

MOTOR TRACTION ON THE FARM.

THE "AGRIMOTOR."

E. CLIFTON.

THE farm is already supplied with a reliable power-producer in the fixed or portable internal-combustion or oil engine now installed on numerous farms. It is of all dimensions, from the small requirements of the cream-separator or the shearing-machine to those of the chaff-cutter and threshing-machine. The internal-combustion engine stands high in the appreciation of the farmer. It is in readiness for work at a few moments' preparation, and the modern types are simple and reliable.

Manufacturers now offer an "agrimotor," or farm tractor, of all dimensions, of all ranges of horse-power, and for all purposes, from the implement of 50 horse-power and 15 tons weight for the farmer on the prairie of Canada, or the ranchowner of the plains of Argentina, or the contractor conveying wool over hundreds of miles in Australia, to the pigmy capacity required in the garden.

There are many purposes to which the motor tractor can be applied on the farm. These are almost too numerous to mention; among them are, however, the chaffcutter, the threshing-machine, the corn-crusher, the pump, the saw-bench, the shearing-machine, and, not to be forgotten, the plough, as well as the general implements of tillage and harvest. With this, the first words almost certain to be uttered are, "The farm tractor cannot take the place of the horse." "Where is the sowing?" "Horses have still to be kept." It is probable, even certain, that this tractor will not do away with any horse. Indeed, it is trusted that it will not. It is, however, believed that the application of mechanical power will materially increase the production of the farm and improve its condition. There are certain times on the farm when the horse-power that is generally kept is unable to keep up with the work, as at and immediately after harvest, when stubble should be ploughed and the horses are all employed carting; also when the land is to be ploughed and cultivated for cropping in a catchy season. It is at all these times that the reserve power of the tractor becomes of all importance; and, remember, it is not demanding feeding and attention when not working. It is not to be assumed or believed that this implement is to be used only on relief-works. This