

THE AGRICULTURIST
Will be published every
SATURDAY by
ANDREW LIPSETT,
at the
OFFICE ON QUEEN STREET,
Opposite City Hall, F'ron, N. B.
Subscription, - \$1.00, in advance.

The Agriculturist.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, AND NEWS.

ANDREW LIPSETT, Publisher.

AGRICULTURE THE TRUE BASIS OF A NATION'S WEALTH.

ANDREW ARCHER, Editor

VOL. 11.

FREDERICTON, N. B., AUGUST 23, 1879.

NO. 20.

SUBSCRIBE

FOR THE
"AGRICULTURIST"

ONLY

\$1 PER YEAR,

Payable in advance.

Every Description of

BOOK & JOB PRINTING

Executed Promptly

AND AT

LOW RATES

CUT THIS OUT.

Sir:— Please find enclosed the sum of \$1, in payment for one year's subscription to the "Agriculturist." Yours, &c.

Name in full

Address in full

LOW RATE

Every Description of

BOOK & JOB PRINTING

Executed Promptly

AND AT

LOW RATES

SUBSCRIBE

FOR THE

"AGRICULTURIST"

ONLY

\$1 PER YEAR,

Payable in advance.

Agriculture.

The Export Cattle Trade.

On that always to be remembered Monday, when, in the Exhibition Building in this city, the addresses of the City and County Councils were presented to the Governor General, His Excellency, in reply to the address of the latter body said, in effect, that the farmers of York, and all the valley of the St. John generally, were in an exceptionally favored position, owing to the comparative proximity of the Province to Europe, and the cheaper rate of freights to send large supplies of beef and mutton to the home market. It is to be hoped that the farmers not only of York but of the whole Province will bear the Governor General's words in mind. They may depend upon it that there is money in the export cattle trade. The competition of American and Canadian stock raisers tells severely against the sorely tried British farmer, but the demand for meat, the consumption of beef and mutton, is so enormous in England, in the densely populated manufacturing Counties, that the British Parliament will find it impossible to protect him against his transatlantic rivals. The cattle trade from Canada to England has now reached great proportions. The amount of trade this year compared with that of last year shows a vast increase. A few figures given by Prof. McEachran, Dominion Government Inspector for the Port of Montreal, will prove both statements. During the months of May, June and July of this year, 11,916 cattle, 37,059 sheep, 1,082 pigs—50,633 head in all—were exported. Computing the cattle to be worth \$60, the sheep \$6, pigs \$7 per head—moderate valuations—the Canadian farmers received the sum of \$948,464 for stock sold for exportation. Last year the number of cattle, including American stock which formed a large proportion of the whole exported, amounted to only about 18,000 head, and the success that has this year attended the export cattle trade will incite the farmers of Ontario to raise more stock—they will not throw so much wool upon the market, but in the future raise all their likeliest calves.

As most of our farming readers probably know, a direct trade in cattle between this Province and the old country, principally, we believe, to Glasgow and a few Irish ports, has commenced. There is an opening for the farmers of the valley of the St. John. By taking advantage of it they will enjoy, to use His Excellency's words, "a share which will be so largely and legitimately their own, in the immense commerce in live stock which is now being carried on between the Dominion and Great Britain."

Be in Readiness.

All beekeepers that are worthy of the name have their hives in readiness for swarms. We've known persons who owned eight or ten colonies of bees that made no preparation for having them, and annually lost the greater part of their increase. While a salt barrel was being emptied to receive them or the old pump was having a board nailed on top, the would-be rovers followed the advice of Horace Greeley, and emigrated West. Of course, it was very little loss, for what is a colony of bees worth that are lived in an old pump? They look interesting enough, going in and out of the spout; but what benefit would a hundred colonies be in tobacco buckets, salt barrels, &c.? They would gather just as much honey; but it is in such a shape as to be of very little value to its owners.

This month is the great swarming season, and hives and surplus boxes will be in demand. A step-ladder that will not wobble and totter, and is not liable to land the apiarist and his hiving utensils, bees and all, in a heap is desirable. A saw for the cutting off of branches of trees, bee-hat and gloves, should be ready for business. If the farmer who only keeps a few stocks would provide his children with the necessary implements for bee-culture, his boys and girls would soon be interested in this delightful science, and nature's purest and choicest sweets adorn his table, in lieu of burnt sorghum and poisonous corn-syrups.

We've often asked: "What do you do to keep your bees from running off when they swarm?" "The ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib," and even bees know where they are well treated. When bees are hived, if these few simple rules are observed, few colonies will desert their owner.

Never let a swarm stand where they clustered, until the scouts that have been sent out to find a home return; but place it, as soon as practicable, where it is to remain.

Never put a newly hived colony in the sun, but in a shady place; and do not let the sun shine directly on the hive at any hour of the day for the first few days. We've known of a swarm leaving the day after they were hived, because the hot morning sun was beaming on them.

Some apiarists recommend putting a frame of unsealed larvae into the hive, to prevent a colony absconding, as bees seldom desert the brood; but this is not always practicable where many bees are kept, and seldom necessary when bees are put in cool, clean hives, with plenty of ventilation and needed shade.

Our pet way of hiving a swarm is to have the hive in readiness and placed where it is to remain, with the inverted cover, which has a smooth, planed surface, placed in front, to put the bees upon. As soon as the bees have clustered, cut off the limb and carry it to the hive, laying it down on the cover. It is then a rare treat to sit by them and spoon them into the entrance, all the while telling them what gauzy wings they have and such nimble feet. But bees do not always cluster upon a limb that the owner is able or willing to cut off. A hive is sometimes placed upon a sheet, and the bees shaken down upon it, or rattled off into a dishpan or basket and poured in front of the hive. If bees cluster upon the body of a tree or on a fence, they can be driven with smoke into a box or basket.

Some persons claim that they can teach their bees where to cluster. It is well to "prove all things and hold fast to that which is good," and, as it is so easily tried, why not commence the school? Make a ball of bees by stringing them with needle and thread letting a few strands hang loose, and fasten it where we wish the bees to cluster; or a black hat or stocking might be made to answer the same purpose.—*Prairie Farmer.*

The Way to Raise Good Turkeys.

In the first place the breeder should curb the ambition common to very many amateur turkey raisers, to have the "largest turkey in the country." For these birds, besides being very hard to bring to maturity, rarely find so ready a sale as those of moderate size; for market purposes the last named are more profitable than either extreme. To secure the best results select an early hatched and vigorous young gobler of handsome proportions; be sure that he is not either over or under size, for in either case such birds are liable to be deformed in some way. A few young hens (not more than five) should be allowed to mate with him; they should be fed well, but not fattened, as they require strengthening, and food of a nourishing character, such as grains, meat and vegetables, often changed and varied as their appetites may demand or require. Old fowls should never, under any circumstances, be used for breeding purposes. The chicks from eggs laid by an old turkey hen (and, indeed, this rule will apply to any kind of fowl) are generally either over or under size, and greatly lacking in the vitality necessary to birds of such roving habits. Never allow a bird in the breeding-pen that has not some very admirable point which you are desirous of perpetuating, for if the breeder is careless in this matter it will surely reduce the value of future flocks, no matter how pure the blood may be, or how perfect the proportions.

The old fashioned idea that summer and fall hatched chickens are not profitable to the breeder is exploded, as it should have been long ago. The question of how to get spring chickens into the market early enough has always been a subject that agitated poultrymen in general; of course, the chickens should be a certain size, but so many fowl raisers who are anxious to catch the top prices make the great mistake of sending their chickens to market before they are solid enough to be profitable either to the producer or the consumer. Now a few bold breeders with a turn for practical experiments have come to the front, announcing that they have solved the problem of the way to make spring chickens that are respectable in size, come into market at the time they will pay best. The chicks hatched out from August to November are carefully housed and well fed on nourishing food; they grow rapidly and well all winter, and by March they are fine and plump—in fact just the ideal spring chicken of the American epicure; they can then be marketed with some show of profit to all parties concerned. Of course, if these chickens were supplied in large quantities, it would affect the prices to some ex-

tent, but it is certainly worth trying to those already in the business. Without doubt poultry breeding is one of the sadly neglected industries; to a practical mind, however, a few judicious experiments would soon demonstrate that only patient and careful management is essential to success in this as any other business.—*American Stockman.*

How to Train a Colt to Harness.

A writer in the English *Agricultural Gazette* gives the following as one of the safest and most practical methods of accustoming a young colt to the restraints of the harness.

Put on him an easy collar, having a pair of reins attached, or add two pieces to lengthen the traces, and let a strong man walk behind him holding these. After a few minutes the leader may order the man to pull the traces very gently, so as to press the collar very slightly at first. In a little time he may pull tighter, while the leader shows his eye on the colt, and if he shows any signs of flinching, let him order the traces to be slackened, and then gradually draw again until the colt is seen to lean into his collar, when the man who holds the traces may use his whole force, for a short time only. The traces must now be slackened again, and the same course often repeated, but stopping the colt occasionally to gentle him, taking care, however, to slack the traces just as he stops and to turn a little to one side when starting each time, while the man pulls the opposite trace.

After this exercise let him be taken to the cart or other vehicle for which he is intended; allow him to smell and examine it; then push it away and draw it up to him several times, raising and lowering the shafts, or until he takes no notice of its noise, or of the different appearances when raised and lowered. Now turn him around and put him between the shafts, rub them against his sides, push back and draw up the cart, striking him behind and on the sides with it, until he allows himself to be "knocked about by it," so to speak. This will do for one day's lesson.

Next day let all his harness be put on, leaving chains or straps to hang and strike against him, while the whole of the previous day's lesson is gone through step by step. Same on thirds and fourth days. He may then be yoked or hitched to the cart, and should have at least one hour's exercise in going up and down hill, turning, etc. First start on level ground. If these directions are carried out, the colt learns that the vehicle he draws is not meant to hurt him, and he will never try to "kick it away" or "run off" from it.

Rules for training: 1. Never try to beat a colt into doing a thing, or, if nervous, he may turn out a vicious horse, and if stupid he may become stubborn. Remember that by patience and gentleness he can be got to do anything that will not hurt him.

2. When the horse shows signs of shying to any object, do not beat him, but lead him up to it allowing him to stand and look, as he comes closer; and after he examines it a few times he will not fear anything of the kind again. In passing by hedges with a colt, throw in stones and stop him until he takes no notice of the noise.

3. Before putting on any article of harness, let your colt smell it, and then rub against his head, neck and body.

4. Always start a horse with the voice, never with the cut of a whip. In starting turn a little to one side, and in stopping, when going up a hill, do the same.

American Cheese.

The extent to which American cheese is being imported into Ayrshire and retailed at prices greatly under the cost of the home produce, is beginning to tell in a way that has hardly anticipated by dairy farmers in the country. Many of those farmers, it appears, still find themselves in possession of the bulk of the cheese manufactured last season, with little prospect of getting it disposed of at anything like the figures they have been in the habit of realizing. The result of this is that not a few of them have been compelled to abandon the making of cheese for the present. This, again, has had the effect of increasing the supply of butter and milk in the country so enormously that these commodities are selling at prices unknown during the past decade. Last week fresh butter of the best quality was quoted in the market of the county town at \$3d. per pound, or less than half the price for which it was sold at the corresponding date of last year. The reduction per gallon in the price of milk, resulting from the increased competition induced by the suspension of the cheese manufacture, would seem to be equal-

ly marked. For Glasgow and other large towns the supply available at present is far in excess of the demand, and farmers are said to be at their wits' end in regard to the disposal of their milk. At almost any hour of the day carts containing barrels of milk may be seen in some parts of Ayr in charge of persons endeavoring to secure purchasers, but who not unfrequently are obliged to take the article home unsold to be served out to pigs, which are this season being reared in larger numbers than is ordinarily the case in Ayrshire. Should this state of facts continue, the results can hardly fail to be serious, more particularly for such farmers (and these are said to be not a few) as have within the last year or two entered upon new leases at a considerable rise of rent.—*Edinburgh Review.*

Diseases from Exposure.

The Maine *Farmer* cautions farmers to avoid exposure. It says:—

Among the diseases to which laborers upon the farm are especially liable are those of a rheumatic nature, and rheumatism is almost always the result of exposure, and very often of needless exposure. Men will labor hard upon the farm during the heat of the day, and how often we have seen such, after the sun has gone down and the earth has begun to cool off, without additional clothing, stand in a draught or lie down upon the grass and so remain until the dews have fallen. They may realize no immediate bad effects from such needless exposure, but there is rheumatism in the practice and it will develop itself sooner or later. Another fruitful source of rheumatism is getting the clothes wet and allowing them to dry upon the person. If one is exposed to rain or has occasion to go into the water, he should change his raiment at the earliest opportunity, and even when the clothes become damp from profuse perspiration it is safer to change them for dry. Persons who have inherited rheumatism may have an attack immediately after an exposure of this kind, but in most cases, the penalty is not demanded until later in life.

Exposure of the kind we have mentioned may also result in the development of certain acute diseases including fever, inflammation of the liver and kidneys and of the other vital organs. In such cases, though not always, the penalty follows closely after the transgression. Attacks of any of these diseases can generally be traced to exposure and often needless exposure, as the proximate cause. It is a too common fallacy that the body must undergo exposure in order to become tough and impervious to disease, and leads to much mischief. As a rule, persons who expose themselves in early life, in the manner we have described, may get along without suffering much of the penalty, until the middle period is reached and they begin to pass down the declivity; then when the natural force begins to abate the effects of early exposure, and in fact of indiscretions of every kind will begin to be felt. If the young farmer would avoid sickness and premature decay, and instead thereof, enjoy a healthy and happy middle life and a green old age, let him avoid those needless exposures which implant the germs of disease in his system, during his earlier manhood.

The Latest Settler for the Beetle.

I early started under glass a sufficient quantity of seed potatoes to make say forty hills when transferred to my garden grounds. These vines being of early growth, I found, about a week ago, that they were infested with the potato bug. Without being exact in weight and measure, I dissolved, in a white glass quart bottle, a quarter of a pound of gum camphor in a half pint of alcohol of greatest strength. The camphor dissolved in a short time. I then filled the bottle with water, which, of course, reduced the alcohol below first proof. Before I added the full quantity of water the alcohol remained as clear as it was before the camphor was added to it, but with the full quantity of water it at once assumed a white, creamy appearance, and so remained without any deposit after standing several days. Of this solution I applied less than half of it to the potato tops, using a watering pot, the holes in the sprinkler of small size. The next day, after applying my mixture, I carefully examined every potato top, and to my surprise, I found that every bug had disappeared, and the aphids, which were very numerous, were all dead, not a single leaf showing an exception. As is well known, it is these latter parasites that rob our tables of good and sound potatoes. I do not know that my experiment will amount to anything, but if publicly known many might be induced to try it, as I

have done, and if successful the public objection to the use of Paris green may be obviated.—*Cor. New England Homestead.*

Flies in Stables.

One of the advantages claimed for the soiling system for keeping cows is their greater freedom from the annoyance of flies during the heat of summer, when the air is alive, as it were, with insect life. No one visiting a herd of cattle at pasture can help sympathizing with them in their constant endeavors to keep the numerous great buzzing and biting flies from sucking out their very life blood. Whether feeding on the short grasses in the open field, or chewing the cud in the shade of a large tree, the flies are a constant source of annoyance. When cattle are driven to the stable to be milked, these pasture flies remain outside, and for a while the cows are relieved. But where the cows are kept in stables nearly all the day, as by the soiling system, other species of flies are liable to torment them as badly as do those which live only in the fields. There is a fly much resembling the house fly, though of entirely different habits, which severely torments cattle and horses that are housed in summer. The house fly sucks its food after first dissolving it with moisture furnished by itself, so the naturalists say, while this barn fly bites like a mosquito. They are alike, however, in preferring light to darkness, and for the past few years we have been able to greatly promote the comfort of our cattle by keeping their stables comparatively dark during the day through the heated term. The windows, which are quite numerous now in modern barns, should be blinded or curtained day during the hot season, to prevent these flies from annoying our cattle and horses. It is not necessary that the curtains should be of bleached cotton or damask—any thick cloth will answer.—*N. E. Farmer.*

To Revive Young Trees.

When young trees have been out of the ground a few days, either in transit from the nursery or otherwise, and not properly cared for, the bark becomes shrunken, and although the roots may be in tolerably good condition, there is great danger that the tree will die after it is planted. Especially is this the case with peach trees. This may be prevented by burying the whole tree a few days. To do this, dig a trench as wide as the tree is high, and about eight inches deep at one side and sixteen inches deep at the other, and long enough to hold all the trees to be buried when laid in the trench five or six trees on top of one another. Lay the trees in the trench with the roots at the deep side of it, laying them straight and packing them close together, but do not pile them up above the ground. Now cover the trees, tops and roots, twelve to fifteen inches with earth. If the ground is very dry, a few buckets of water should be slowly sprinkled over the earth after the trees are buried. In four or five days they must be taken out and transplanted immediately, being careful to cut back the tops. I have known trees thus buried, when taken from the pit to look as fresh as when dug at the nursery, and with proper care, never know one of them to die.—*Country Gentleman.*

Plowing in Rye.

In green manuring of land the plowing in of rye is advantageous. The land should be fertilized in some way when the rye is sown in the fall; and the grain should be plowed in with a large plow about the time that the rye has got its full growth, but before blossoming. It should first be rolled down flat upon the ground, so as to be easily covered. A farmer who has thus plowed his rye says:—

The land will be quickly and effectually supplied with a large amount of organic and mineral elements of plant food. If allowed to mature, according to the estimate, the crop plowed in would add to the soil of available plant food about 227 pounds of nitrogen, 200 pounds of potash, and 121 pounds of phosphoric acid, which would nearly equal in value the two tons of guano.

Some farmers make it a practice to keep their poultry in their orchards from early spring until cold weather sets in, and they find that it pays. A picket fence should be built around the orchard, high enough to prevent their flying over, with suitable buildings in the corner of the yard, to shelter them at night. Thus situated the poultry will thrive and prosper, keeping themselves in good condition, and the increase of eggs will be greatly augmented by their usefulness in destroying the worms they destroy, and which will more than repay the cost and labor of building the fence. By keeping them included in this manner, a large number of fowls may be retained in the orchard, and the continual scratching which is done by them will prove advantageous both to the soil and trees themselves.—*Poultry Yard.*

Attention to little things about the farm as in other business is what increases the profits. Plenty of eggs, a few chickens, a few calves, a colt or two help out wonderfully. If some of the perquisites arising are given to the children for the care bestowed they will cheerfully help in the garden, and thus another item is added to the family.—*Prairie Farmer.*

Land, which without an application of manure will give a yield of fifteen bushels of wheat per acre, will by the means of eighty pounds of nitrogen, in a favorable season, give from thirty five to forty bushels of wheat, with a proportional increase of straw.—*American Cultivator.*

Feed Young Animals Well.

The man who wears out a calf's teeth in the effort to make it shirk for itself never raised a prime steer nor a good cow. Every dollar supposed to be thus saved in the young animal must be replaced later by the expenditure of two. The man who feeds best while the animal is young makes the most money. This is generally recognized as true by our best farmers, and hence the improvement in stock and consequent cheapening in the raising of animals within the last ten years. The same rule will apply to all farm stock. If stunted while young, they never pay the breeder and feeder a living profit. Hence the reason why those who do not keep pace with the times are always complaining that there is no money in stock. The big prices paid by the best stock feeders are for animals that have had their digestive organs kept in tact by early and properly nutritious food. The value of a food animal lies in its aptitude to lay on flesh, and those kept steadily growing from birth will continue this growth and increase in profitable weight. To do this in the most economical manner, the digestive organs must be originally strong and unimpaired by abuse.—*Ex.*

Does or Try.—How frequently we see a dog or three worthless dogs about a poor man's door, and it takes more to feed them than twenty hens. For the benefit of your readers, I will give my experience with poultry in small coops for three months, March, April and May. No. 1, one cock and five Dominique Leghorn pullets laid two hundred and fifty eggs; average fifty to each hen. No. 2, one cock and two Black Hamburg pullets laid one hundred and thirty-five eggs; average sixty-seven and one-half. No. 3, one cock and four Golden S. Hamburg pullets laid two hundred and twenty-nine eggs; average fifty-seven and one quarter. No. 4, one cock and five Silver S. Hamburg hens four years old, laid two hundred and fifty-five eggs; average fifty-one. My fowls, for the past five months, have been kept in coops thirteen feet long, four feet wide, and two feet high. They commenced to lay about February 1st. My fowls are in good health, free from vermin, and the eggs hatch well.—*Poultry World.*

We would say that unleached wood ashes, used either alone as a top dressing or in connection with a compost, form a most valuable fertilizer for orchards, young or old. They are rich in potash, one of the elements most needed by fruit trees, and are worth forty cents per bushel for this purpose. Ashes being a finely divided state, their valuable elements are in a very favorable condition for the action of the roots of plants, and orchards they have a value fully equal to the ground bone. To any orchardist who wishes to put his orchard in the best condition at least expense, there is no question but that ashes are worth two or three times what soap factories are accustomed to pay for them.

The Worcester *Gazette* says: It is a popular idea that partridges cannot be tamed, but Mr. Parker of Coldbrook, offers contrary testimony. Early this season he saw a large partridge in the road near his sawmill, which acted strangely, not attempting to hide or get away when approached. He took a fish pole and line and snared the bird with a noose, and handled it quite freely without its attempting to escape. Since then he has kept it about the house, and it comes at his call, alights on his shoulder and hand, and in every way is as docile and domestic in its habits as a pet chicken.

SWAMP LANDS.—No better time than the present offers for the clearing of swamp lands. To cut off the thick growth of weeds and coarse grass and sedges, and burn these on a dry, windy day, will leave the surface clear, while it is dry enough to plough or break up. We find disc harrow, such as the Nishwitz, or new modifications of the old but excellent idea of sharp steel discs, to be very effective for such work. The ground, when cut up fine, may be seeded to grass at once, with a good chance for a successful catch. On swamp lands, a good dressing of lime will be found generally useful.

James Campbell of Littleton, Mo., has six acres of potatoes growing. He also keeps geese. The geese found their way into the potato field and commenced a raid upon the potato bugs, which they rapidly gobbled up. They marched between the rows, with an eye each to the right and left, and "gather them in." Regardless of the price of poultry next Thanksgiving, Mr. Campbell thinks his geese have already more than paid for their keeping.

A writer in an exchange says:— "I have fed all kinds of roots and considerable quantities of them to cattle, and among them all I consider the potato, fed raw to cows, the best for quantity of milk or quality of beef. The best beef I ever tasted was fattened on potatoes and meal. My experience is that they should never be cooked for cattle, but always for hogs, and at half the price of corn they are profitable to feed in connection with meal."

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING
of all descriptions
EXECUTED ON MODERATE TERMS
RATES OF ADVERTISING.
Ordinary advertisements, 10c, 1st insertion, \$1.00
Each subsequent insertion, .50
BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS
inserted for 6 months or 1 year on moderate terms.
The number of weeks an advertisement is to be inserted should be clearly stated. When this is not done it will be continued until ordered out, and charged the full time it has been inserted.