

vealed a single truth upon which a new feeding standard could be based.

Turning to the Report of Mr. F. G. Grenside, the Professor of Veterinary Science, we find a clear and concise statement of the sanitary condition of the stock. He reports several deaths amongst the sheep by "Tape-worm," and amongst the cattle by "Tuberculosis," also cases of "Foul in the Foot" are reported, although no deaths have resulted through the latter channel. He states that Tuberculosis "is unfortunately only too prevalent amongst the better bred cattle of this country," and having described four victims which were slaughtered on the farm, and *post mortem* examinations held, he mentions that one—an Ayrshire cow—had "well marked symptoms of partial paralysis, accompanied by brain disorder." We mention this merely to show how difficult Tuberculosis is to diagnose. The germs of the disease lay latent in one of the subjects for a considerable length of time, and she transmitted them to her progeny. She was slaughtered in prime condition, having gained in weight at the rate of 2½ lbs. per day, and although tuberculous deposits were extensively spread over various parts of her interior, the function of no vital organ was interfered with. Amongst the causes of the disease he states that it may be transmitted by "co-habitation, partaking of milk from tuberculous subjects, and the using of their flesh as food," it being also held by the most scientific observers "that the milk and flesh of infected animals are likely to prove a medium for the transmission of the disease to human beings; for the tubercle of man and cattle are held to be identical."

Two objects are usually assigned in urging the necessity for importing live stock to the Farm: (1.) As a medium of practical education for the students. (2.) As a means of supplying the farmers of the Province with cheap and reliable thoroughbred stock; and perhaps another may be added (3)—for the purpose of making money.

It is reported that the Government have now agents in the Old Country buying up another batch of cattle and sheep for importation to the Farm. In the Report we can find no assurance that, before the arrival of this flock and herd, the cattle now on the Farm—which may have become tuberculous by "co-habitation" or "inherited tendency"—will be removed; or that the old stables which are a fruitful source of Foul in the Foot, will be replaced by the contemplated new ones; or that the farmers sons who will be there next autumn will enjoy immunity from contaminated milk.

It is true that the presence of good thoroughbred stock has an excellent educating influence amongst the students, and, from an educational standpoint, the more disease the better; for diseases require to be taught practically as well as the handling and judging of stock; but the Report makes no attempt to prove that the educating factor so far over-rides the danger of spreading diseased "cheap" stock amongst our farmers as to warrant an importation at the present time.

The extent to which Tuberculosis has spread amongst the cattle in Britain is too well known to require comment.

In Southern Russia the law enforcing deep burial of the carcasses of infected animals has been abolished, and stringent measures enforcing cremation substituted for the purpose of eradicating the cattle plague.

Influence of Forests.

The effects of forests upon climate have not been duly appreciated. They act as a barrier against the furious winds, regulate and distribute rainfall, and moisture by means of exhalations from the leaves, protecting crops and promoting their growth. Their absence therefore deranges all the industries of a country, causing floods in some regions and drouths in others; navigation of streams is thus impeded, many manufacturing establishments remain idle for want of water power, and, above all, crops suffer from and property is destroyed by climatic extremes or the ravages of insects injurious to vegetation. Forest fires too frequently aid the devastating power of the axe. The planting of forests has proved successful from a financial standpoint, and this will doubtless give it a greater impetus than any other cause. This continent has suffered the penalty of its forest denudition folly, and the sooner it restores the heritage which nature so richly lavished, the better for the health and prosperity of its people.

Are Discussions to be Stifled?

On the 28th of February we were present at a meeting of the Experimental Union, a body composed of students and ex-students of the Agricultural College. The Presidents of Agricultural Societies are appointed honorary members, and the officials of the College and Model Farm are also members.

The meeting was held at the Agricultural College in Guelph. We consider this an important meeting, viewing it either from an agricultural or a sanitary standpoint. We consider it of importance that every legislator, farmer and granger should be furnished with the true, exact and unbiassed report of the discussions that took place after Dr. Grenside, the Farm Veterinary, read his paper on "A Consideration of the More Prevalent Diseases of the Stock of the Country, and their Prevention." Also a true report of what took place after the paper read on "The Grange as an Organization for Farmers," and discussions about the same. We have not seen what we consider a correct or fair report on these points.

There is an erroneous feeling among some of the recipients of favors or patrons, that truth and facts regarding the Model Farm can be stifled. Apparently with that aim a resolution was brought in at this meeting in reference to the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

A strong feeling also exists among the officials of the College, and members of the Experimental Union, adverse to the criticisms made in the ADVOCATE exposing some of the defects of the institution. Some go to the extreme, and pronounce them erroneous and injurious. We consider we have only partially exposed the failures of the institution, and have done so for the purpose of benefiting the farmers. The institution might be made of great benefit to farmers, and with that object in view we attended this meeting, and

have offered to try and use our influence to utilize and popularize the Model Farm for the farmers' interest. We have asked for a fair and truthful report of the most important parts of the meeting, but as yet have not received them. For the present, at least, we consider silence our duty, as we have furnished what we believe to be important information to the proper Government authorities, and await results. We trust that there were among the audience gentlemen who may furnish correct information to those interested in the well-being of the College, and that some paper may publish the unbiassed truth in regard to it.

The public should be made acquainted with the fact that the institution is divided into three branches: 1st, the Model Farm proper; 2nd, the Experimental Department; 3rd, the Agricultural College. We have not intended to censure or criticize the College; we have said but little in regard to the Experimental Station; our remarks have been aimed at and intended for the Model Farm. It is the Model Farm that requires the closest investigation. We do not believe there is one honorable person even among the employees but must admit this: a very searching inquiry should be made, and very radical changes should be enforced immediately. Every farmer should be furnished with correct information as to what is being done, what has been done, and what is to be done in the future.

Model Work and Pay.

In the recently published report of the Ontario Agricultural College and Experimental Farm, there is an item of \$4,000.42 paid for students' wages. This is an equivalent of 20 first-class farm laborers, counting wages at \$200 a year. Add to this the 10 regular farm and garden hands, who, let us suppose, are first-class men getting \$200 a year—\$3,000. Thereto should also be added the wages of the foremen of the farm, garden and mechanical departments, as required by the estimates for 1884, \$1,000 each—\$3,000, and also the wages of superintendence, say \$1,000. This makes a gross total of \$10,000 paid out for the ordinary work of these departments. This sum is equivalent to 50 men at \$200 a year, or about 10 hands for every 100 acres of the Farm. If men can be hired for \$180 a year, the number would be 55 in place of 50. This does not include extra help in summer, or labor expended on experiments or in the arboretum. However, let us credit a few hundred (or a few thousand?) dollars for instruction by the foremen, and for any extra fancy work not usually performed by the ordinary farmer. It is also necessary to bear in mind that the facilities enjoyed by the Farm in the way of water privileges, and agricultural implements and machinery, are far superior to those of the average farmer.

The profits on the \$25,000 voted by Government for a fresh importation of live stock will be inadequate to maintain this equipage, and keep up the reputation of the Farm. How would it do for the farmers to invite the management to make the best use of the means they have before they get any more?

The most unfavorable time to transplant a tree is just as the buds are beginning to burst,