafts, or plants, or seed to club meetings, for gratuitous distribution, has been found to increase the interest, and enlarge the attendance of those formerly indifferent. Almost every good farmer or gardener will sometimes have choice seeds or grafts to spare, which he does not care nor cannot expect to sell, and these being distributed to the club will not only increase its popularity, but give him a right to share when another surplus is in a like manner distributed. If one has choice fruits to give away, the club will afford him an excellent opportunity, but I would rather not attract persons to its meeting by a prospect of having their appetites thus gratified at others' expense. A flower show once in each year, and an exhibition of fruits and other choice products, at an evening meeting in September or October, should suffice for festivals. Let each member consider himself pledged to bring to the exhibition the best material results of his year's efforts, and the aggregate will be satisfactory and instructive.

The organization of a Farmer's Club is its chief difficulty. The large number of those who ought to participate usually prefer to stand back, not committing themselves to the effort until after its success has been assured. To obviate this embarrassment, let a paper be circulated for signatures, pledging each signer to attend the introductory meeting and bring at least a part of his family. When forty have signed such a call, success will be well nigh assured.—*Tribune.*

**Cheerfulness in the Household.**

Every evening, when the sun sinks in the west, and the light of lamps or gas is needed to enable us to continue our employments, hundreds of thousands of busy men cease from labor and turn their steps homeward. To the women of the family, this return of father, husband or brother, is one of the events of the day; but how diverse the influence these workers bring with them, and how varied the reception with which they are met! If it were possible to lay aside business annoyances with our hats and coats when we enter our homes, how we would rejoice to be within that charmed enclosure! And yet thus it should be. Life is a battle, of course, and those who bear their part in it must expect to give and receive blows; but even professional soldiers do not fight without cessation, and the doughtiest warrior must have some breathing spell when he can lay aside his armor. Home may be made a sanctuary, to which we can flee when sorely pressed by the rude assaults of trouble and disaster, and from which we may issue refreshed and strengthened; but it is too often just the opposite.

When John arrives at home he expects his dinner at once, and a good one too, for he has not been working all day to earn money to pay the bills! As he is tired and hungry, he has no pleasant word for anybody, but if the food is underdone, or overdone, does not suit his taste, or is lacking in quantity, how he does scold! Susan, for her part, has had a hard day of it. The baby kept her awake a good deal last night, and has been very fretful during the day, refusing to be quiet unless on mother's knee. Like many American women, she is excessively nervous, and after such a trying day as she has passed, John's indifference and scolding are a little more than she can stand. So she answers him sharply, word for word, and the result of the angry contest is that each passes a dreary evening, and finally they retire to rest, wondering why the world is so full of trouble, and why they were such fools as to get married.

There are, however, other people who live very differently. Harry means to extract happiness from life and does. He likes a good meal as well as anybody, but he is as reasonable before breakfast as he is after it; and if perchance his dinner is not to his liking, he does not vent his spleen on Jane, his wife. He carries sunshine with him wherever he goes; and as he always tries to make the best of circumstances, he is welcome wherever he goes, and nowhere more so than in his own home. Would there were more like him, so there might be less sad-eyed women, and more cheerful, sweet-tempered wives; that there might be fewer men who prefer the club, the counting-room, or almost any place to their own homes, so called.

It would, perhaps, be unfair to select any class of men or women as particularly neglecting cheerfulness at home, yet we think farmers, as a class, fail to appreciate its importance. They have their fancies and enjoyments to be sure, but the average American farmer is hardly to be called a jolly or even cheerful personage. In the busy season, he rises with the lark, and trudges all day as faithfully, and often more laboriously than his team, so that when night comes, all the snap and spring is out of him. He does not make any effort to interest his wife in conversation at meal times, nor she him; and if, when the day is over, she has any troubles to talk over, he is too tired to be very sympathetic and attentive. So they plod along, living a humdrum sort of life, which their bright children mentally resolve to avoid by going to the city. All farmers, it is true, do not live so, but many of them do, and that is one reason why so many farmers' wives break down. They have too much work and too little cheerfulness, and it is more than they or anybody else can stand.

A cheerful household, however, is peculiar neither to the city nor country. It is found where those who reside beneath the same roof recognize the obligation of each to contribute to the happiness of all the rest, and where love is the ruling spirit. A determined effort, coupled with much forbearance, is necessary to produce this result; but when once it has been attained, it will well repay every effort, and the home thus graced by cheerfulness and love, will ever be cherished as, indeed, "the dearest spot on earth."

An old farmer said to his sons: "Boys, don't you ever wait for summit to turn up. You might just as well go and sit down on a stone in the middle of a meadow, with a pail atwixt your legs, and wait for a cow to back up to you to be milked."

**Effects of Alcohol.**

The effects of alcohol have recently been tested in London by experiments upon a healthy soldier. The course of treatment was as follows: For the first six days no alcohol was given; for the next six days from one to eight ounces of alcohol were given in divided doses; for the next six days water alone; and then for three days twelve ounces of brandy, containing forty-eight per cent. of alcohol. The results are reported to be as follows: No appreciable difference was perceived in the weight during the course of the experiments, but the temperature of the body was slightly raised. The pulse was materially affected, rising from 77.5 beats per minute before taking the alcohol to 94.7 after the largest doses.

Estimating the normal daily work of the ventricles of the heart as equivalent to the lifting of 122 tons a foot, it was found that during the alcoholic period the heart was compelled to lift an excess of 16.8 tons, and during the last two days, of 24 tons. The conclusion arrived at was, that alcohol is utterly useless in health, and positively injurious in larger quantities than two ounces daily. There, however, seemed to be indicated an advantage in its use if employed in raising a feeble appetite or exciting a feeble heart.

**COLORS AND DYES.**—A German writer informs us that a great variety of colors and dyes can readily be obtained from common plants, the method consisting principally in boiling them in water so as to produce a strong decoction. For instance: the well-known huck-cherry or blueberry, when boiled down, with the addition of a little alum and a solution of copperas, will develop an excellent blue color. The same treatment, with a solution of nut-galls, produces a clean, dark brown tint; while with alum, verdigris, and sal ammoniac, various shades of purple and red can be obtained. The fruit of the elder will also produce a blue color when treated with alum. The privet yields a solution of salt will furnish an excellent color, while the overripe berries yield a scarlet red. The seeds of the common burning-bush, when treated with sal ammoniac, produce a beautiful purple red; while the juice of the currant, pressed out and mixed with a solution of alum, will furnish a bright red color. The bark treated in the same way produces a brown. Yellow can be obtained from the bark of the apple tree, the box, the ash, the buckthorn, the poplar, elm, &c., when boiled in water and treated with alum. A lively green is furnished by the broom corn, and brownish-green by the genista.

**THE ONION MAGGOT.**—The Vermont Farmer says:—The maggot which is so destructive to the onion crop in some places is the larva of the onion fly, (*Anthomyia Ceparum*), which eats into the roots and kills the plants. The parent fly deposits its eggs on the leaves of the onion, close to the earth, and the maggot, when hatched, eats into the heart of the onion. The larvae come to their full growth in about two weeks, turn to pupae in the onion, and come out perfect flies in a fortnight afterward. Burning straw on the surface of the ground where the seed is sown, is said to be an effectual preventative of the attacks of this insect. Soot is used in Danvers, Mass., with good effect. An onion grower in that celebrated onion locality says he divided his onion ground into three parts, all of it having been well prepared by suitable tilling and manuring, and was ready for the seed. One part was covered with wood ashes, another with soot, and the third left as it was. The seed was then sown in drills. It came up very well, and for a time all appeared to thrive equally well. The part sown with the soot, however, soon took the lead; the wood ashes was next, but the onions on the part to which no preventative was applied, were entirely destroyed.

**PREVENTING SOIL FROM DRYING.**—Thos. Meehan, in Forney's Weekly Press, says one of the best ways to prevent soil drying out is to have the surface finely pulverized and pressed firm. The pulverizing is often advised, but the pressing down does not receive the attention he thinks it deserves. While he thinks much good is done by running a cultivator between the corn rows in a dry time, when the surface is baked, he insists that much of the moisture that will still escape might be retained if a small roller could follow the harrow or cultivator after a little time.

**ADVICE TO PERSONS MEDITATING LAW—Keep your own counsel.**

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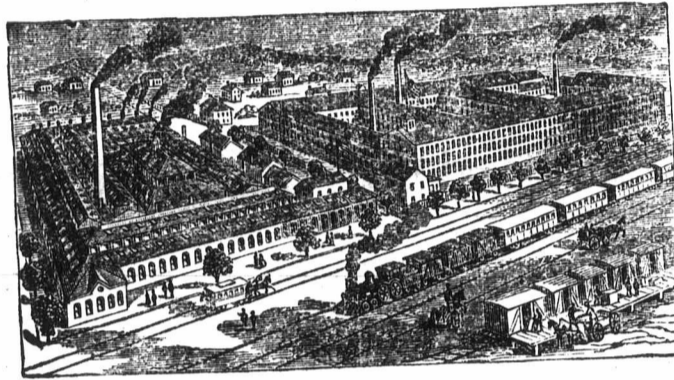




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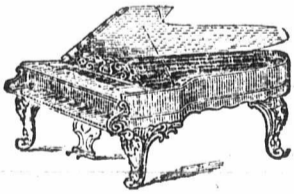
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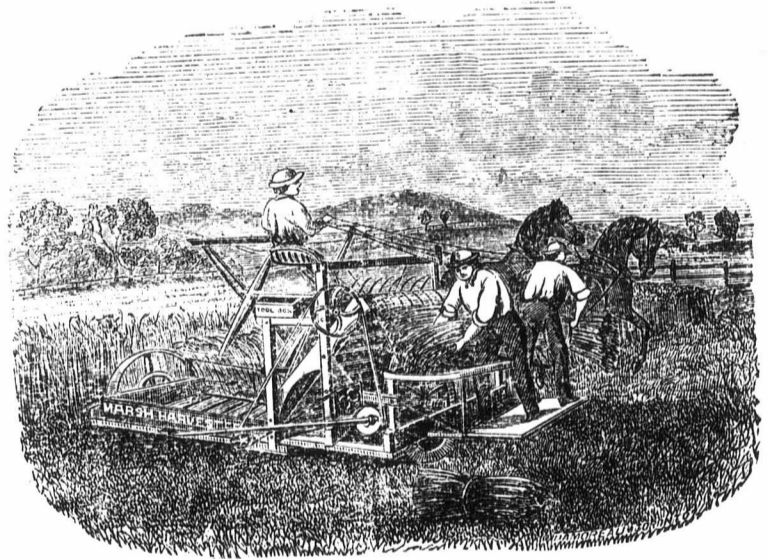
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Breeding Ewes, Leicesters or Cotswolds, for exportation. Prices to suit applicants, either for prize-takers or for stock purposes, varying from \$6 to \$200 per head. State your requirements, and we will guarantee satisfaction to our customers, or will not fill the order.

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Carter's Patent Ditching Machine, improved, \$130.  
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The celebrated Blanshard Churn.  
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Every purchaser will be allowed to work the Machine in Grain one-half day on trial; and in case anything proves defective, due notice must be given us, or the Agent from whom it was bought, and time allowed to send a person to put it in order. If then the Machine can not be made to work from fault in itself, it may be returned, and the money will be refunded. If immediate notice is not given after trial, the Machine will be considered accepted.

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**SMITH'S IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS**

**One, Two and Three Horse Thrashing Machines**

With recent important improvements, which now makes this the most complete Thrasher in use.

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They are admitted by all who have used them to be the best and most complete Machine of the kind known.

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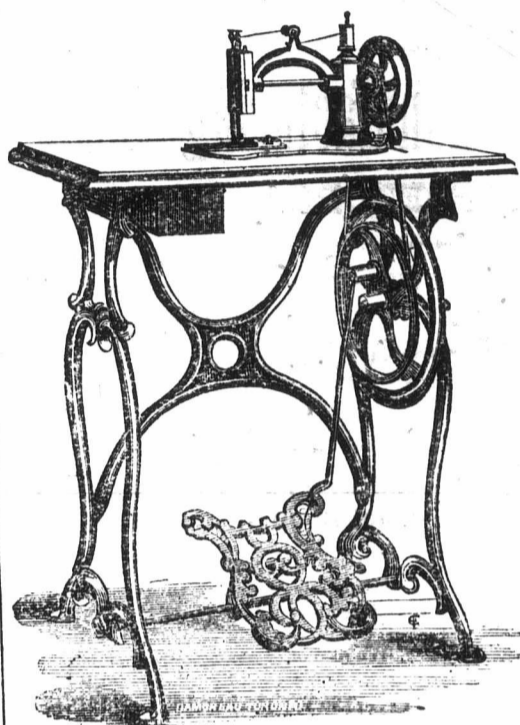
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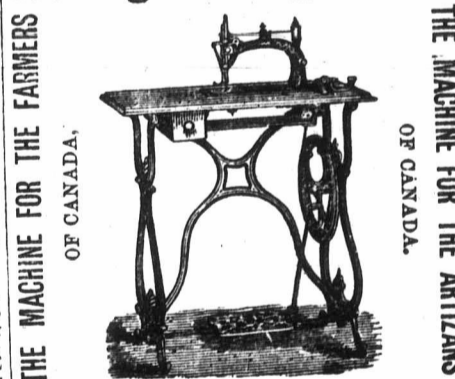
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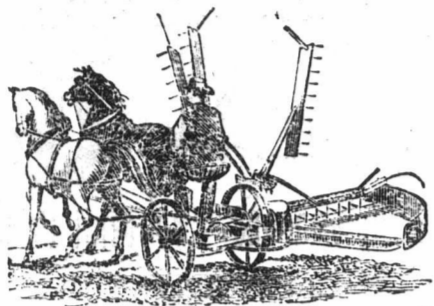
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**W. WELD, Editor**

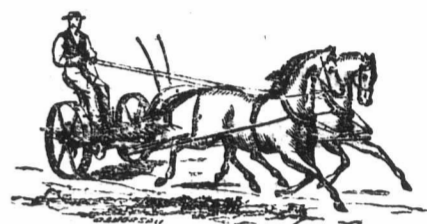
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Among its many advantages we call attention to the following:—

### It has no Gears on the Driving Wheels,

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It has malleable guards both on the Mower Bar and Reaper Table, with best cast steel Ledger Plates. It is also furnished with our

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**The Table can be very easily raised or lowered by the Driver in his Seat without stopping his Team.**

This is one of the most important improvements effected in any Machine during the past two years.

### Any one or all of the Arms of the Reel

Can be made to act as Rakes at the option of the Driver, by a Lever readily operated by his foot. The Cutting apparatus is in front of the Machine, and therefore whether Reaping or Mowing, the entire work of the Machine is under the eye of the Driver while guiding his team. This Table is so constructed as to

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The Table is attached to the Machine both in front and rear of the Driving Wheel, which enables it to pass over rough ground with much greater ease and less injury to the Table. The Grain Wheel Axis is on a line with the axle of the Drive Wheel, which enables it to turn the corners readily.

**The Rakes are driven by Gearing instead of Chains, and therefore have a steady uniform motion,**

Making them much less liable to breakage on uneven ground, and more regular in removing the grain. The Gearing is very simple, strong and durable. The Boxes are all lined with

### BABBIT METAL.

**The parts are all numbered, so that the Repairs can be ordered by telegraph or otherwise, by simply giving the number of the part wanted.**

There is no side Draught in either reaping or mowing, and the Machine is so perfectly balanced that there is no pressure on the horses' necks either when reaping or mowing. All our malleable castings, where they are subject to much strain, have been

**Twice annealed, thereby rendering them both tough and strong.**

### OUR JOHNSON RAKE

Is so constructed as to raise the cam so far above the Grain Table that the Grain does not interfere with the machinery of the Rakes or Reels.

We make the above Machine in two sizes:

**No. One, large size, for Farmers who have a large amount to reap.**

**No. Two medium size, for Farmers having more use for a Mower than for a Reaper.**

With the exception of difference in size, these Machines are similar in every respect. Our No. 2 Machine supplies a want heretofore unfilled, viz.: A medium between the Jun. Mower and large combined Machine, both in size and price. We shall distribute our sample machines in March among our Agents, that intending purchasers may have an early opportunity of examining their merits.

**And we guarantee that all Machines shipped this season shall be equal in quality and finish to the samples exhibited by our Agents.**

We invite the public to withhold giving their orders until they have had an opportunity of inspecting our Machines, as we believe that they are unsurpassed by any other Machines ever yet offered on this continent.

We also offer among our other Machines:

**Johnson's Self-Raking Reaper, improved for 1871,**  
with two knives, smooth and sickle edge, and malleable guards.

**Wood's Patent Self-Raking Reaper.**

**Buckeye Reaper No. 1, with Johnson's Self Rake.**

**Buckeye Reaper No. 2, with Johnson's Self-Rake.**

**Ohio Combined Hand Raking Reaper and Mower.**

**Cayuga Chief, Jr., Mower.**

**Buckeye Mower No. 1.**

**Buckeye Mower No. 2.**

**Ball's Ohio Mower, No. 1.**

**Ohio, Jr., Mower.**

**Taylor's Sulky Horse Rake.**

**Farmer's Favorite Grain Drill.**

**Champion Hay Tedder.**

AND OUR CELEBRATED

## HALL THRESHER AND SEPARATOR

Greatly improved for 1871, with either Pitt's, Pelton, Planet, Woodbury, or Hall's 8 or 10 Horse Power. We shall also offer for the Fall trade a

## NEW CLOVER THRESHER AND HULLER,

Very much superior to any other heretofore introduced,

A new and complete Illustrated Catalogue of all our Machines is being published, and will be ready for early distribution, free to all applicants.

All our Machines are warranted to give satisfaction, and purchasers will have an opportunity of testing them both in Mowing and Reaping before they will be required to finally conclude the purchase.

For further information address—

**F. W. GLEN,**

PRESIDENT,

OSHAWA, ONTARIO.