

NEW NEWS of YESTERDAY

By E. J. EDWARDS

First Standard Oil Probe

New York Sun's Inquiry in 1878
Were Met With Courtesy but
Silence, but the Information
Was Obtained Elsewhere.

In the early fall of 1878 I was sent for by the late Charles A. Dana, editor of the New York Sun, and when I answered the summons I found him reading a communication from a correspondent in Pennsylvania. The letter was very brief; it suggested to Mr. Dana that he cause an investigation to be made into the history and methods of the Standard Oil company of Cleveland, O., which about that time had come to be looked upon as a trust, by the oil world especially. As he handed me this letter Mr. Dana said: "You go out there and make an investigation; make it thorough no matter how long it takes."

I first went to the oil regions of western Pennsylvania and was there about three weeks. The oil producers gave me every facility for getting such information as was to be had in the oil regions. They also called my attention to certain litigation which had been begun in Pennsylvania with intent to break up the Standard Oil company in so far as it operated in that state. Having completed the investigation at Titusville and Oil City, I went to Cleveland, presuming that the officers of the Standard Oil company would be willing, if not anxious, to furnish me with information which would serve to explain some of the more grievous charges made against it and its methods by the oil producers. Furthermore, I had no doubt the Standard Oil company would be glad of an opportunity to gain the public ear and to explain the economic principles which had led to the organization of the so-called trust.

When I called at the main offices of the Standard Oil company, after an annoying amount of red tape had been unraveled I was received by a very pleasant-faced and gracious-mannered young man. He listened with apparent earnestness and sincerity as I stated that it was Mr. Dana's desire that an absolutely impartial and perfectly fair report, based upon investigations into the rise and growth of the Standard Oil company, be printed in the New York Sun.

"Have you ever been to Cleveland before?" he asked with utmost politeness, as I finished.

"Only to pass through by train," I replied.

"It is a beautiful city," he said; "you should not return to New York without seeing it."

"I cannot return to New York," I

replied, "until I have learned, from the point of view of your organization, something of its history and growth, and have obtained from you, if possible, some answer to the serious accusations that are made against your company by the oil producers of Pennsylvania."

The young man continued to smile blandly. But not the slightest indication did he show of a desire in any way to serve me.

"Can I see Mr. John D. Rockefeller?" I asked.

A fitting but intense expression of surprise and reproach passed over the young man's countenance. Then he resumed his bland smile, simply saying: "Nobody sees Mr. Rockefeller these days."

"Could I see Col. Oliver Payne?" I asked.

"Colonel Payne is a very busy man; I would not care to ask him to make an appointment with you."

"Who, then, is there, with whom I may talk and who can furnish me with the information I require?"

"I don't think there is any information; there is nothing to say."

"Have you been instructed to tell me this?" I asked.

With the most affable smile imaginable

able and the utmost courtesy and deference of manner the young man replied:

"It was not necessary to instruct me. Have you been to the theater?" I understood that Robson and Crane are playing in a very funny farce called 'Our Boarding House' at a local theater. I should be glad to send you a ticket."

"Then this is the answer that I am to make to Mr. Dana?" I replied—"that the Standard Oil company has no information to give?"

"As you please," he said.

"Well," I replied, "you may say to your superior officers that if I can't get the information at first hand I will get it at second hand."

"That, also, is as you please," he said, politely.

If the smiling young man read the Sun he must have discovered about two weeks later, in an article covering a page and a half, that much of the information I had sought from him had obtained elsewhere. That was, I believe, the first investigation into the history and growth of the Standard Oil company which was ever made. In later years some of the officers of that company confessed that it might have been the better part had they taken the public into their confidence in the beginning of the trust's career.

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Million That Might Have Been

Commodore Alfred Van Santvoord's
Regret Because He Didn't Make a
Quick Turn in St. Paul Stock
During Panic of 1901.

The late Commodore Alfred Van Santvoord, who owed his title to his prominence in the Hudson river steamboat business, (when he died in 1901 he was the largest owner of river steamboats in America), but who was also a very able railroad man, having been a director in several big railroad companies, combined a large amount of caution with a very strong spirit of enterprise. He accumulated in the course of his long and honorable business career a large fortune by constructive work in the transportation business and by wise investment. He was worth seven or eight million dollars when he died. But although he had won success and fortune ample enough to satisfy the ambitions of most men, his last years, as his friends believed, were made somewhat unhappy by a single thought—the thought of the million that might have been his.

Commodore Van Santvoord was a

man of large frame and feature, with smooth shaven face and clear, keen gray eyes, a man of great dignity and composure, yet most affable and genial. It was very seldom, indeed, that his customary composure and affability were affected by circumstances.

But at the time of the famous Northern Pacific corner in 1901—when Hill and Harriman were fighting for the control of that system, and the value of Northern Pacific, and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul shares rose several hundred points in a few days, causing one of the worst bear panics on record—Commodore Van Santvoord was observed by his friends to be somewhat "restless and distraught." He hung over the ticker in the New York broker's office where he usually went when he wanted to buy or sell stocks, but at this time he seemed to be neither buying or selling.

His friends felt sure that he was not caught in the squeeze, and that he was not threatened with any loss. His operations were always too conservative for that to be likely. Yet it was evident that something was weighing on his mind, and that the stock market situation was absorbing his attention.

The panic was as short as it was severe. The conflicting Hill and Harriman interests were adjusted and stocks dropped back to their normal level far more rapidly than they had risen to their sensational high figure. Commodore Van Santvoord, when the calm came, recovered his composure and affability, but those who knew him well detected an unwanted solemnity in his expression.

"Is anything the matter? Aren't you feeling well today, Commodore?" one of his friends asked him, in some concern.

"Oh, I'm feeling all right—that is, my health is good," he replied. "But I'm feeling rather chagrined. As a matter of fact, I feel as though I were out a million dollars by this panic."

"How is that? Do you mean that you have actually lost a million?"

"No, I haven't actually lost a dollar. But I own quite a block of Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul stock. I could have sold it a few days ago at a very high figure, bought it back today at a very low figure, and made a million by the transaction. And I didn't sell it."

"Well, Commodore, what do you want another million for?" his friend asked.

"A man always hates to miss a chance to make a million dollars," he replied, with a laugh that yet had a tinge of sadness in it.

And it was said truly, probably, that he never ceased to regret that he missed this chance.

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Mixed.

The Caller (who has been looking over her hostess' books)—Do you enjoy 'Marcus Aurelius'? The Hostess (delayed by her toilet and a little frustrated)—Oh, yes; where is he now? The last time I saw him he was in 'The Sign of the Cross.' Such a manly figure, wasn't he?—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Old Coat That Made a Success

Garment That Ned Sothorn Wore as
Lord Dundreary in "Our American
Cousin" Was Borrowed From
John Brougham.

When Lester Wallace knew that his day had passed as a great actor and theatrical manager, he and the late A. M. Palmer, then coming into prominence as successful theatrical manager, and later the successor of Lester Wallace in the management of Wallace's theater, in New York, used to make the trip together between the metropolis and Stamford, Conn., where each had his summer home. It was during one of these trips that Wallace told Palmer the story of the old coat that made a great historic hit.

"It was in 1858 that Laura Keane produced 'Our American Cousin,' with Joseph Jefferson as Asa Trenchard and Ned Sothorn as Lord Dundreary," said Mr. Wallace. "I know that in a general way it has passed into tradition that Sothorn at first refused to play the part of Lord Dundreary, because he thought the part was beneath him, and that he only consented to play it when Miss Keane told him that she was in despair and after she had consented that Sothorn should 'tag' the part. But while all this is true up to a certain point, I have no doubt that from the moment Sothorn read the part of Lord Dundreary he saw the possibilities that were in it for a delicate, humorous satire of certain of the nobility of England, and felt sure that this satire would not offend, but would amuse the upper classes of Great Britain, if ever he were permitted to play the part as he would like to play it before English audiences."

"Well, Sothorn made up his mind that it would be necessary to dress

the part with elongated black side-whiskers, which were, in the late fifties and early sixties, the fashionable way, at least in France, of wearing the beard. He also decided that it was essential in the first act, which was a drawing room scene, for him to wear a long-tailed frock coat with very voluminous tails. But it slipped his mind that he should obtain a coat of that sort from the costumer, or have one made, and because of this slip he was in despair at the time of the dress-rehearsal of the play.

"John Brougham, the playwright, was upon the stage at the time, and he told Sothorn that he had in his dressing room a long-tailed coat, very full in its folds, which had been used by me in a play in which I had appeared some months earlier. 'It's just the frock for you, Ned,' said Brougham."

"Produce it, John, returned Sothorn.

"A moment later Brougham brought the long-tailed coat to Sothorn's dressing room. It didn't fit very well upon the shoulders, but the tails were long enough and expansive enough to suit Sothorn perfectly and he said he would wear it until he could have a coat made. And so in a coat which had worn in an earlier play and had lent to John Brougham—an emergency coat, Sothorn appeared for the first time upon any stage as Lord Dundreary, and the coat was a success."

"By the way," said Mr. Palmer, "Wallace also told me that Sothorn predicted that the play would greatly amuse the British aristocracy. It did. It ran for an entire season with fashionable audiences, and the manager made nearly \$200,000 out of it in that single season."

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New Musical Instrument.

In the Holland house (New York) music room has been placed a new musical instrument called the Choralcello, which was invented recently by two men in Boston after 20 years of experimenting. It has the appearance of a piano, and can be played to produce the sound either of a piano or of an organ. At will one can use the right hand to produce piano tones and use the left to play organ accompaniment. Another attachment permits the imitation of an orchestra with strings, reeds and brasses. This is the first instrument of the kind to be placed in any hotel in New York city, and it will be a feature of the afternoon and Sunday night concerts at the Holland.

Built Up Big Business.

The first jaunting car was established in Ireland in 1815 by a Milanese, Carlo Bianconi, who settled in Dublin and drove every day to Calver and back, charging two pence a mile. From this small beginning in 1837 he had established sixty-seven conveyances, drawn by nine hundred horses.

White and Black Pepper

Relative Merits of Each Have Been
the Cause of Some Rather
Warm Disputes.

The relative merits of white and black pepper have caused some rather heated, not to say peppery, disputes. One set of authorities declare that white pepper has lost some of the pungency of the peppercorns that are created by the process that evolves black pepper, for both white and black pepper are produced by the same vine.

On the other hand, one of the best, though an early authority, says that the white kind as produced under the name of 'Tellicherry pepper' is superior in aroma and flavor to the black pepper, being made from the best developed and largest berries on the vines, and there can be no dispute as to the white pepper being preferred to those parts of Europe where the finest spices have been in steady use long

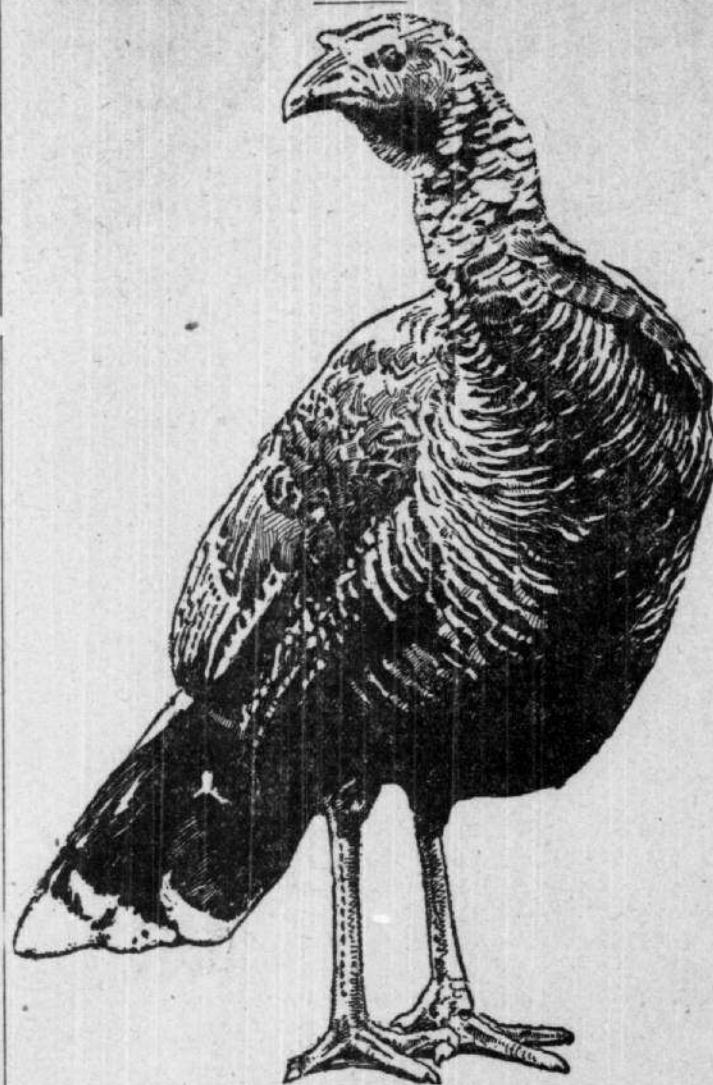
before they became well known in this country.

In comparing white and black pepper the best grade of each should be selected for the test. Pungency may be the principal merit of black pepper, but the best white pepper makes its best appeal through its superior flavor and aroma.

Some years ago a spice expert of international reputation expressed the opinion that the consumption of white pepper in this country would increase tenfold if the pepper was of the best quality. Since then the standards in the American spice trade have been raised, but superior white pepper is probably not as freely sold as it might be with proper attention given to quality.

White pepper is allowed to ripen upon the vines and after being plucked the berries are decorticated, or deprived of their outer coat. Black pepper is the product of the berries picked before full ripening.

FAILURES OF LARGE TURKEY FLOCKS



Excellent Specimen of Bronze Turkey.

Last year a man asked my advice about going into the turkey business on a big scale, having already been successful with a small number. I said, to begin with, I never gave advice—simply grubbed around for facts which farmers for want of travel or literature cannot obtain for themselves, says a writer in an exchange. Taking advice is simply a way of avoiding mental exertion. It is much better to get hold of the facts and think the matter out. The fact that this man failed grievously with his venture does not mean that others will not succeed, but it is sometimes a mistake to risk the almost certain profit of a side line like turkeys or a small flock of hens for the very uncertain recompense from a largely increased flock. Growing a large number of turkeys hatched under hens has the disadvantage that the poulters get lousy unless great care is exercised, and further that hens wear the brood too soon. An old turkey hen teaches the poults to forage and also to hide better from enemies, although, of course, the wider range subjects them to more attacks. If it were not for vermin, coyotes, weasels and skunks a

dozen turkey hens would raise enough young to keep a fair sized farm clear of grasshoppers, paying their cost from this source alone. Perhaps it would be worth while to pay more attention to killing of the turkey's enemies, great and small. Nothing makes the birds so strong and healthy as wide range and this they fear to take advantage of if there are too many enemies about. If woven wire can be arranged to keep out coyotes, a few clumps or rows of corn and sunflowers will protect them from the hawks, furnishing shade at the same time. Minks are pretty closely trapped nowadays, and skunks, being fearless animals, tend to become much fewer. It is hard to say how many weasels are about, for as long as there are plenty of gophers about they do not make attack on the chicken house, but they will kill a lot of poults out in the field just for the fun of slaughter, and far beyond the need of their appetites.

It is much easier with a small flock of turkeys to know them individually and retain such hens as raise big broods, discarding those that are unlucky after the first year.

HOUSE FOR TOOLS AND SEED COARSE FORAGE FOR SWINE

Size of Building May Be Varied to
Suit Needs of Owner—One
Shown in Illustration
Satisfactory.

In replying to a query for plans for building a carriage and implement house with a loft to store small tools J. E. Bridgman submits the following plan:

The ground plan shows a house 28x38 feet in size with 12-foot post of course, the size may be varied to suit the needs of the owner. The one here



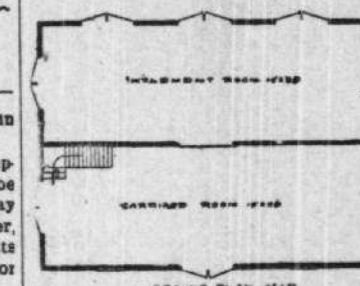
Tool and Seed House.

Illustrated is a very satisfactory size for a 400-acre farm. It has been the custom on the farm to erect most any old shed for an implement house but up-to-date farmers have learned that a well-constructed building serves the purpose much better and at the same time adds value to every acre of the land. The implement house herewith shown may cost much or little. It may be sided with drop siding. It may be boarded up and down or it may be finished on the exterior walls with shingles that when properly done is not so expensive as many think. Show the shingle 6 1/2 inches to the weather and the cost will not be so much more than O G battens. Paint with a spray pump, using thin paint or stain. The roof may be shingled or covered with any of the much advertised composition roofing materials. The latter is better for many reasons. No windows are shown in the walls of

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the implement room in this plan, but a half sash is placed in each door as shown in perspective. A bench and an assortment of tools, bolts, nails, paint, etc., should find a place in some handy corner of this house where repairing may be done. The second floor is all in one room but if desired it may be partitioned off and a room for storing seeds, etc. made. The small lighter too is stored on this floor and the heavy tools below.

Keep a Record.

Keep a record of your receipts and disbursements for the coming year.

PROTEIN IS MOST IMPORTANT SUBSTANCE IN ANY FOODSTUFF

Composed of Nitrogen, Carbon, Hydrogen, Oxygen, Sulphur, and Phosphorus—It Makes Up Muscles, Tendons, Ligaments, Connecting Tissues, and Almost Everything but Fat.

(By H. B. MCCLURE.)

The nutritive substances in hay or feed may be divided into two classes—flesh forming and fuel or energy producing substances. When the proper amount of these two classes of substances is fed the ration is said to be balanced. If an unbalanced ration is fed, as one containing more fuel or energy producing substances than are needed and less flesh-forming material, the ration is partially wasted, and such unwise feeding will not bring as good results as the feeding of the same amount of a balanced ration. Each class of substances has different offices to perform in the body. If not enough flesh forming substance is

Protein is the substance which builds up the body. The muscles, tendons, ligaments, connective tissues, skin, hair, hoofs, part of the bone, and in fact every part of the body but fat are made up of protein, together with mineral matter and water.

The next important class of substances is the carbohydrates, which contain carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, but no nitrogen, sulphur, or phosphorus; they include starch, sugar, etc. These are used for practically the same purpose for which coal or wood is used in the steam engine, namely, to furnish energy and heat.

The third important constituent of hay is its oils. Small quantities of oil are present in all kinds of hay. These oils serve the same purpose as the carbohydrates. A pound of these, however, will furnish two and one-fourth times as much energy or heat as the same quantity of carbohydrates. It can readily be seen, when the chemical analysis of hay is considered, why the price of the different grades or kinds of hay should depend, first, upon the amount of digestible nutrients contained, and, second, upon the purpose for which the hay is fed. If the concentrated feed—i. e., the grain in the ration—lacks protein, then the hay that is high in this substance is more valuable than one which contains little but carbohydrates, and vice versa. There is quite a range in the amount of the different classes of nutrients in the various kinds of hay.

On an average, in 100 pounds of alfalfa hay the digestible protein amounts to 10.58 pounds; in cowpea hay, 10.79 pounds; in alsike clover hay, 8.15 pounds; in red clover hay, 7.38 pounds; and in timothy hay, 3.89 pounds.

In 100 pounds of redtop hay the digestible carbohydrates amount to 47 pounds; in timothy hay, 43.72 pounds; in alsike clover hay, 41.70 pounds; in alfalfa hay, 37.33 pounds; in cowpea hay, 38.40 pounds; in red clover hay, 36.15 pounds.

When fed for protein, timothy hay ranks last, but when fed for carbohydrates it stands next to redtop, which heads the list. If the total nutrients are considered there are a number of different kinds of hay which are equal, if not superior, to timothy hay for feeding purposes.

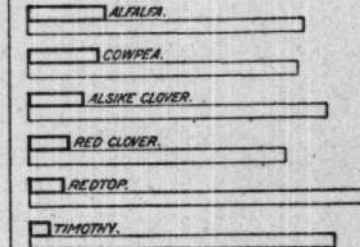


Diagram showing the relative amounts of digestible protein and carbohydrates in different kinds of hay. The section inclosed in light lines represent the carbohydrates; those inclosed in heavy lines, the protein.

fed, the body suffers, because it is absolutely necessary to keep the body in good condition. Thousands of horses are fed all they can eat, yet are poorly nourished because the food contains little except fuel substances.

The flesh forming substances are used to replace the waste that goes on in all living tissues. Energy producing substances are used to furnish the energy required for the nervous and muscular activities of the body, and when fed in excess they may to a certain extent be stored up in the form of fat for use later, when needed for either energy or heat.

One of the most important substances in any foodstuff is protein. All nutritive substances which contain nitrogen are classed under the general term of protein. Protein is composed of nitrogen, carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, sulphur, and phosphorus.

EVERY FARMER CAN USE PAINT

Adds to Appearance of Place and to the Durability of Any Kind of Farm Building.

Any man can do an average job of painting, and can thereby not only improve the appearance of his place, but can add greatly to the durability of the buildings.

The average farmer, if there is such a thing, seems to think that paint is used solely for ornament, and he is of all men most keenly practical, he scowls what he regards as an unprofitable luxury. It is, perhaps, the



A Hand-power Paint Mill.

rule rather than the exception in some sections to see houses and agricultural implements sadly in need of repair.

Of course paint does improve the appearance of property, but it is far more useful as a protector rather than an ornament. The expenditure of a small amount of money and time in painting a valuable piece of farm machinery or a building will add greatly to the length of its life. Another useful object accomplished by painting is the improved sanitary conditions of buildings and outhouses. The cost of such work is small, the necessary equipment not expensive, and with proper care will last a long time.

In order to supply information which will enable the farmer to purchase the paint economically and apply it in-

This Is Worth Trying.

For the window boxes in which to start vegetables next spring take up now a quantity of loose rich soil and burn it to kill old vegetable life. This can be done by burning wood over the soil before it is taken up or on a piece of sheet iron over a fire. Put this in a barrel and keep in a perfectly dry place.

When your seeds come up from this soil next spring they will be free from weeds.

Automobile Plow.

The automobile plow has a steering gear in your hands, and down underneath the machine the blades of a plow are fixed. By this device 12 acres of land can be plowed in a day, and life is made easy for the farmer.

Work of Experiment Stations.

Forty years ago congress endowed agricultural stations, and experiment stations later, for the purpose of helping the farmer, and wonderful things have been accomplished during that time.

telegically and to the best advantage. Secretary Wilson caused experts in the bureau of chemistry to investigate the subject and prepare Farmers Bulletin No. 474 calling attention to the economic importance of painting farm buildings and equipment and giving details as to the cost, purchase, and care of brushes, cost of the ingredients needed, how to mix and apply them.

Paint conveys to the casual reader the idea of a mixture of pigment with linseed oil, but the general conception of the word includes both white wash and calcimine, but not varnish, and the bulletin gives several very valuable recipes for making both of these excellent coatings for both out and inside of buildings.

The secretary in addition to urging the proper use of paints for both useful and ornamental purposes, for he does not think anything too good or attractive for the farm home, emphasized several precautions: "Do not use any paint containing compounds of lead about stables or outhouses where the fumes from decaying organic matter occur, since these gases are likely to darken the lead paints. Do not use with lead compounds any pigment which may liberate compounds of sulphur. For example, ultramarine blue which contains sulphur in a form in which it may be set free is a beautiful blue and may be used with zinc white, but should not be used with white lead, or any other lead pigments. Prussian blue, on the contrary, does not contain sulphur and may be used with lead pigments."

"Remember that turpentine and benzene are very inflammable and special precautions should be taken not to bring paint containing these substances near any light or open fire."

"Many pigments are poisonous, and the workman should be particularly careful to remove all paint stains from the skin, and not under any circumstances allow any of it to get into his mouth. A man should not eat in the same clothes in which he has been painting, and before eating should not only change his clothes but wash all paint stains from his skin. It is not advisable to use turpentine or benzene in removing paint stains from the hands, but by oiling thoroughly with linseed oil, or, in fact, with any fatty oil, and then thoroughly washing with soap, the paint may be removed, provided it has not been allowed to dry too thoroughly on the hands."

Good Liberal Education.

One of the best investments that any farmer can make, with a view to helping his boys and girls in the future, is in giving those boys and girls a good liberal education, that will enable them to compete with others and hold their own in the future. One thousand dollars and a good education equip a young man much better for his struggles in life than will two thousand dollars and no education.

Horses in the Spring.

Horses are always higher prices in the spring than in the fall because many men sell in the fall having no use for their teams during the winter and the farmer who has good animals to dispose of at spring prices is the one who reaps the benefit.

Best for Young Farmer.

Many a young farmer with small capital would probably do better to go east and buy a run down farm with substantial building and fencing on it rather than pay two or three times as much for raw land in the better climate of Canada.