

had. There can be no doubt, however, of its being a good fertilizer, though of the quantity to be applied to a given area of land there is a great diversity of opinion. "The night soil or sewage of thirty-five persons is said to be the maximum satisfactory amount to be applied to one acre," though it is applied on Mr. Hope's farm, at Romford, England, in the proportion of 85 persons to an acre. It has been estimated that the night soil of England in the course of a single year is equivalent to 5,000,000 tons of the best guano. We have had, as already stated, the largest yield of potatoes from a compost of cow droppings and muck—the muck being in soil contained much additional vegetable matter. Neither of the component parts would be good by itself, but both being mixed in a heap, the fermentation and decomposition so necessary made the whole one mass of muck in the very best state to afford the food requisite for vegetable life, and for the great drought of the season they were peculiarly suitable. I am so convinced of the value of such composts that I have a large heap now in preparation. For currant bushes I have found that such compost adds greatly to the quality and size of the berries. I intend continuing my experiments with manure the ensuing season, and hope to be able to inform the readers of the *ADVOCATE* if another trial confirms the lessons of the past.—S.

Trip to Europe.

ISLINGTON HORSE EXHIBITION.

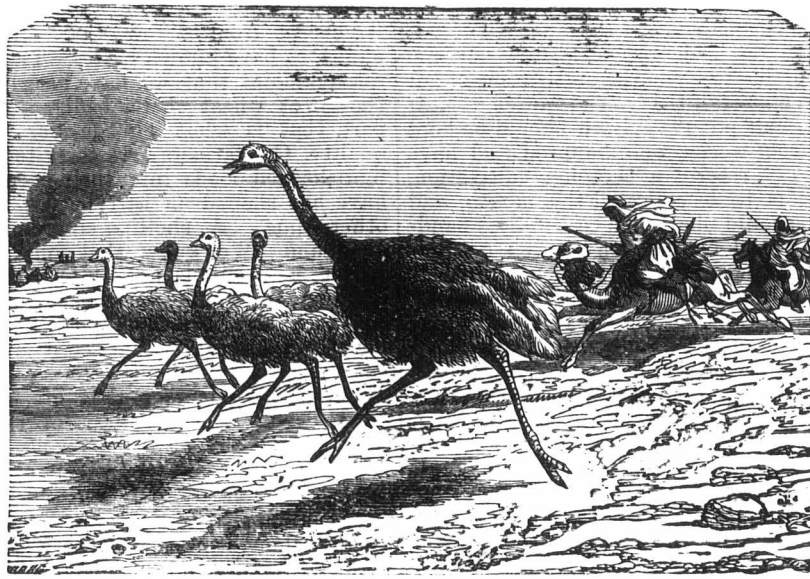
We went to see this exhibition one morning. The approach to the exhibition ring is lined with carriages, harness and saddles principally. There were other things also shown, such as churns, washing machines, &c., &c. The ring is large, in good order, and under cover. Reserved seats are over the heads of pedestrians, commanding a fine view of the ring. Numerous horses were on exhibition in the ring, nearly all of them being for sale. Female riders were showing off some of them to their best advantage, and showing themselves as well—perhaps they were both for sale. Hurdles having goss or furze woven in them are erected for the hurdle races. The horses on exhibition at this place are principally for carriage horses, riding, hunters, cobs, blood and Shetland ponies. The prices asked were very high compared with the price horse flesh used to command in England. We asked the price of a good hunter. Three hundred guineas was the reply—rather over \$1,500. A span of small fancy ponies—little tiny things—£70, or \$350. Prices ranged from these figures downwards. Good horses sold for \$300. We went for the purpose of seeing stallions, but there were very few there. The one that took our attention most was called Fireaway; he was a low set, heavy bodied, brownish sorrel; he had good limbs and wide chest; he would stand under 16 hands high; his crowning point was his speed as a trotter; he got the 1st prize. We did not wait to see him in the ring, as he would not be out until the afternoon. The price asked for him was 1,000 guineas, or over \$5,000. He was not near as handsome as Anglo-Saxon. We were not prepared to purchase stock, nor did we go with that intent, but we thought, even on that score, that the cost of carriage and other casualties, that the profits on importing him here would be very doubtful, as but few would be found willing to patronise him at such a price as his services should command. The only superiority this horse has over Anglo-Saxon is that he is a little faster for turf men and betting purposes, and for dashing a short distance this animal we presume stands first class. The fast men will sacrifice everything for speed, but for appearance, style, color, hardness of constitution and real utility, Anglo-Saxon now stands his victor.

We saw a pair of patent sheep shears in one of the stalls at this exhibition.

A sheep might be seen with a man in attendance, the latter having a novel kind of shears for sale. The shears are made like two fine saws, something like the sections of a mowing machine, about 2½ inches wide. It was claimed that an inexperienced hand could use them, and that he could not cut or injure the sheep with them. We examined the shears and tried them on a sheep, and found them much harder to work and slower than the common shears. We do not consider that they are worth anything, but some might, from the list of testimonials given, attempt to gull you. We say leave them alone.

STEAM SHEARING MACHINE.

When in the County of Sussex a shearing machine was reported to us by practical men to be doing good work. We were invited to go to the farm of an old friend and see it in operation, but our time was limited. The machine is from Australia. We feel we must go to England again ere long, as much work is to be done there to make your paper more instructive. It was necessary for us to return to look after the paper, and give our reports of the crops we were having tested, of which you have heard something, and will hear more at the proper season. The fall wheat you also desire to know about.



The Ostrich and Her Family in Flight with the Bedouins in Hot Pursuit.

Of the most interesting denizens of the the parched peninsula of Arabia, not the least interesting is the ostrich, of which we give a picture above. Being of great size, her short wings are insufficient to bear her as do other birds, but her long legs enable her to run over the ground with great rapidity, and her wings, though short, aid her in the flight, on the same principle, but with much greater force, as a man calls in the aid of his arms in running or a smart walk. She needs all the aid they can give her, for her pursuers are mounted on Arab coursers of the swiftest horses that speed over the desert, and the camel, "the ship of the desert," while the spear seems as if it would soon terminate her life. The Arab horse, which our illustration shows, is well worthy of a place in any work, and is the favorite of his owner, the semi-barbarous son of Ishmael, by whom he is treated with all the kindness of a dear child, and he repays the kindness with no less affection. From the Arab horse have descended the swiftest horses that have borne away the prizes in Old England, and some of the best in the continents of Europe and America.

To British Capitalists.

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

Numerous British capitalists have invested capital in Canadian railways, and a just complaint is made by them that a proper interest is not returned. The cause of this complaint is not because there is no work for the railroads, nor because the tariff is too low, for the railroads have had more work than they could possibly do, and the tariff, as regards the price paid by Canadians, has been high enough to give a high rate of interest. The cause of the deficiency, we believe, is mainly due to improper management of the controlling persons. They may have had a friend they wished to make wealthy. Some of them perhaps have been anxious to add a little more to their own hoard than they have earned fairly, by employing their abilities more to their own interest than to the interest of the company that has paid them their salaries to look after its interests, to whom their abilities had been hired. We fear that dishonorable acts have been the cause of the great complaints of the British capitalists. In one small matter, viz., the carrying business in its most profitable sense, has been taken out of the hands of the railway companies and placed in the hands of the express company. The question might be taken into consideration, who are the stockholders of this express company? What pecuniary interest have the friends of the managers or directors of the railroads had in this company? Why should not the British capitalist have the great profits of the carrying trade? Why have all small parcels, and sometimes large ones, been detained so long on the road

more reasonable rates, or have a curtailment of their business. If the railway companies will look into this matter, they can return better dividends to the stockholders. Better dividends implies more money for Canada at lower rates of interest, which again implies more improvements and a greater general prosperity. Down with injurious monopolies!

The Weather and Crops.

We have had one of the most severe droughts during the past three months that we have ever known in Canada. Fortunately the early sown crops, winter wheat and hay, were not injured to any extent by it, but the late crops, in many sections, have suffered to an alarming extent. The pasture lands have been in a dried, parched, dead looking state for a long time. Cattle in many places are now very poor. Nearly every one has been under the necessity of feeding more or less of their winter store. Creeks and wells have become dry. Many farmers have only watered their stock three or four times a week, having to drive in some instances ten miles to do that. The root crops must be light—in many places a total failure. Hops have not got their growth, and consequently must be a light crop. The fall wheat—much has been sown in land as hot and dry as a heap of ashes. In some places moisture sufficient to cause some of the wheat to germinate may have been found, but the continuation of the drought, with the thermometer at 98° in the shade, must shrivel the germ, consequently much of the wheat will be very uneven when rain comes and causes the other to grow. We hope it may come before this reaches you, but we write these remarks early, as we wish to see the exhibitions. The thermometer yesterday was 110° degrees in the sun in our warehouse window. We should not be at all surprised if considerable of the wheat sown would be so much injured as to necessitate reseeded in the spring. Some farm-ers have abandoned the hope of raising any fall wheat, and will not now sow. Lean stock cattle will be cheap. Make beef of what you can, begin to feed grain early. One bushel fed this month will put on as much fat as two, three, four or five, would do, or even ten, in cold weather. This will depend on the treatment of the animal.

Recent Stock Importations.

- C. Moser, of Tuckersmith, one Clyde-dale stallion.
- Mr. Lawree, Scarborough, one Clyde mare, one Clyde stallion, one Ayrshire cow, and one Ayrshire calf.
- Mr. Lepere, two Clyde horses.
- A. Allan, of Montreal, three Ayrshire cows.
- Mr. McEhren, of Montreal, two fillies—one yearling one and a two years old.
- James Dolriell, Galt, one Clyde stallion.
- Jas. Franks, Harrietsville, a two year old Clyde mare.
- Beattie & Co., 150 sheep, 7 stallions and Ayrshires.

We have not the correct number of Durhams, Cotswolds, Leicesters, horses and hogs imported by the several breeders this season, but they are more numerous than usual. Nutter & Beattie, we hear, are importing largely. Craig, Snell and others have also brought a lot of fresh blood into our country. Our exhibitions will be improved by their appearance.

The Agricultural Emporium.

Nearly all of you have had the opportunity of reading the charter of this institution. You all have had an opportunity to take one share. We presume the time is not far distant when the stock will be worth a premium, and some of you will then regret that you had not taken a share at an earlier date. You still have an opportunity, and we would recommend and advise one subscriber at each P. O. to apply for one. They can only cost you \$20. You may gain hundreds in a year by the advantages that may be derived from it. Remember, time past never returns.

CHEESE FACTORIES IN CANADA.

Cheese factories in Canada are said to be on the increase. There is no reason why many districts in the Provinces should not compete successfully with the dairy districts of the United States. There is no danger of glutting the market. The *Western Rural* has always taken the ground, and does yet, that increased production always produces increased consumption, if the commodity only be one of general value to the community.

A. G. DEADMAN, CULT.

Dear Sir,—

I wish to make explanation in leading facts of given in one of pecially as it m and condemnat most disgraceful verdict, irrespe rules laid down sociation, by on the Rev. R. Bu of the Fruit tively swearing four highly resp in their respect reproach, and v their bonds, th same class and other sections of were opponents peting with me taken place. I those who hear that he swore known were m merited the com when we remen vindicator and also, that he is tinctive name h both the Frui Provincial Agri dent of the first of the other.

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