

# Colonial Farmer

LUGRIN & SON, Proprietors.

POSTAGE PAID

SUBSCRIPTION---\$1.00 a year

OLD SERIES, VOL. 15 NEW SERIES VOL. 4.

FREDERICTON, N. B., AUGUST 6, 1877.

NO. 44, WHOLE NUMBER 727

## Correspondence.

For the Colonial Farmer.  
RURAL TOPICS.

### CEMENT AND GRAVEL ROOFS.

I doubt if alleged advantages of cement, or gravel roofs, as in many cases they leak, and require repairs often; and the damage done to the building, if it be a dwelling, is often more than the expense of a tin roof, which when well put on, and painted once in five years, will last a century. There are cases, as in building flat-roofed out-houses, when it may do to put on a cement roof. Here is the manner of making such a roof from the *Agriculturist*, as follows:—"A cement roof may very easily be made, by having an edge strip all around, so as to leave a space two inches deep all over the surface. The roof should not be more than one-eighth inch thick, and may be very nearly flat. The cement should be mixed with four times its bulk of sand, while dry, water should then be added, until sufficiently plastic. The cement is to be laid on with a plasterer's trowel, and finished smoothly. When dry and hard, it may be coated with gas-tar and sprinkled with fine sand. I know of no kind of cement that can be used on a roof, or anywhere else, and make a good job with four times its bulk of sand." It should be half cement and half sand; and I warn my readers against attempting to make a roof, or cementing a cellar bottom, subject to water upon it, with less cement. The gas-tar and sand on such a roof as the *Agriculturist* describes, is all there is about it of value, and it would be better alone than over such weak and useless cement, because as soon as the tar becomes dry, say in two or three years, it would be liable to crack, then the cement would become wet, and the frosts of winter would destroy it. No ordinary cement, as the "Rosendale," which is extensively used in the Middle States, and other brands from other manufacturers of a similar article, can stand the frosts of winter, when laid in walks, or in any other level, or nearly level position, out of doors, unless protected from becoming wet by something upon it.

### A CHEAP AND DURABLE ROOF.

In building a cheap stable or portico at the rear of a house, the roof may be made of well-seasoned, matched, pine boards, put on very tightly, having six inches descent in six feet, and painted as soon as laid; and when dry apply another coat, filling up all the crevices where the boards were joined together with paint made quite thick, and in a few weeks take white lead and boiled oil, in which mix about one-quarter of the measure of lead and oil of white sea sand. Apply this mixture with an old brush, as thick as it will lie, and not run down from the heat of the sun, seeing that where the boards were matched is made smooth with the paint, and you will have a roof that will never leak; if the boards are well seasoned, and are painted once in five or six years. Any roof not over twelve feet wide can be made of such boards, and they will give good satisfaction. Plastic slate may be safely used for flat roofs on out-houses; but, for a good dwelling-house, it is better to cover the roof with tin, if it be flat; if not, with shingles. The cost of tin roofing is from \$7 to \$10 cents per 100 square feet; and a house costing from \$2,000 to \$3,000 can be roofed with tin for about \$200, while cement, gas-tar and plastic slate would cost about \$125; consequently, the saving by making a roof of the latter material is not enough to be of any great object.

### ERECTING BUILDINGS.

I will now merely make a few remarks on the frames of buildings; and having built a good many houses, I profess to know something about building—not as a carpenter, but as an owner and planner of houses. Twenty-five years ago no builder in New York and vicinity thought that any frame timber but white pine ought to be used; but they have got that kink out of their heads; and now hemlock is considered good enough for either city or country houses. Now, if any reader of these remarks contemplates building a dwelling, I advise him to use hemlock for the frame, if he lives where it is cheaper than other timber, as it generally is everywhere. Its advantages are: It is durable, lasting perhaps 100 years, if kept dry. It does not warp as some other kinds of timber do, and when nails are driven into it you find them there, just where driven, to the end of time, I may almost say. Then, 25 to 30 years ago, the majority of country builders ignored the fact, that timber for houses need not be half as large as was the old custom to use; and to-day we see in old houses enough timber in the frame of one to build three in the modern way. But the

climax of folly was the mortising of the sills and girts to receive the ends of studding (tenons); and if there be any one at the present day (and I suppose there are many in the "back woods") who continue this practice, the least offensive epithet I can bestow on such men is to call them *ignoramuses*. No matter of what class, or how large a building may be, there should be no mortising for the studs, as toe-nailing top and bottom with tenpenny nails is vastly stronger, much cheaper, and it holds the building together in a great degree. In regard to the size of timber for a frame to a house, no matter whether large or small, the corner posts should not be larger than 4x8. For most houses in a country, or in villages, posts 4x6 are large enough. The sills should in all cases be 4x8 to afford depth and stiffness to the floor timbers 2x8 in size. For large houses the studs should be 3x4; but for small ones 2x4's are large enough.

### OLD FRAMES.

Frequently old buildings are bought for the purpose of using their frames in new ones; and the price paid is often about as much as new timber would cost, while the labor in remodeling the old frame, is double, perhaps, what it would be to frame the building from new timber. I do not consider that a man would be much, if any, the gainer, if the timber of an old building were given to him, for the purpose of being used in a new one, even if it were perfectly sound, and of a quality to last as long as new hemlock. It does very well to buy an old building for "a song," from the materials of which some cheap out-house can be made entire except the roof; but it is always better to buy new timber for a dwelling house.

### LICE IN POULTRY HOUSES.

"A poultry house may be cleared of lice, when badly infested, by thoroughly cleaning it, scalding the floor, if of boards, and washing it with soft soap and boiling water. Wash the rest of the house with hot lime-wash, and rub the roosts thoroughly with lard and kerosene oil in equal parts. A small quantity of the grease should also be rubbed upon the wings of the fowls, and upon their heads. This plan may need repeating once, before the vermin are cleaned out entirely. A plenty of dry earth or coal ashes should be scattered in the house."—*Agriculturist*.

### REMOVING HONEY BOXES.

At this season of the year the boxes in the caps of bee hives, if the bees are populous, are generally filled with honey; and the question is, what should be done with them. If removed there is difficulty in getting the bees out, without having the honey taken away by the bees, unless one fully understands how to manage bees in such cases. If the boxes be removed and empty ones put in their places it is doubtful whether any honey be stored in them, unless one lives in a locality where a good deal of buck-wheat is growing. If the boxes are perfectly full of combs, and the cells sealed over, it will be well to remove them now, and put empty boxes in their places; but if the boxes are not full of combs, they should not be removed till October or early in November, on a cold morning, when all the bees are down in the hives. Honey in boxes, or otherwise, should not be kept in a damp cellar, and when the boxes are removed in July or August, they ought to be placed in a tight box—one large enough to hold the honey from six or eight hives, and then to be fumigated with burning brimstone, to destroy any eggs of the bee-moth, that may be deposited in it. If the honey is not removed till Fall the fumigation is not necessary.

### PEKIN DUCKS.

A few years ago this breed of ducks was imported from China; and of course, a great deal of lying was published about them to make them sell at \$20 to \$25 a pair, and the eggs at one dollar each; but now the price is down to a moderate figure, because they are worth no more than the ducks we had before they were imported. In size they are about the same as the Rouen Ducks, and they have no qualities that make them any more valuable than that breed, or the Aylesbury ducks, which are the same color (white) and about the same size. At fair seasons very fine specimens of the Pekins are frequently seen, raised with great care; but when raised in the ordinary way, where they have no pond, or stream of water in which to keep themselves clean, they become dirty, and are not a desirable breed to have; but where they have access to pure, running water it is well to have them, if they do not cost over \$2 or \$3 a pair.

### PRESERVATION OF EGGS.

"The most effective preservative for eggs that have yet been proposed

is linseed oil, or cotton-seed oil may be used instead. By carefully coating fresh eggs with either of these oils, and packing them, small end downward, in any dry, porous substance, that is a non-conductor of heat, such as chaff, cork-cuttings, or maple saw-dust, they have been kept in perfect condition and without loss of weight for 6 months."—[Selected.]

## Miscellaneous.

The police of Kansas towns have orders to shoot all potato-bugs found running at large without a muzzle on. This is important if true.

The chief result of the Tarco-Russian war thus far has been to awaken the world to the fact that neither side knows how to spell.

Thirty days imprisonment in jail was thought by an Irishman a thrilling sentence, "because, as it was the depth of winter, the days were so short."

The right kind of a boy with a peashooter can take a man's mind off his business troubles and politics quicker than anything else in this bleak, cold world.

A little girl has a present of rabbits; when she goes to bed she prays; "O God, we thank Thee specially for the rabbits—all but the cage; we had that before."

There are men at Saratoga who talk eighteen cents nonsense on the piazzas, and then go back to the stables and wonder how they can buy two glasses of lager for nine cents.

When a man is treating a dashing young widow to ice cream, and sees his wife coming into the restaurant, about all he can do is to button up his coat, hang to a chair and trust to providence.

"But I pass" said a minister one Sunday in dismissing one theme of his subject to take up another. "Then I make it spades!" yelled out a man from the gallery who was dreaming of the happy hours away in an imaginary game of euchre.

It takes, according to a scientific journal, four thousand bumblebees to weigh a pound; but you stop a bumblebee some time when he is right busy, and pick him up and lift him, and you will raise your hand to heaven and swear that he weighs a ton.—*Haverkeye*.

A very young miss who resides on Holmes St. thus addressed her parental ancestor. "Poppy, I want a new hat and a pair of new shoes." "Is'pos so. What don't you want?" remarked the paternal. "Well," answered the quick-witted little miss, "I don't want any trousers."

Just before dying a fashionable young man asked to be buried in his best suit, including one of those elaborate collars. His request was complied with, but the sexton said, "Blame if he was going to dig a grave fourteen feet long, unless he was paid double price for it."—*Norristown Herald*.

A dandy of twenty-six having been termed an "old bachelor," appealed to an elderly gentleman to decide whether he should be called old or not, giving his age as "twenty-six." Said the elderly gentleman: "It is owing to how you take it. Now, for a man is young enough; but for a goose it is rather old."

"Swift was one day in company with a young coxcomb, who, rising from his chair, said, with a conceited and confident air, "I would have you know, Mr. Dean, I set up for a wit." "Do you, indeed," replied the Dean; "then take my advice and sit down again."

A lady friend of ours says that the beautiful vistas of her soul-life become blurred when she sends her husband to the corner grocery with four bits for a loaf of bread, and he comes back chewing cloves and tells how he generously gave away the change to a blind man with only one hind leg.—*San Francisco Mail*.

An old colored preacher was lecturing a youth of his fold about the sin of dancing, when the latter answered that the Bible plainly said, "There is a time to dance."

"Yes, dar am a time to dance," said the dark divine, "and it's when a boy gets a whipping for gwine to a ball."

A Newark Sunday-school boy gave his teacher this illustrative definition of responsibility; "Boys has two buttons for their 'spenders, so's to keep their pants up. When one button comes off, why, there's a good deal of 'sponsibility on the other button."

A few weeks ago a woman who was summoned before an English Court on account of her son's non-attendance at school, defended herself by the plea that she did not approve of the education. When pressed to specify a definite ground of complaint, she said that the boy had already been taught to spell "tatars" with a "p."

They were sitting together and he was ardently thinking what to say, when finally he burst out in this manner: "In this land of noble achievement and undying glory, why is it that women do not come more to the front and climb the ladder of fame?" "I suppose," said she, tying knots in her handkerchief, "it's on account of their pullbacks."

It is stated that twenty thousand millions of matches are annually produced in the United States, which requires two hundred and thirty thousand cubic feet of the best pine wood in their production. If this is true (and we do not doubt it), the material used is equal to 2,700,000 feet of inch plank, which, at \$25 per thousand would cost \$67,500, and when turned into matches would produce \$2,000,000. There is, therefore, a big profit somewhere in the match business, or it costs "like smoke" to make them.

TEA AND COFFEE.—Tea and coffee dietary for children is as bad in its effects as its use is now universal. Dr. Ferguson found that children so fed only grew four pound per annum between the age of thirteen and sixteen; while those who got milk and nightingale grow fifteen pounds each year. This needs no comment. The deteriorated *physique* of tea-and-coffee-fed children, as seen in their restless power to resist diseases, is notorious amidst the medical men of factory districts.—*American Cultivator*.

STAKING TOMATOES.—Stake your tomato plants before they fall over and go sprawling along the ground. Drive a stout stake four or five feet high close to each plant, with two or three cross-pieces a foot long nailed on it. Nip off every lateral branch that start from the main stalk, above the leaves, and tie the plant to the stake, as it grows, with coarse twine. For early fruit select three or four of the most forward plants, and pinch off not only all the laterals, but the main stalk, a few inches above the first cluster of blossoms. You thus divert all the vigor of the plant into one cluster of fruit, and can ripen tomatoes two or three weeks ahead of the other plants. We have had twenty-four fine "Trophies," making a cluster as large as one could cover with a hat, ripened the most of them in July, by this process. Under favorable conditions of soil and culture, on the single-stalk system, tomato plants will grow five or six feet high, and ripen as many clusters of fruit—cleaner, better in flavor, larger and earlier.

## WEEDS.

Among the earliest plants to start in arable ground are weeds, and the presence of weeds is more or less indicative of slovenly farming. But what is a weed? inquires one. As good a definition as can be given is: A plant out of place; or, in other words, every plant different from the crop under cultivation, and growing therein to its detriment. Weeds are propagated in two ways, to wit: by seeds and roots. To the former sort belong annuals and biennials, and to the latter, perennials.

Professor Buckman, of the Cirenster College, England, discovered in a pint of clover seed, 7000 weed seeds, in a pint of cow-grass seed, 12,000; in broad clover, 39,440; and two pints of clover seed yielded one 25,500, and the other 70,400 weed seeds. These statements show the necessity for care in buying clover seed.

The same necessity for care in purchasing grains and grass seed is manifest, as shown in reference to clover seeds. The above Professor counted four thousand seeds ripened by one plant of charlock, or "wild turnip," as the weed is sometimes called, by farmers. The stinking chamomile, a single plant of it produced 36,000 seeds, and a burdock 26,000, and a plant of common dock 17,000 seeds. These few specimens show with what wonderful prolificness weeds furnish seeds for propagation.

Thistles, and some other kinds of weeds, furnish winged seeds, which are scattered by the wind. No farmer should suffer such plants to go to seed. Another way of propagating weeds, is by putting the cuttings of hedges and other waste places into the compost heaps.

Such are some of the ways of propagating weeds. As prevention is better than cure, exercise it when and where it can be done; but be sure and eradicate weeds in the garden and the field.

## Practical Farming.

It is not uncommon that persons who retire from other pursuits of life to the country, and who practically know nothing about farming, make some of our best and most successful farmers. The question presents itself to our minds, as to how this happens to be so, and we can account for it in no other way that this, than such men realize their situation and the great necessity of practical knowledge in order to succeed. To remedy this, they are aware that it is too late in life to obtain it in that dear school, experience. This being the case, they naturally begin to cast about to see what can be done and wisely conclude that the best thing they can do is to avail themselves of the experience of others. To aid them in doing this they obtain a few good books and subscribe for a few good papers, and being intelligent men very soon make themselves familiar with the practical operations of our most successful farmers and stock raisers. Just here is where the difference comes in between such an individual and a large proportion of the so-called farmers of the country. The one feels his want and does his best to remedy it, the other knows it all and has no need to learn, even sneers at the idea of subscribing for a practical agricultural paper, and this will probably be so till the end of time, inasmuch as after a few men realize their need whilst a very large number fail to do this; or are too indolent to supply it.—*Ex.*

## Poke-Root for Currant Worms.

Of late the usual number of inquiries have appeared in the papers, asking for a remedy for this pest. The prescription more frequently recommended is powdered hellebore. This is effective, but too costly for those who have many bushes. After trying many remedies, we have settled down to the application of a decoction of common Indian poke-root. This is as effective as hellebore, and costs much less money, an item of some importance these hard times. How weak a solution will destroy the pests we don't know; still, if they are taken in hand when very small, and an application of the decoction made weekly, a bushel of the mashed roots will be sufficient to make seventy-five pails of the solution. After the worms attain a larger growth, a stronger solution will be necessary. This should be applied on a dry day; the decoction then dries on the leaves and remains a standing preventive for several days, unless rain falls. This remedy is most economically and expeditiously applied with a garden syringe. The currant-worms are more numerous this season than we have ever seen them before, but this root solution does their business so nicely that we do not care for them much.—*Correspondence Ohio Farmer*.

## United States Crops.

The *Cincinnati Gazette* says:—"The wheat harvest in Ohio is probably the greatest ever raised in the State, both in acreage and the average per acre. In 1850 the average was eighteen bushels per acre. I think the Miami Valley, at least, has now more than that. Supposing that the acreage is this year only one-fifth greater than it was in 1850, and we believe it is much more, then there is 2,100,000 acres of wheat, which at eighteen bushels per acre will give Ohio in 1877 full 37,800,000 bushels of wheat. There may be some disappointment in the proportion raised in the old wheat belt of Wayne, Stark, etc. However this may be, the fourteen counties of the Miami Valley will go far beyond anything heretofore known. In 1874 they produced 5,500,000 bushels; they will now bring 8,000,000. But let us proceed further. The fields of oats and timothy look nearly as well as wheat did, and the potatoes are fair. The corn was planted very late, and until this week it could not be certainly known that it would come up well or make progress. But it has come up, and is growing very rapidly. Last year the hill corn was equal to that of the bottom, but this year it is not so. The hill corn will not be quite so good. From this review of the crops it will be seen that we have never had a year in which the crops, as a whole, were as good as they promise to be this year. Ten years ago the average grain crop of the States was 130,000,000 of bushels. In 1870 the crop was 150,000,000. This year we cannot put it under 170,000,000, which, at present prices, would be worth near \$120,000,000, independent of hay, which would be worth \$20,000,000. The clear gain to farmers, after deducting all their own living, will be at least \$60,000,000. The spring wheat crop of Minnesota promises well. It will be ready to cut in two or three weeks, and may

come forward quite freely about the first of September. Harvesting operations are said to be greatly facilitated by the reaper and binder now in use, a machine which cuts 12 1/2 acres of wheat per week, with but one man to manage it and drive the horses, two other hands following to place the bundles in shocks. They say the breadth of wheat sown this year along the line of the Northern Pacific Railway is over 70,000 acres, with a probable yield per acre of from fifteen to thirty bushels.

The wheat crop in Lehigh county, Penn., is one of the poorest ever harvested, not over one-third of the average. The rye crop is unusually good.

## The Storage of Water.

In our climate, where rain is abundant during a considerable portion of the year the water falling upon the roof of any house, if properly collected and stored, is ample for the whole supply of the family which that roof shelters. This water as it falls is ordinarily free from any impurity that can affect its taste, and from every source of serious fouling, through after a long-continued drought it is to divert and discharge upon the surface of the ground the first ten minutes' flow of a shower—so that the impurities of the air and the dust of the roof may be first removed. After this first dash led to the cistern all that follows. Even with this precaution the water will be more agreeable for use if filtered. There are numerous systems for making filters in cisterns, but no other is so simple or so durable and satisfactory as the separation of that part of the cistern from which the suction pipe leads by a wall of brick and cement. It is simply necessary to build a wall of brick set on edge (two and a half inches thick), so as to include about one quarter of the area of the bottom, sloping it back so as to terminate against the side of the cistern at a height of from four to six feet. This wall should be so well cemented at its joints that water can only pass through the material of brick, and for strength its form should be slightly bulging. A wall of this sort, measuring six feet at its base and rising to a height of six feet at its highest point, will transmit an amount of water sufficient to supply the demand of the most constant pumping that any domestic use can require.—*Scraper's Monthly*.

## Foot rot in Sheep.

The cause of foot rot in sheep is as yet doubtful and obscure; agencies of most diverse and contradictory natures have been ascribed as operation in the production of the disease. Among the causes to which it is generally attributed are especially moisture and warmth. Thus, damp warm weather, together with the nature of the soil and pasturage, appear to materially assist in propagating the contagion. Pro contra, dryness and heat of the ground, or its stony or sandy nature, are also regarded as productive of the disease. That the disease is generally produced by contagion is undoubtedly erroneous; but that it may spread by contagion cannot be denied. When the skin about the foot has become irritated and inflamed, and the feet themselves have become bleached, weakened, and probably in some degree separated from the skin above, it can not be wondered at that such a state of the part must greatly expose them to the action of infectious matter from without. That a number of sheep became affected with this disease simultaneously, or in short succession, is, however, no absolute proof of the contagiousness of the foot rot; the fact can be explained from circumstance of every sheep in a flock being similarly situated; and as it is the condition of the locality which is the cause of the disease, the wonder is that any escape the affection rather than that so many are affected. As to its contagiousness, however, there can not exist any doubt; and though certain influences may appear to effect its spontaneous development, yet it is at least specific in the sense that it can be transmitted. The theory of the disease being caused by an animalcule locating itself in the space between the claws, has not been substantiated.

## Early Haying.

We have frequently urged early cutting, not only because the hay was better and more nutritious, but also because such early cutting saved the life of the plant, as evidenced by the green meadows following; while, if deferred to a time when the seeds were formed, we rarely had any after-math. In corroboration of this, we have now, in the Vermont agricultural report, an account of the practice of Mr. Amaro Scott, at that State, who, for several years, has been in the habit of

having his grass cut and in the barn before any heads appear; "his theory being that, if the grass is cut before the seed-stalk commences to shoot upward, the same stalk which is cut off will continue to grow, instead of starting a new shoot from the root, as is the case where the cutting is delayed until the seed-stalk is partially or fully developed. He thus secures an earlier growth for the succeeding crop." His small farm is in the highest condition, and produces in favorable seasons three crops. Seales are kept on the place, and in conducting his experiments he weighs his crops, &c.

In favorable seasons he has cut as high as five tons per acre at the three cuttings, twenty-five pounds of which, by actual experiment, was the amount per day required to keep a large cow in good condition, and thirty pounds per day, fed to a pair of yearling steers, without any other food, produced an average growth of over three pounds per day during the entire winter. In the production of milk and butter, Mr. Scott's experiments, here detailed, show this early cut grass to be greatly superior to ordinary hay, as it is also in feeding young steers for the market. A pair of steers, sold at the age of twenty-four months, weighed 2610 pounds, and dressed 1590 pounds. Another pair, half Short-horn blood, at 23-1-4 months old, weighed 2740 pounds, and had made a gain during the preceding twelve months of no less than 100 pounds per month, and an average growth from birth of 100 pounds per month. All these cattle were raised on skim milk, with hay and dried grass; no grain or any kind of roots were fed to them, except the last pair for a while before they were sold. The feeder, being short of the dried grass, was compelled to feed common hay, and, to keep his cattle from growing poor, was obliged to feed potatoes and meal; but he says that during this very period his cattle made the slowest growth.

These experiments and the deductions of Mr. Scott are certainly worth the attention of intelligent farmers. Two facts having an immediate bearing upon the subject, and strongly corroborative of these deductions, must be regarded as unquestionable, to wit: First, that green grass will fatten stock and make the best of beef and mutton; while the best of hay, as generally cut and cured, does not, as a general rule, when fed in the most liberal quantities, keep stock from running down in condition during the winter. The other fact is, that while, as a general thing, our meadows show a diminished production from year to year, even on good lands, on the same lands pastured, under proper management, are found to improve with age. The first fact tends to prove that our hay is not cut early enough to preserve the highest nutritive value of the grass; and the second fact tends to prove that allowing the grass to mature before cutting injuriously affects the future life of the plant. It seems to us that curing grass cut so early may be attended with difficulty; but, Mr. Scott says, he generally gets it into cask the first day, and into the barn the second, with favorable weather. At all events, we regard these experiments as worthy of being repeated by our farmers; and whatever may be the final conclusion, we are satisfied that it will be found that we must cut earlier.—*National Live Stock Journal*.

## Care of Horse's Feet.

When the foot is gone, there is no horse left. There is an old adage to this effect, the truth of which is incontrovertible. Yet no part of a horse's anatomy is worse used than the foot, and there are no more frequent diseases to which the notice of the veterinary surgeon is brought than those of the feet. This comes of the unwise yet obstinately maintained fashion of rasping, cutting, burning, tarring, and greasing the hoofs. It would occupy too much space here to describe the anatomy of the foot fully, but it is a very timely matter just now to consider the structure of the horny outer covering or crust of the foot, by which the delicate inner parts are protected.

Horn is a fibrous substance, which contains 25 per cent. of water. The fact that it contains water in its normal composition is a very important one, and needs to be stated here, because, unless specific reasons are given, very little weight is generally accorded to all that may be written or said about the proper treatment of the horse's foot, by either horse owners, farmers, blacksmiths, or professional horsehoers. When horn is deprived of water it becomes dry, hard, and without elasticity, precisely like a piece of dry glue, which breaks and splinters into glassy fragments. It is necessary, therefore, that this

water should be retained, to keep the horn in good condition. The common practice of burning the sole to procure a fit for the shoe, or rasping the outer surfaces to get a good shape, and so tarring and greasing the hoof, all tend to drive the water out of the horn, and not only to harden and abstract it, but to make it brittle. In this condition its usefulness as a protection for the foot is at once impaired and partially destroyed. When the sole is burned by contact with a hot shoe, it is so obvious that the water in the portion of the horn that is heated must be driven off. That is so obvious that no more need to be said about it.

When the smooth, polished, hard surface of the horn is rasped away, the softer inner fibrous portions are exposed to all the evil influences of evaporation and degradation, and the numberless pores and cells or interstices of the horn are forced to give up the water they contain. The horn in this case is also made dry and brittle, and, of course, contracts. Tar contains an acid and volatile oil, which evaporates and leaves a hardened pitchy mass. When tar is applied to the hoof the acid acts chemically upon the horn, and hardens or disintegrates it, and the oil, evaporating, leaves a space between the fibres filled with the hardened residue. It operates precisely in the same manner as when it is applied to leather—as a sole of a shoe, for instance—as a preservative, the leather in a few days' becoming hard and unyielding, impervious to moisture, and dry. As with tar, so with grease; but these substances drive out the water from the horn and occupy its place, in time hardening and acidifying the substance of the hoof crust rendering it brittle, and contracting it.

The substance of the frog is horn, but is of a softer and more open texture than the sole and crust of the hoof. It is, therefore, more easily affected by injurious conditions, and when it becomes deprived of its water it shrinks more than the more solid horn. From this explanation of the character of the horny covering of the foot any reasonable horse owner may learn how to treat the hoof, and how to avoid injuring it. When a shoe is to be fitted, the edge or wall sole should be prepared by cutting or rasping and by burning. Indeed the shoe should be fitted to the foot, and not the foot to the shoe. When, from bad management, the sole and the frog have become dry and contracted, no grease or tar should be used; but water should be used freely, and then the hoof should be dressed with glycerine, which will mix with water, and does not displace it. Glycerin contains no acid or acid properties, but is soft, bland, emollient, and does not evaporate. It therefore softens the horn, and allows the fibres to expand. Contraction is thus prevented or overcome when it has actually occurred.

## FREDERICTON MARKET PRICES.

R. HUDSON, MARKET CLERK.

Hay per ton,.....	\$6.00 to \$6.50
Straw, 50 cts small, 90 large,.....	None.
Butter,.....	12 cts
Eggs,.....	16 "
Mutton,.....	8 "
Veal per lb.,.....	4 "
Lamb per lb.,.....	4 "
Oats per bush,.....	50 "
Ham,.....	12 "
Strawberries, 50 cts small, 90 large,.....	12 "

## "CANKER IN THE BUD."

You watch its development with expectant solicitude—the choice, exquisitely-moulded bud which promises to unfold with the perfect flower. You perhaps think how it will adorn the drawing-room vase, and anticipate the pleasure of showing it to your flower-loving friends. But some morning you find its head drooping, its fragrance fled, and an ugly purple spot on one of the delicately-tinted petals. It is the poet's "canker in the bud." How often the loathsome canker blights the cherished "infant blossoms" in our household gardens—these human buds which give earnest of a brilliant future. The noxious canker, so long concealed—scarcely at length reveals its dreaded presence and to our bright hopes succeeds the most agonizing fear, for we know the fatal sequel. It is estimated—pulmonary consumption. It is estimated by eminent medical authorities that at least one-fifth of mankind are afflicted with this insidious malady. But its ravages are so secret, that even its victims are unaware of its presence until it suddenly discloses itself in some of its myriad and of-times fatal forms. A slight cutaneous eruption is often the only means of exterminating this disease from the system, and is a thorough course of constitutional treatment. This treatment must fulfill three indications, namely, promote nutrition, alter or purify the blood, and arrest disorganization of the tissues and the formation of tubercles. No more efficient alternative can be employed for these purposes than Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. While imparting strength and tone to the digestive organs it cleanses the blood and heals the diseased tissues. Treat its virtues over the deadly canker has blighted the life you prize.

## DEBILITY AND NERVOUS HEAD-ACHE.

Chronic, sick or nervous headache is generally dependent on, or accompanied by, impaired digestion, by which the circulating and nutrition of the brain are damaged, and the nervous centres violated. The PERUVIAN SYRUP, by reintroducing the digestive powers, lays the axe at the root of the tree; the brain is duly nourished, the nervous system ceases, and the headache disappears. Sold by all druggists.