

first-class bulls to live and die, it may be, on an adjoining farm, without trying to profit by their contiguity.

The first bulls used on the herd were Duke of Ashton—1080—, and Sentinel—398—, owned by Mr. James Tolton. The first bulls kept in the herd was Seraphina's Duke, bred by the Messrs. A. & C. Stewart, of Lobo, got by Udora's Oxford [4183], of Sanspareil ancestry, and was used two years. The second was Duke of Hamilton, —775—, a roan, compactly built, bred by J. Russell, Richmond Hill, sire British Statesman (42847), and tracing through Kinellar blood. He was a sweepstakes bull when one year old at the Northern, and in the opinion of his owners has produced more prize-winning calves than any other bull ever brought to the neighborhood. The first crop of calves of his get won for Springhill at the Northern exhibition, 1st, 2d and 3d as calves, as yearlings and as two-year-olds.

The present stock bull, Victory, a good, strong, deep, stylish red one-year-old, with a mellow skin, was bred by W. Laing, St. Mary's, and bought of H. Thompson of the same. He was got by Baron Bravith (46385), of the class of cattle that Mr. James I. Davidson, of Balsam, loves so well, dam Pearllette Butterfly 3d, by Bredalbane (23073), both bred at Sittlyton.

Pure Berkshire pigs also find a home at Springhill, and a good flock of Southdown sheep, for long prize-winners at the Northern, and also a flock of Leicesters on a foundation from Mr. W. Whitelaw's (Guelph) flock.

The cleanness and neatness of the farming here are both worthy of note. We saw five different experimental plots of spring wheat growing side by side to test the value of the manures. At present the order of goodness stands thus: (1) Barnyard manure (quite ahead); (2) mineral super-phosphate; (3) apelite; (4) unmanured; (5) salt. The care bestowed upon the culture has enabled Mr. Rivers to become a constant prize-winner on seed grains, which are also sold for this purpose.

#### SUMMERHILL FARM.

Leaving Springhill in the company of its proprietor, on the morning of June 4th, we drove to Summerhill Farm, owned by Mr. Peter Arkell, of Teeswater, from which it is but  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the north-east, in the township of Culross. It was one of those loveliest days of June with a southerly wind and a cloudless sky that leads one in spite of himself to think of that "blessed clime where life is not a breath." The late rains had filled the brooks with cheerful merriment, and the low sweet hum of their thanksgiving might be distinctly heard; and the showers that fell on the 2d June were already largely in the tree tops, producing a foliage deep and dense and strong, while every green thing growing out of the ground was quickened into new life. Undulations, wide valleys, bank barns, and running waters were the order of the journey, and must we say it, a good many thistles.

The German village of Formosa with its massive stone church, a magnificent monumental pile for a country village, and its wide open jaws of limestone, within which the hamlets are built, is on the way.

Summerhill is a pleasant farm of 400 acres. A spacious valley to the north and east, the view of which is comfortably taken in by the steading, with its strong and varied soil, its abundance of water, and its commanding view, it is certainly admirably adapted for the rearing of the grand Oxford Downs, the large herd of Shorthorns, and what is infinitely better, the rich heritage of boys that are bravely helping to till it.

Mr. Arkell came to Summerhill in January, 1865, when there was but little clearing, the drive at that

time all the way to Mildmay being beneath the boughs of the forest. He brought with him what he considered the greatest treasure that the township of Puslinch could give him, one who has always stood by him in the hour of need, and from the first he hung out the flag of stock improvement in the wilderness.

The house and barns are excellent, the latter supporting a 16 feet geared mill, made by the Ontario Pump Company, Toronto. The flock of sheep numbers about 80 head, the Shorthorns about 60 head, and 12 head of 1,400 pound steers are being fitted on the grass for summer shipment, getting their modicum of four quarts of meal once a day, fed in boxes.

Although the herd of Shorthorns is large, it is as an importer and breeder of Oxford Down sheep that Mr. Arkell has chiefly won his fame. In this respect he is the king of Ontario, we may say of the Dominion, as his Oxford Downs have taken the pen prizes at the Toronto and Provincial Exhibitions, and other leading shows uninterruptedly since he first showed them in 1881. The first lot was imported in 1881, when some twenty head of Oxfords and Cotswolds were purchased from their breeders, Daniel and William Arkell, Gloucestershire, England, the rams being bred by Mr. Hobbs, of the same place. A lot of some 20 head of Oxfords followed in 1882, and in 1883 about 50 head, and in 1886 some 20 head more. The flock, therefore, all imported or directly from imported, comprise some 80 head, of which a number are good strong shearling rams. From this flock the various other flocks of Oxfords in the province are largely sprung.

The Shorthorn herd, of which some 40 head are cows and heifers—half a dozen are large, strong yearling bulls, and 17 head are calves—is headed by two imported one-year bulls, the bulls all but one being held for sale. It was founded in 1869 and rests upon a dual foundation. The one branch sprung from the cow Favorite, bred at Little Farnham Farm, county Wellington, by the late Thomas Arkell, his father. The other branch is from Cherry 2d, brought to Summerhill in 1876 and was also bred at the above farm, tracing, like Favorite, to Beauty by Snowball (2647), which virtually reduces the foundation of the herd to a unit. These cows were both descended from the Adam Ferguson stock.

The first bull used from which stock now in the herd is descended was Sentinel—398—, bought from Mr. Jas. Tolton, Baron Sidonia—396—, by Duke of Springwood 16296, bred at Bow Park, came to Summerhill in 1877. Major, bred by Mr. Wilson, Ashgrove, followed in 1882, and was here three years. His sire was Corporal Trim—225—, and dam imported Duchess of Kent. Knight of Waterloo, bred at Willow Lodge, and out of Mr. Snell's imported Waterloo Warder—1055— (47222), dam Knightly Blanche by Knightly Duke (23633), came next, and is now supplanted by imported Red Prince, a smooth, neat, compact bull, brought out last year by Mr. Arkell, and bred by Daniel Arkell, Butters Court, Lechlade, Gloucestershire, England. He was got by Habis, dam Frosty (vol. xxxi. E. H. B.), by Prince of Geneva 16th, and tracing to the 15th dam Queen, bought of a Mr. Thompson. His full brother shown at Birmingham, 1885, took third in a ring of 131 bulls, and his half brother first at the same show, 1887. The other imported yearling bull Councilor, very similarly bred, is a strong, well built, rangy, vigorous and stylish animal.

Mr. Henry Arkell, the first neighbor eastward, has added field unto field until he has now 300 broad acres. At present 40 head of nice summer shippers are on the

pastures, a good deal of this being done in the county of Bruce.

#### VIEWFIELD,

situated on the upward slope and crest of the high, receding right-hand bank of the Saugeen, and overlooking the whole town of Walkerton, with some 3,000 inhabitants, and the pleasant country for miles beyond, and also taking in the wide sweep of the valley of the river, both above and below, till it disappears amid the high hills clad in luxuriant summer robes of densest shade, is one of the most beautiful locations that we have yet seen in the province of Ontario. It is owned and farmed by Mr. A. Shaw, Q. C., one of the most prominent and active residents of the county.

The farm is not large, but admirably tilled, its neatness, its cleanliness and the luxuriance of its crops reflecting creditably on the proprietor and his farm manager, Mr. Corbett. Its stock, high grade Shorthorn cattle and Oxford Down sheep, resting on Mr. P. Arkell's imported foundation, are, though few in number, of the first order. Its centre is crossed by a deep, irregular ravine, with water and shade in plenty, and amid the grotesque beauties of it the weary may find rest and relaxation, and the studious may dream of coming good. The lower portion of the farm rests upon a stratum of the famous lithograph stone, and may some day be filled with caverns where this has been extracted.

A prominent feature is the flourishing young apple orchard on the gentle slope of the westward central portion, consisting of 17 acres, and is one of the handsomest and best cared for in the province. Along the same border from the road to the bush in the rear is a double row of walnut trees, from four to six years old, with a row of maple nearer the outer rim, and still nearer one of spruce. These are most carefully cultivated and are making a rapid growth. The walnuts were raised from the nut. This quadruple row, which any farmer might have in time, furnishes protection, beauty and utility in a marked degree.

The dwelling, large, chaste neat, imposing, built of white brick, not imprisoned in close surroundings, nor its beauties buried amid encumbering shades, resting on one wide terrace, looks out upon a spacious lawn, beautiful in its simplicity, and is approached from the Walkerton direction by a winding way bordered on either side by closely shaven grassy fringes, beyond which are broad cultivated rims where almost every species of flower and shrub and tree furnished by the flora of this northern continent, grow in contented beauty, along with many specimens from other lands.

Money buried in the dark vaults of a bank in large quantity, although it may increase in volume, somehow corrodes the heart of its owner, and too often so contracts him that he shrinks inside of his former self, a skeleton of a dying generosity, but when it is discreetly put into the form of trees and flowers and other home attractions, its influences on all the dwellers of that home is humanizing, and as the young people thereof unfold daily in the advance of their upward onward journey, their sympathies are broadened, they drink in summer views of life, and a truer ideal of home and heaven is the almost certain outcome of such attractions surrounding a dwelling.

Our opinion of the riding of South Bruce as a producing district is very high, and in the wonderful material progress it has made, it puts many of the older sections to the blush. There is one serious problem, however, with which it must soon grapple—that is, the eradication of Canada thistles, or it will soon become a vast foraging field for