

Dentonia Park.

A DAIRY, POULTRY, AND FISH FARM.

Mr. Walter E. H. Massey, President of the Massey-Harris Company, has established a stock farm at East Toronto (Coleman P. O.), about ten minutes' walk from the electric railway and of York station on the G. T. R. The farm comprises 230 acres of land, devoted to dairying, poultry-raising, and pisciculture. The front of the farm presents a parklike appearance, being broken and irregular in part, and embracing a pleasing variety of hill and vale, bluff and ravine, stream and pond, with a fine growth of evergreen and deciduous trees covering the uplands. The crops grown are such as are needed for the feeding of the animals, and are marketed in the form of stock and dairy produce, or of poultry, eggs, and fish, sold for breeding and for food.

The buildings, which appear in our illustration, are conveniently arranged, and have been planned with a view to tasteful appearance, economy of space, material and labor, convenience, healthfulness, and comfort. The main barn, 100 feet long by 42 in width and four stories high, with a one-story L, is built on a hillside, and the floor of the fourth story is little above the level of the ground where the fine residence stands. The ground floor is used for young stock and pigs, which consume the by-products from the dairy. The second floor is devoted to the dairy herd of registered Jerseys, and the working dairy, which is separated from the stables by the engine room and two sets of double doors. A direct connected engine and dynamo is used for lighting the premises and driving the farm machinery. The third story is occupied by the horses and carriages, the machinery and workshop, and the harness and herdsman's rooms; while the upper story is the barn proper, in which is stored the hay, grain and other fodder needed for the stock, and which is passed down to the stables on the different flats through chutes. The floors where the animals stand are all calked like the decks of a ship, and are perfectly water-tight. The basement floors are all laid in cement. An efficient system of ventilation is in operation, by means of revolving funnels on the roof for bringing in the fresh air, and air ducts to the cupolas for removing the vitiated atmosphere. The fresh air is distributed through pipes having openings in front of the mangers, and is diffused in plentiful supply in such a way as to avoid drafts. On the floor of the second story, convenient to the cattle, are the storage rooms for roots, and here are twin circular wooden silos, each twelve feet in diameter and thirty feet deep. Water in plentiful supply is found in the well under the basement, from which it is pumped by wind engine or the electric dynamo to a 5,000-gallon tank in the upper story, whence it is led in pipes through all the stables. Water is also forced by a hydraulic ram from springs in the ravine, at the rate of 250 to 500 gallons an hour, to a tank on a tower near by for fire protection. An overflow pipe connects with a large cistern of 10,000 gallons, which also collects the rain water from the barn, and is located in the bank west of the barn, from which the stables may be flushed and the same water utilized in irrigating the garden and the pasture plots near the barn.

Mr. Massey, attracted by the beauty and richness of Jersey cattle, chose this breed to be the workers in his dairy, and believing that the best were none too good for him, commissioned that expert judge, Mr. F. S. Peer, of Mount Morris, N. Y., to proceed to the Island of Jersey and to select the best that could be bought. In July, 1898, a dozen choice Jerseys were landed at Dentonia Park, selected from the best herds in their native land. As evidence of the superior character of the importation, it is only necessary to say that in their first public appearance in Canada (at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition), in competition with the best Canadian herds and also the best show herd in the United States, selections from the Dentonia Park herd won the grand herd prize for the best bull and four females of any age, and repeated the record with the same competition at the Western Fair at London the following week; the judges in each case being experts from the United States, Prof. Day, of the O. A. C., being associate judge at the Toronto meeting. At the head of this herd is the first prize imported bull, Lord of Dentonia, 501661, the two-year-old son of Clemenceau (a noted sire on the Island), and of Oleanaise 2nd, alias Dentonia Island Queen (included in this importation and now in the Dentonia Park herd), a model dairy cow, which won the certificate of merit in the butter test on the Island, and also holds the bronze medal for the largest quantity of butter produced in a given time. Phenomenon of Dentonia, another of the imported cows, was pronounced the grandest cow on the Island, and has a record of twenty-two quarts of milk in one day. Brilliant of Dentonia is a five-year-old cow of model dairy conformation and showing all indications of a strong constitution and great capacity. She won several prizes on the Island, including one of the Royal Jersey Society. Island Lady of Dentonia (with her first calf), a three-year-old, has shown immense udder development, and has ideal form blended with beauty and promise of usefulness.

These are but specimen numbers of a great collection, numbering about fifty in all, the original herd being made up of choice selections from some of the best herds in the Dominion, and bred from the best producing families. Dentonia Park herd, founded on the bed rock of individual merit and of inherited dairy excellence, takes its place in the

front rank of the Jersey contingent of the grand army of milk and butter producers in America.

Mr. Massey is adding an extensive and excellent poultry branch. For this, four exceedingly well-planned houses are just at completion. These are mainly for the production of fresh eggs the year round and broilers in season. There are yet, however, to be added extensive houses for geese, ducks, and turkeys, which, when in full operation, will comprise one of the most extensive and complete poultry farms in Canada. The location of this department is some thirty rods north-west of the dairy barns, on a dry, loamy and gravelly elevation sloping to the south and east. The main building is 170 feet long by 16 feet wide, and divided into sixteen pens to accommodate 500 laying hens. The stock, meantime, comprises Brown and White Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks, and Light Brahmas. These pens are provided with basement scratching pens, which open into yards of about one-quarter acre each. These lead away from the building in fan shape, and are divided by wire fences, along which are planted grape vines, while each yard has a row or more of fruit trees. At the end of this large building is a four-story compartment, 25 feet square. The ground flat contains a root house and



FIRST HOUSE IN MOOSOMIN, ASSA, N.-W. T., 1881.

a department for killing and dressing birds for market. The second flat, on a level with the hens, is provided with feed, water, a heater, and feed-mixing troughs. The grain storage, grain and bone grinders, clover cutter, meat cutter, and root pulper are on the third flat. These machines are all run by windmill power. The fourth and top flat is fitted up as the pigeon loft, in which Tumblers and other fancy breeds will be kept. The poultry department will be in charge of an expert, who will aim for specific results. The layers for the fresh egg trade will not be mated, but those from which broilers are to be produced will be bred only to the best procurable males. In connection with this latter branch an incubator room, 14x16 feet, is fitted up beneath the office, and a brooder house, 100 feet long by 14 feet wide, the latter heated by a hot water system, which affords top heat. The pens and yards of this house are of various sizes, to suit the birds of different ages. There is also an isolation pen for experimental work, sick fowls, or other emergency cases. There are already on the farm nice flocks of Embden geese, Pekin ducks, and Bronze turkeys; but these will be increased by



STREET CORNER IN MOOSOMIN, N.-W. T., 1898.

the best obtainable additions as soon as the pens are finished.

In the valley below, a chain of trout ponds are providing a deal of sport, as well as a toothsome addition to the domestic bill of fare, besides considerable revenue. These are fed from copious, never-failing springs having their source near the head pond. At the mouth of the upper pond are a number of pens separated by wire netting, in which the fry are kept. They contained some thirty thousand to forty thousand at the time of our visit, on the 21st November, which will soon be transferred to the first pond, then containing the yearling fish. These latter had made extraordinary growth, some of which were claimed by Mr. Steen, the overseer, to weigh about half a pound each. The two-year-old fish in the second pond will, after being spawned, be transferred to the third, which is ten feet deep and is used for fishing in the proper season. The spawning is done artificially in November. The large fish, which are brought up and driven into narrow channels, are caught by dip nets. The fish are then sorted individually and sent to the market, where they are mixed and placed in the hands of the fishmongers one foot

flows in the hatchery. They take about 120 days to hatch, when they are placed in larger tanks with the same building and kept there till spring weather allows them to be planted in outdoor cases. Last year over four hundred thousand eggs were taken. As large if not a larger number will be hatched the coming year. Eggs, fry, and market trout are regularly sold in season. The principal food used for the fish is fresh beef livers, ground in a sausage mill, but snails and other shell fish which multiply in the ponds also provide food. Snugly nestled between two pretty hills, these miniature lakes, artificial though they are, add a distinctively picturesque effect to the general beauty of Dentonia Park landscape. Visitors are admitted to the farm and buildings on weekdays, and it is Mr. Massey's expressed desire that the experiments and operations carried on at Dentonia shall stimulate agricultural pursuits along better lines, and that in this way his farm may become in a sense a public benefit.

The Cattle Trade of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.

The season of 1898 has been an important one in the cattle interests of Manitoba and the N.-W. T. Not only is the trade in pure-bred stock, both male and female, making very rapid advancement, particularly in the beef breeds, but there has been an increase in the number of cattle exported, in spite of the very heavy shipment of stocker cattle that went out of the country in 1897. We have not been able at this date to get the exact returns for the number of stocker cattle shipped into the United States from Manitoba points for 1898, but it will be in the neighborhood of 17,000 or 18,000 head. Many of these are calves of decidedly inferior quality, picked up in the dairy districts, where little attention is given to the beef qualities of the stock. The man who can make any profit from feeding a skim milk scrub calf is welcome to it. Of course, there have been numbers of good cattle go out, and in losing these before they are finished the country is certainly the poorer. The quality of the cattle exported this year has been fairly well up in average, but anyone visiting the stockyards when the shipments are going through cannot but be impressed with the importance of using pure-bred sires. The difference between the stock produced from well-bred sires of the beef breeds and those from grade or scrub stock is marked as plainly as if ear-tagged. We are inclined to think that buyers do not make the best use of their opportunity of impressing this fact upon farmers and ranchers. There is too much indiscriminate buying and not enough difference made in favor of the well-bred steer.

The weather during the shipping season was the worst ever experienced—October being particularly bad. This, together with the disappointing markets in the Old Country, must have tended to shave down the profits in the export business to a pretty fine thing. The number of cattle handled by our leading export firms are given in the following letters. Besides these, there were several thousand head handled by individual shippers, which would run the total exports from Manitoba and the N.-W. T. into the neighborhood of 35,000 head.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The number of cattle shipped by us to Liverpool this year is 3,753 head, and to Glasgow, 253 head; London, 17 head. We did not go in for shipping numbers, but have the credit from all in the trade, and especially the salesmen in England, for having shipped extra good quality cattle, and by doing so have held up the reputation of the Manitoba and Western cattle in the home markets. We loaded the steamship Irishman this week with 500 head of choice cattle from Castleberry and Russell districts. This ship carried the largest cargo ever carried out of Montreal, viz., 1,000 head of cattle.

H. A. MULLINS.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The number of cattle shipped, slaughtered, and turned back to feed by our firm is as follows. I will give you the number shipped from this country, and Ontario and Chicago. About 30,000 of our total shipments were shipped from Montreal, balance from St. John, Portland and Boston:

Export cattle from Manitoba and N.-W. T.	27,000
Ontario and Chicago	10,000
Butcher cattle slaughtered in Winnipeg	4,000
Stockers shipped west and sold in Winnipeg	1,000
Stockers shipped west and held over outside the number held from last season	14,000
	67,000

67,000 head of cattle handled in 1898.

GORDON & IRONSIDE.

The Town of Moosomin.

Nothing could better serve to illustrate at a glance the substantial growth of the agricultural West than the accompanying views of Moosomin in 1881 and 1898. Of course, other towns differently situated could have been used to show much greater development, but Moosomin is a fair average of hundreds of Western towns dependent upon the farming country, where prosperity is the result of the farming community is simply

of our old subscribers to send us one subscribers when renewing their subscription, and all concerned.