

can be conveniently utilized so as to admit of all these animals being used enough for health's sake, it is safer to prescribe a moderately low diet, especially of grain, say not more than a third of that given when work is demanded. The secretory and excretory organs are more active in working horses than in those at rest, as the skin, kidneys, liver and bowels, so that an effort should be made to overcome any undue torpidity by proper treatment, the nature of which will be indicated further on.

(To be continued.)

Bli Bro and Keillor Lodge.

In 1882 the Messrs. Geary found that the four hundred acres of rich lands which they owned and tilled at Bli Bro were not sufficient to sustain the vast numbers of Aberdeen-Angus cattle which they had brought to its magnificent pastures, notwithstanding the large drafts that were sent off from time to time to enrich the herds that feed upon the prairies that are watered by the melting snows of Rocky Mountain ranges. As they have found them from the first with scarcely an exception the most unfailing breeders, the certain reproduction of their kind called for more room and a wider pasture range. Thus it was that they determined to build the spacious structures at Keillor Lodge which afford accommodation for so large a herd.

The work those gentlemen are doing affords another illustration of the advantages that result from stockmen of the same household pulling together, even after the stern work of individual responsibility has to be faced. Without unity of aim and the united concentration of effort, very many of the achievements of our Canadian stockmen had never been attained, and the country had been so much the poorer. For this and other reasons we are always particularly pleased to find the term "Bros." the concluding word in the designation of a stock firm in our land.

The style of the firm at Bli Bro is simply "Geary Bros.," where Mr. John Geary resides; at Keillor Lodge it is designated "Geary Bros.," Canadian Importers and Breeders' Association," where the vast and complicated work in that comparatively new land is under the direct supervision of Mr. Geo. Geary.

The Messrs. Geary spent their early years in the vicinity of Bli Bro, and have been more or less identified with farming all their days, so that when they launched out so fearlessly in the purchase of the sleek-coated blackskins, and their magnificent flocks of Lincoln and Shropshire Down sheep, which they now possess, they were not trying a venture which they did not understand. Though engaged in farming more or less for so long a time, it is only within the last ten or twelve years that they have given prominence to the stock interest.

THE FARMS.

"Bli Bro" comprises 300 acres of choice rolling land some three and a half miles north from London, and since coming into the possession of the present owner has become so enriched by stock-raising and careful tillage that it would readily command \$100 per acre and upwards. The one hundred and fifty acres of hay upon it have yielded more than three hundred tons this season, and the crops of oats and wheat and corn that we saw growing upon it were simply immense. The cultivation is of the most careful kind, as weeds and every kind of noxious vegetable life meets with summary vengeance at the proper season.

The pastures of Bli Bro are not cumbered with shade, although they have a plentiful supply, and many of the trees possess rare individual beauty. To

give an adequate idea of the richness of the soil we may mention here that the present season fifty-seven head of milch cows have been kept upon the pasture of forty acres, with the supplemental food which grew on two acres of winter rye and two and one-half acres of peas and oats. What have the graziers of the exceedingly fertile pastures of Ailsa Craig to say to this, in that favored region where grasses sleep only in the winter and the waters never weary in their onward flow? Mixed grasses have been tried at Bli Bro with very gratifying results. The aftermath we saw on one of the meadows covered it ankle deep, and with a coat that was simply a mass of thickness.

Underdraining has been done where necessary, although the subsoil is of that open nature which requires less of this than the soil of many localities. On the day of our visit we crossed a large pasture with a wide depression running across it. Here the waters from a spring had taken a strange delight in saturating the lowlands of the valley with superabundant moisture, a work in which those from the bordering hills had malevolently lent a helping hand. Here the cattle poached the land where only coarse grass, water-loving grass would grow, and sheep left the domain undisputed as the favorite feeding ground of the frog and the snake. Mr. Geary cut the valley in twain by an open deep ditch, adown the channel of which a delightful rivulet runs on with unceasing flow. On either side of this, three-foot tile drains were laid where needed, which have wrought a transformation that is most wonderful, though but three or four years laid. The valley now is covered with a thick bottom of June grass and white clover, without any seeding other than that by nature, and is the favorite feeding ground of the heavy-bodied Lincolns, and the thick-coated Shrops that we saw partaking of its pastures.

At Bothwell, where the subsoil is more or less sandy in its nature, drainage operations have not been so successful as yet, owing to the quantities of silt that flow in and choke the drains; but it is hoped in time to obviate the difficulty. We think that tiles at least two feet long and laid with collars would prove of immense service, and hope that our tile-makers will at once set about the manufacture of these, which have answered the purpose so well in other countries.

"Keillor Lodge" is in the immediate vicinity of Bothwell, in the county of Kent, some forty miles westward from London. The steading is but half a mile from the station on the Great Western branch of the G. T. R. It embraces some 1,550 acres, of which 1,350 acres are in the vicinity of Bothwell in the township of Zone, and 200 acres are in the township of Euphemia, some nine miles to the northward and beautifully situated on the bank of the Sydenham, the murky waters of which speak of wealth stolen from a clay country. The lands near Bothwell are comparatively new, or entirely so, which are being cleared, however, to the extent of say 100 acres a year.

The axe of the vandalic lumberman made havoc of the giant oaks and the whitewood of former days, so that the smaller growths only are left to be cut away. The extent of the pastures is very great for an arable country such as ours; 300 acres in one cattle run in the heart of a cultivated region is, we think, only to be found at Keillor Lodge. A day, therefore, spent in examining the flocks of such an establishment is sure to be rewarded with that certain heritage of the farmer, a splendid appetite, in which he has the advantage of every other class.

The soil is sandy loam, in some places, we think, just light enough, but in others presenting the blackish appearance which always speaks of fertility. It

has proved itself good for pasturage, fine for the growth of oats and potatoes, splendid for the production of corn, and magnificent for growing roots, all main factors in the making of either flesh or milk. The capabilities of such a soil for sustaining stock are very great, and in the days that are coming, when the beech and chestnut make way for the mixed grasses of more modern practice, no one can now safely estimate the magnitude of the future developments of the stock interest at Keillor Lodge.

Bothwell was the scene of strange turmoil in other days when men sunk fortunes in the rush for riches to be pumped up in fancied streams of oil that would continue to flow from the bowels of the earth. The trade in crude oil has almost entirely ceased. Keillor Lodge, too, embraces the reminiscence of another burst bubble, in the form of a very large low barn, erected by the late Hon. George Brown, in his futile attempt to carry on a successful dairy before the excitement in oil had begun to allure. This old building, if it serve no better purpose, makes it very clear that while a man may be able to clearly plan and construct an attack upon the ministry of the day, he may at the same time have no better idea than a child of the planning and constructing of a suitable dairy barn. Peace be to the ashes of the mighty legislator, but in whatever his followers may see fit to imitate him, let it not be in the construction of a dairy barn.

THE BUILDINGS.

The dwelling house at Bli Bro—of recent construction—is imposing and stately, a relief to the stereotyped style of architecture so painfully common in farm life in Canada. The outbuildings are very well adapted to their purpose, but were mostly erected some years ago, and therefore lack a few of the advantages of more modern practice. Those at Keillor Lodge were erected in 1883 and are on a scale worthy of the magnitude of the interest which they are intended to accommodate.

The main barn faces the west, from which side it is entered. It is 46 feet wide and 150 feet long, not including the five box stalls that are at either end. The posts are 18 feet high and rest upon a brick basement, as stones are not to be found in the locality. The stalls run crosswise with a tramway and car at one side, and turntables where the two easterly wings are entered. These are 30 by 100 feet; one of them contains box stalls and the other double stalls for feeding cattle. Water-troughs run in front of the stalls. The main building contains chaff-room, meal-chamber, and mixing room. A run of stones with a capacity to grind 60 or 70 bushels of grain an hour is on the grain-floor. A twenty-five horse-power engine drives the whole, which includes chaffing, grinding, etc. In front stands the granary, engine house etc., and in the rear is a stable for horses, and paddocks for them, and also for cattle. Beneath the entrance is the apartment for roots.

THE STOCK.

This is of course the great interest at both establishments. In fact they owe their existence to the desire to grow superior stock, and in the various steps taken to further this object the Messrs. Geary have acted very wisely. They have built upon a proper foundation, which they brought from beyond the Atlantic. The different classes of stock imported by them comprises Aberdeen-Angus cattle, Shropshire Down and Lincoln sheep, and Shire horses. To the breeding of these they have added the dairy interest and the breeding of grade cattle sired by their Aberdeen-Angus bulls, in which work they are very enthusiastic, and in the results of which we feel so deep an interest that we cannot refrain from referring to it