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Devoted to Agriculture, Literature, and General Intelligence.

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"Our Queen and Constitution."

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AGRICULTURE.

Root Crops.

It is a matter of surprise, when we consider the adaptation of our soil and climate to the raising of most kinds of root crops, and the acknowledged value of these crops when judiciously employed in feeding and fattening animals, that so little attention is paid to them by our farmers generally. It is pretty well understood that there has been a falling off, in root culture, in this State, within the last ten or twelve years. The prevalence of the potato rot has, during that period, rendered this crop very uncertain; and it is not now, as formerly, raised to any great extent as food for swine and other domestic animals. We should suppose, under this state of things, that the farmers would at once adopt a substitute or substitutes for the potato from the root crops that can be raised with certainty and profit, but they have neglected to do so. The parsnip, carrot, beet and turnip, may all be used to advantage as food for swine and other stock; and we are confident that some if not all of them may be raised and fed out to greater profit than the potato, even in its best days. The cost of seed for the former is very much less than for the latter, and the yield, per acre, is generally much greater.

A supply of roots to be fed in winter to your horses, cattle and sheep, not only saves hay, but also promotes the health, thrift and comfort of your animals. No good farmer should neglect to provide an adequate supply of roots for this purpose, and now is the time to make the necessary arrangements for accomplishing the object. Prepare the ground and put in the seed at the most suitable time. The parsnip and carrot should be sown immediately; the beet early in June; the ruta baga turnip, about the middle of that month, and the English turnip may be sown during the month of July.

We consider that all these crops are worthy the attention of farmers, although some of course are better adapted for particular locations and uses than others. The carrot is excellent for all kinds of neat stock, and for horses some consider it preferable to oats. The parsnip, it is said, is preferred by swine to any other roots, and they fatten rapidly on them, the flesh being firm and the meat of excellent flavor. In the Island of Guernsey this root is cultivated very extensively for all kinds of stock, and with excellent success. The beet is nutritious and valuable. The sugar beet contains a large amount of saccharine matter, and it is considered the best among the root crops for promoting a flow of milk in milch cows. The value of the ruta baga is well known. For feeding and fattening neat cattle, and even swine, it is valuable; and it answers an excellent purpose when fed regularly and systematically to cattle while kept up on hay during our long winters.

The cost of raising carrots, parsnips, beets and ruta bagas, is about the same, per acre. There will probably be more difference in the cost of harvesting. It requires considerable labor and care properly to thin and weed the plants, in the early stages of their growth, but on the whole we do not consider the culture difficult.

POTATO CULTURE.—A dry, light, sandy soil now yields the soundest and most palatable potatoes. Subsoiling for this crop has been attended with great benefit. Good short hog manure is the best for potatoes. A handful of plaster on a hill just as the plants break ground is also beneficial; and unleached wood ashes are of great benefit. Two hundred bushels per acre ought always to be raised.

Winter wheat Query.

MR. EDITOR:—I wish to be informed through the medium of your valuable paper, the best mode of preparing a compost for winter wheat, and the principal ingredients to be used, to apply to a dry, rocky soil. Whether lime and plaster used together will produce as beneficial results as when applied separately—the best kind of seed—quantity per acre—time and manner of sowing—the day to prepare the ground—is green sward, turned under as soon as the hay crop is taken off, as good as ground that has been cultivated for hoed crops the present season? Please give me the information I need so much, and you will oblige
A SUBSCRIBER.
Bradton, May 15, 1852.

NOTE.—Our correspondent will find ashes a good dressing for his soil, and for his wheat. Equal parts of lime, ashes, and plaster will also make a valuable application. Almost any of the varieties of wheat of the hardier kinds such as the Poland wheat, imported by friend John D. Lang of Vassalboro', or Kloss white blue stem sometimes called Banner wheat, are good kinds to sow. In regard to the quantity per acre, farmers vary in their practice. Some put in but a bushel, if the ground is rich, trusting to the tilling or spreading of the roots in the spring, to cover the ground; others sow a bushel and a half, and others two bushels. Sow in August if you can. A clover sod turned over after the hay is off, makes the best preparation, and is generally preferred to having the ground hoed. Be sure and lay the land so that it shall be well drained.—Maine Farmer.

GRASS UNDER TREES.—By sowing nitrate of soda in small quantities, in showery weather, under trees, a most beautiful verdure will be obtained. I have used it under beech trees in my grounds, and the grass always looks green. Having succeeded so well on a small scale, I have now sown nitrate of soda among the grass in the plantations, which cattle could never eat. I now find that the herbage is preferred to the other parts of the field.

RECLAIMING SWAMPS.—The Editor of the Michigan Farmer says, that the application of 25 loads of clay per acre, to drained swamp, produced a wonderful effect in fitting it for wheat, in an experiment he witnessed in England.—Clayed and unclayed, were both treated with guano; but while the clayed portion was as high as his head, stood thick, with long heads, the other presented only the appearance of ordinary wheat.

REDUCING BONES FOR MANURE.—The American Farmer gives the following method of reducing crushed bones without sulphuric acid. Mix two bushels of ashes and one of salt, with each bushel of crushed bones; moisten the bones first, and leave the whole in pie four or five weeks before using the mixture, shoveling it over two or three times during that period.

SYSTEM.—Be systematic in everything about the farm, for nature requires it, both in animal and vegetable life. Yourself and animals will enjoy better health and do more work, your land will yield her increase in greater abundance, and you will know when one piece of work is finished, and when to commence another.

FOR KEEPING BACON IN SUMMER.—Cut the bacon in slices and rind it, ready to cook, then take a stone pot and cover the bottom with melted lard; pack your meat as tightly as possible, and cover the top with melted lard. While using, keep it covered air-tight, and the last piece will be as good as the first.

AN ACT

For the better establishment and maintenance of the Parish Schools.

Passed 7th April 1852.

"Whereas it is expedient to make provision for the better establishment of Parish Schools in this Province;"

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Legislative Council and Assembly, as follows:

1. An Act made and passed in the tenth year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to provide for the support and improvement of the Parish Schools*; also an Act made and passed in the twelfth year of the said Reign, intituled *An Act to amend an Act intituled 'An Act to provide for the support and improvement of the Parish Schools'*, are hereby repealed; provided such repeal shall not extend or be construed to extend to any proceeding had or any penalty incurred under and by virtue of the said Acts, or either of them, but that the Board of Education, and all appointments to office, all engagements, agreements and contracts made under the authority of the said Acts, or either of them, shall be valid and in full force, and binding upon all parties concerned, as if made under the authority of this Act, and shall so continue until altered, modified or suspended according to the provisions of this Act; and provided also, that nothing in this Act shall extend or be construed to extend to have repealed any law of this Province, whereby provision was made for the payment of money from the Revenue of this Province towards the support of the Parish Schools, for services performed or to be performed under such laws.

2. Three fit persons shall at the time of making or confirming the appointment of Town or Parish Officers, be appointed by the Courts of General Sessions in every County for every Town or Parish therein, or be chosen by the rate payers upon property in cases where the law shall so authorize and direct, as Trustees of Schools, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty in the same manner as other Town or Parish Officers, and be in all respects subject to the same rules and regulations, penalties and forfeitures, as other Town or Parish Officers are subject to, by virtue of an Act made and passed in the thirteenth year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the local government of Counties, Towns and Parishes in this Province*, or by any other Act or Acts that may now or hereafter be in force in this Province for the like purpose.

3. It shall be the duty of the said Trustees to divide their respective Parishes into as many School Districts as may from time to time be found convenient and necessary; and when the inhabitants of any district shall have provided a sufficient School House, agreed with a Teacher duly licenced for a term not less than six months, and secured the pecuniary or other allowances hereinafter mentioned for the Teacher, all being done with the consent and approbation of the said Trustees, or any two of them, of which they shall give the proposed Teacher a memorandum in writing, then such Trustees shall consider such Teacher in the Parish School service; and it shall also be the duty of the said Trustees to suspend or displace any Teacher within the Parish for incapacity, intemperance, or any immoral or improper conduct; and in case of suspension or dismissal, the said Trustees shall forthwith transmit a report of their proceedings to the Provincial Superintendent of Schools to be appointed under the provisions of this Act, for the information of the Board of Education; and such dismissal shall be final, and the Teacher's licence cancelled, unless he or she appeal within thirty days to the said Board of Education, who may thereupon order an inquiry to be made by the local Inspector to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, on whose report a final decision of the case shall be made; provided always, that the said Trustees in giving such approbation to the employment of any Teacher or Teachers, shall have regard to the Provincial bounty apportioned for the year by the Superintendent, under the direction of the Board of Education, under the provisions of this Act, to the Parish in which the School or Schools is or are to be taught, so as not to extend the number of schools in any one Parish beyond the number for which provision shall have been made.

4. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or person administering the Government for the time being, shall, with Her Majesty's Executive

Council and the said Superintendent, constitute a Provincial Board of Education, with full power and authority to grant Licences to teach under the authority of this Act; to regulate the different classes of Teachers; to determine all appeals of suspended or dismissed Teachers from the decision of the Trustees, and complaints against existing Teachers; and generally to carry this Act into effect; provided always, that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or person administering the Government for the time being, together with four other Members of the Board, of whom the said Superintendent shall be one, shall constitute a quorum for the dispatch of business.

5. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or person administering the Government for the time being, may from time to time by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of this Province, appoint a fit and proper person to be Chief Superintendent of Schools for the Province, who shall also discharge the duty of Secretary to the Board of Education, and shall hold his office during pleasure, and shall be allowed two hundred pounds currency per annum as a Salary for discharging the duties of such Superintendent and Secretary, and fifty pounds in addition to pay travelling charges and all other contingent expenses of his office; and shall in the exercise of his duties as such Superintendent and Secretary as aforesaid, be subject to all lawful directions or orders that the Board of Education may from time to time give in respect thereto, and especially attend to the duties by this Act required of him as such Superintendent and Secretary as aforesaid.

6. It shall and may be lawful for the said Board of Education, if they see fit, to establish, under proper regulations to be made by the said Board, one Training School for the Province, or to continue any Training School now in operation, with a Model School or Schools in connection therewith, for the instruction of male and female Teachers; and to appoint a Teacher to such Training School with a Salary not exceeding two hundred pounds per annum; and also a male and female Teacher to such Model School, with a Salary not exceeding the sum of sixty pounds per annum to the male Teacher, and not exceeding fifty pounds per annum to the female Teacher.

7. It shall be the duty of the Teacher of the said Training School to train in the art of teaching such Teachers and Candidates as may attend, giving them a thorough knowledge of the best method of conducting a common Parish School, and especially teaching them the art of communicating the several branches of common school education in a manner best suited to the capacities, ages and conditions of the pupils who may thereafter be under their care.

8. The Board of Education are hereby authorized from time to time to appoint three fit and proper persons, of whom the Superintendent or one of Fredericton, St. John or elsewhere, as may be found convenient, to examine candidate for the situation of Teachers, trained in such Training School, whom the Superintendent under the direction of the Board may direct to be examined, which examiners shall report to the Board of Education the result of such examination and the qualifications of the respective candidates.

9. The Board of Education on receiving such Report of the examiners, with a certificate from the Training Master as to the moral character and the time or period of attendance of the applicant in the Training School, shall, at least once in every six months, cause all Teachers and Candidates so examined to be classed in first, second, and third class Teachers; and a Teacher not already licenced shall be entitled after the passing of this Act to receive a first second class licence without having first attended the Training School for a period of not less than three months, and passed his examination before the Board of Education, or before such person or persons as they may for that purpose appoint, and obtained a certificate of qualification according to the following requirements.

Male Teachers of the highest or first class shall be qualified to teach spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, geography, history and book keeping, geometry, mensuration, land surveying, navigation and algebra.

Male Teachers of the second class shall be qualified to teach spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, geography, history, and book-keeping.