

to his six-horse power thrashing machine, with winnowing and chaff machine attached, the corn separated into departments very complete. They then walked over the farm, going through the crops. The wheat drilled two bushels per acre, at six inches apart, and looking very healthy, and the appearance of being a productive crop: some parts of it had been affected by the wireworm, and lost plant: a fine specimen of barley, at one bushel per acre, to all appearance very productive and very clean, the crops generally looking very productive. Various other improvements are going on, burning hedge-sides, roots, &c., which was most effectually done, not a single hedge or tree of any description remaining on the farm. The occupations are divided into six acres, with ditches to receive the drains, which communicate with a main drain running through the farm; his drainage is most complete at 32 inches deep and 24 feet apart. Mr. Mechi is of opinion that four feet deep would be more effective, and stated some practical and chemical observations, and that of Mr. Sperm, of Wooton, in Kent, had proved it by his own experience on stiff clay soil, with one-inch diameter draining pipes, for the last ten years. The deputation then proceeded to Mr. Hewitt Davis's, Spring Park Farm, Croydon, Surrey, where they met Mr. Davis by appointment, and were received with great kindness and attention. They walked over his four farms, consisting of about 600 acres, to view his crops of thin sowing, at five pecks per acre; with the exception of oats, seven pecks. His oats and barley are particularly good, and wheat also, with the exception of a small portion that has been affected by wire-worm. His farms are most effectually drained, and he has carried out his four-course system of occupation, without a blank fallow, most admirably; and great credit is due to Mr. Davis for his spirited occupation upon such an inferior gravel soil. The quantity of sheep he fattens off in the year is quite extraordinary; about two to the acre, and a great quantity of pigs."

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### The Canadian Agricultural Journal.

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MONTREAL, OCTOBER 1, 1845.

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The Montreal Agricultural County and District Cattle Show, took place at the Hay Market on Wednesday and Thursday last, the 1st and 2d of October. The show of horses, neat, cattle, sheep, and swine, was of a mixed quality, some very good, and others that were not so. There was a good opportunity of having the animals entered in each class kept together this year, but this most essential arrangement was not enforced, and consequently it was a matter of great difficulty for judges, however competent, to be able to see perfectly the comparative merits of each animal in the class to which it belonged. To have to search for animals entered in the same class throughout the whole of the cattle exhibit-ed, mixed up as they were—bulls, cows, steers,

and heifers, of all ages, and then attempt to judge of the merit of each compared with others, was more than any ordinary man could do correctly. The animals of each class should be kept together, and no other stock allowed to mix with them, otherwise it is impossible to make a correct award. The cattle show would be much more interesting, and the animals look better, if each class was kept separated. The cattle show proves, at all events, that there are a sufficient number of large cattle in the country to breed from, if large cattle are the most desirable. We were also glad to see some horses of pure Canadian breed still in the country, and we believe they were decidedly the best horses for agricultural purposes that appeared at the show. The neat cattle of Canadian breed we are sorry to see neglected, because we are sure they might be improved so as to be the most suitable, useful, and profitable breed in Canada. The true mode of improving the native stock of any country is by the selection of the best both of male and female; breeding *only* from those, and increasing the size by superior keep to what is required. This is a much better mode of improving the stock of a country, than by introducing a breed of animals that are too large for the keep of ordinary farmers, or for the present general state of Canadian agriculture. It is very well for such persons as are so circumstanced with regard to capital, and the improved state of their farms, to have stock proportionably large, but were these stock attempted to be kept on the generality of Canadian farms, what would be the consequence? Certainly that they would dwindle down to be worthless, or die of starvation. Large sized animals that have become reduced in size by insufficient keep, are the most unprofitable stock a farmer could possibly have. Animals that are small, if of good natural quality, may soon be increased in size by superior keep; but it is certain that large animals will soon be reduced in size to the keep that is for them, and then they will not make much return of profit to their owner. As a means of encouraging improvement we approve of cattle shows, but only as secondary to other means. We decidedly say, that the first exertion should be made to improve the cultivation of the country where it requires to be improved, and that this should be done by sending instruction and encouragement into every parish in Canada. It is by this means that the