

STOCK GOSSIP.

In writing to advertisers please mention the Farmer's Advocate.

Mr. O. D. Hitchcock, Charlotte, Eaton Co., Mich., who has been a reader of the *ADVOCATE* for a number of years, during a call at this office informs us that he has just purchased a lot of superior Lincoln sheep from a number of well-known breeders that this district is noted for. Among the breeders from which he has selected them are: Mr. John T. Gibson, Denfield, two superior imported shearing rams; Mr. Wm. Walker, Elderton, five shearing ewes; Mr. E. Humphrey, Thamesford, eight ewes; Mr. Wm. Oliver, Avonbank, seven ewes.

Since June last Mr. Henry Arkell, of Arkell, has sold 42 Oxford-downs to J. G. Campbell, Ohio, U. S.; 42 to George McKenzie, Wla., U. S.; 23 to W. B. Harvey, Indiana; 34 to A. Dorsey & Sons, Illinois; 6 to W. E. Carlin, Wyoming, U. S.; 63 to Centre Valley Stock Farm, N. Y.; 2 to W. Hamel Que., 3 to P. Warey, Ontario. He still has one of the finest flocks in America, and won a large share of the prizes at Detroit, Toronto and other shows.

Mr. John Isaac, Markham, Ont., writes us that he has lately purchased from the referees of the late Mr. Campbell, Kinellar, a few choice Shorthorns, which are now in quarantine, and will be home about the 1st December. Amongst them is the (Maid of Promise 6th); in 1890 she was awarded the challenge cup for the best Shorthorn in the yard at Aberdeen, and was called by competent judges the best Shorthorn cow in Scotland this season. There is also in the lot three young bulls, one of them of the Golden Drop family; two of the heifers are of the same family.

In another column will be found the notice of a public sale announcing that the widely-known Kinnoul Park herd of Polled Angus-cattle will be sold without reserve on Nov. 9th, 1892, at Grand's Repository, Toronto. The sale is imperative, as the closing up of the estate of the late Robt. Hay demands this course. This event will afford a rare opportunity for purchasing the most popular tribes of this valuable breed of cattle contained in this herd, specimens from which were so successfully shown during Mr. Hay's lifetime.

J. & J. Smith, Paris breeders of Shropshire sheep, write as follows under date Sept. 17:—The demand for well-bred Shropshire sheep is steadily on the increase, and sales this summer have been very satisfactory. We have lately sent out fifty-one head of shearing rams and ewes, principally to the States; also a number of lambs for exhibition and breeding purposes. Have secured from Mr. Robert Miller the fine two-shear Bradburne ram that you mentioned last month in your notes of Mr. Miller's flock. He was used last season in the splendid flock of Messrs. Bradburne.

IMPORTATION OF 1892.—Mr. Arthur Johnston, of Greenwood, whose change of advertisement we wish to call attention to, writes this office to say that his importation of Shorthorns, for the present year, will reach Greenwood on or about the first of December. Advices from Halifax, where they are now in quarantine, state that they are all doing well—growing fast and gaining flesh. The importation consists of seven extra good bull calves, mostly reds and dark roans; three first-class, young cows, one high class show yearling heifer, and two beautiful red heifer calves. Mr. Johnston also states that the herd was never in finer form, nor in more profitable shape. The young bulls at home are a capital lot, and in fine order. Cattle in this section are in fine form. The little foreign flies did comparatively no harm; they are all gone.

F. C. Sibbald, M. D., writes under date Sept. 24:—Owing to the favorable season for pasture lands the stock have thriven well; in consequence the calves have made great growth. The bull calves are so precocious that the heifers are in great danger, but such accidents will and have happened in my herd before, although not altogether desirable; still, it is not always possible to divide the breeding stock, otherwise the best plan would be to separate the cows with bull calves from these with heifers. This has been a good season for stock farms, but not so good for grain; in fact, taking one year with another, this Province, like the States to the south, is getting rather worn out for wheat growing. No land can stand the perpetual strain of grain growing without keeping a fair amount of stock to consume most of the produce of the farm, and thereby keep up the productivity of the land; therefore it is unwise to commence farming on old land without sufficient capital to purchase stock to help to restore the land to its original fertility. How often farmers in Ontario think from the appearance of their crops in June and the earlier part of July that they are going to have a fine crop of grain, but unfortunately, before the end of the latter month, growth seems to languish, and probably when harvest time comes his promised 25 bushels to the acre amounts to about 5, evidently showing that there is not sufficient strength left in the soil to produce anything like a paying crop? Fortunately there is a large area of virgin soil in the Dominion, and consequently, plenty of scope for both grain and stock raisers. But care will have to be taken to limit the size of the holdings in our Northwest, otherwise our great country will soon reach the same exhausted condition which every traveller must have observed in the formerly apparent exhaustless fertility of the newer States of the Union. But no land will stand perpetual grain-growing without what is called mixed farming.

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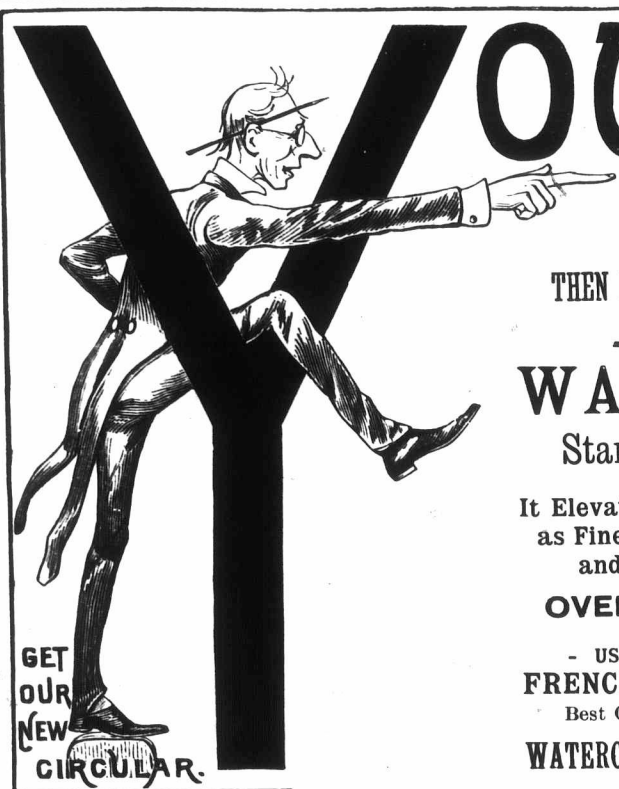
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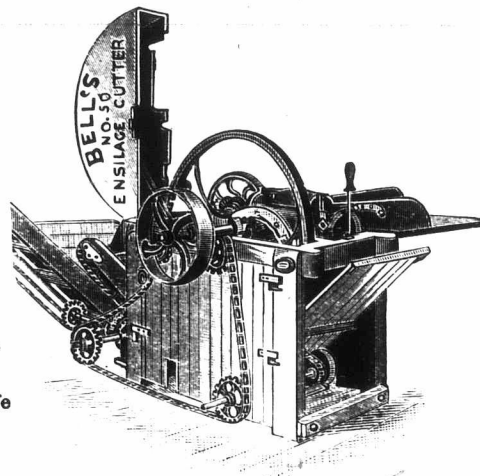
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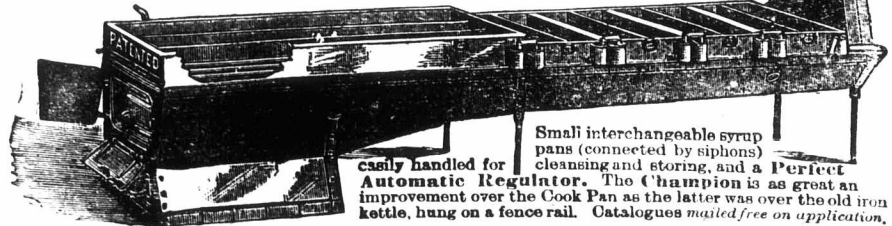
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