

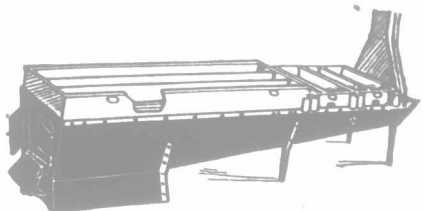


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**DR. T. S. SPROULE'S SHORTHORN SALE.**

An event of far-reaching importance to the farmers and breeders of Shorthorn cattle in Ontario, is the dispersal by auction, on Wednesday, November 25th, at Markdale, of the entire herd of 45 head of Scotch and Scotch-topped Shorthorn cattle, the property of Dr. T. S. Sproule, M. P., rendered necessary by the continually increasing Parliamentary and other duties of the Doctor, which leaves him practically no time to look after the interests of his large herd of Shorthorns. The herd is essentially a dual-purpose one, among which are a few of the low-down, thick sort, belonging to the Flora tribe, the others tracing to Beauty (imp.), Lady Jane (imp.), and Margaret (imp.), the whole making an exceptionally choice and interesting offering. A large number of them are one-, two- and three-year-old heifers, and some very choice young things will be found in the lot. On the sire's side the herd represents the get of Forrester 30643, Cedarville Chief 26838, Lord Gloster 26995, Magnet 37614, Markdale Chief 47369, and Squire Boy 53305. In young bulls there will be sold Royal Aberdeen, a roan two-year-old, by Imp. Choice Koral, dam Miss Aberdeen, a 'Lady Jane.' Royal Ensign, a red yearling, by Royal Standard 2nd 60822, dam by Lord Gloster. Flora's Chief, a red yearling, by same sire, dam by Village Squire. Royal Chief, a roan two-year-old, by same sire, dam by Village Squire. Then there is a red eleven-months-old, by Trout Creek Choice 57962, dam Annie Stamford, a Toronto winner. Another is a red eight-months-old, by same sire, dam by Imp. Scottish Hero. Still another is a red, same age, by same tribe, dam by Imp. Captain Mayfly. A high-class herd-header can be had in this lot.

**The World's Biggest Farm.**

The "biggest farm" it can be called is that owned by Don Luis Terrazas, in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, which measures from north to south 150 miles, and from east to west 200 miles, or 8,000,000 acres in all. On its prairie and mountains roam 1,000,000 head of cattle, 700,000 sheep and 100,000 horses, says the New York Post. The "finchouse" is probably the most magnificent in the world, for it cost almost \$320,000 to build, and is more richly furnished than many a royal palace. On the homestead alone are employed 100 male servants. The gardens are superbly laid out, the stables more magnificent than those of the German Emperor, and there is accommodation for 500 guests if necessary.

Scattered over the vast ranch are 100 outlying stations, each one of which has charge of a certain portion of the estate. The horsemen, cow-punchers, line-riders, shepherds and hunters number 2,000, and the Terrazas ranch is the only one in the world which maintains its own slaughtering and packing plant. Each year 150,000 head of cattle are slaughtered, dressed and packed, and 100,000 sheep. Don Luis personally superintends the different industries on his ranch, covering many thousands of miles on horse-back during a twelve-month. Don Luis was at one time Governor of Chihuahua, but public life did not suit him; it was too quiet, and he preferred to spend his life riding over the plains and looking after his own enterprises. He is three times as rich as any other man in Mexico.

Don Luis founded his cattle ranch about fourteen years ago, and four years later he sought to import the finest cattle from Scotland and England. But there was a considerable difficulty in the way. The import duty on foreign cattle was so heavy that it was impossible to bring over animals in quantities sufficient for his purpose, so Don Luis appealed to the Mexican Government, pointing out the absurdity of restricting importation of good stock into the country, and succeeded in getting the import tax repealed.

Five years ago Terrazas installed on his ranch four big reservoirs, costing \$500,000, besides which there are 300 wells scattered over the huge farm, some of them going down to a depth of 500 feet. These wells, the water from which is raised by means of windmills, cost another \$500,000. Every kind of grain is grown, and Don Luis is constantly experimenting in the raising of different "foods" for supplying the wants of his immense herds during the rainless season.

**GOSSIP.**

**If You Are Lost in the Woods.**

Let the man who is lost in the woods be very careful not to over-exert himself. His chief dangers lie in panic and over-exertion, and, though he may be in a great hurry to find shelter, I must warn him to go slowly. Two miles an hour, on an average, through the snow in the woods, is all that a man in his condition will be able to stand without over-fatigue and its attendant dangers, overheating and perspiration. By exercising caution, a man may live through a week of what he is undergoing. To make this article brief, however, we shall suppose that he regains the road by the afternoon of the first day. He doesn't yet know, of course, just where he is. He should examine the tracks of the person who last passed that way. It being afternoon he must follow in the direction taken by the last passing vehicle or team, as shelter will be nearest in that direction. Had it been morning he would have taken the opposite direction, as whoever made the tracks must have come from the place where he obtained shelter the previous night.—From "Lost in the Woods," by A. B. Carleton, in the Outing Magazine for November.

Elsa—The paper says that the bride was unattended.

Stella—That notice was written up in advance of the wedding; but it was a good guess: the bridegroom failed to show up.—Puck.

**A Glimpse at Ancient Agriculture.**


How the Way Was Paved for the Seedsman.

Though the farming industry is as old almost as the human race itself, the craft of the commercial seed merchant did not come into existence till about a couple of hundred years ago. In a lecture of much historic interest Professor Wilson, B.Sc., dealt with this subject of "The Advent of the Seedsman" before a meeting of the Dublin Seed and Nursery Employees' Association, in the Royal College of Science, Dublin, a few weeks ago. His discourse on this theme, says the Irish Farmers' Gazette, was mainly concerned in outlining the development of agriculture from the earliest times of crudeness and simplicity, through the gradual changing periods in which it reflected the social and political life of the altering eras, until it attained towards the eighteenth century a modern complexity and, so to speak, a "many-sidedness" which not merely warranted but absolutely demanded the rise of specialists in various departments of agricultural activity. Thus briefly, in the abstract, was the origin of the seed trade. In unfolding the story of this agricultural progression the lecturer, assisted by some lantern slides, greatly interested his hearers.

The farming to which the lecturer first introduced his hearers was that practiced over the greater portion of Northern Europe, including Great Britain, about 1,500 years ago and earlier. Apparently this was an age of small holdings, for we were told that the land surrounding the villages in which the natives usually congregated and lived, was divided on the Communist system, and each man had his three acres for himself. It was fairly distributed, too, as to avoid any individual securing a monopoly of a rich patch of ground each person's three acres were made up of three single-acre plots in different portions of the divided area. Their crops were not very numerous, viz., wheat, oats or barley, beans and peas, and the general practice was to let the land lie fallow once every three years in order that it might be cleaned, the "rotation" followed being grain first year, beans and peas second year and fallow third year. Flax-growing engaged the attention of the women folk to a limited extent, and down by the river sides willows were cultivated for basket-making purposes. As can be realized in those earlier times forests abounded on all hands, and in these the live stock, such as sheep and pigs, were turned loose to graze. They were, however, driven in upon the stubbles when the crops were removed, and the autumn, therefore, was the best time of the year for the animals in question. The plowing and other farm work was, of course, accomplished by means of oxen, and, as these had to put in their daily task, their feeding was more generously attended to, and they received the benefit of a pasture field. In those old days they evidently did not believe in putting a premium on laziness, and in order to make every man hurry up with his harvest, it was a recognized custom that when there was not more than one field of produce unsecured, the hungry animals from the forest would be turned in on the stubbles; in other words, the man who was so dilatory and careless that his crops were still out when all his neighbors had gathered theirs in, ran the risk of having a hoard of ravenous pigs or sheep admitted to his patch in common with the rest of the land. So long, however, as two or more men's crops were out the animals were excluded, and this fact was, it is fancied, availed of by the primitive subtlety of those days, as a kindly-disposed neighbor could generally be induced to purposely delay the drawing in of his harvest and thus save the situation for one whose work was backward.

This seems to have been the condition of farming for some centuries, until, owing to the inherent tendency in man to squabble with his fellows, it began to be a fashionable pastime for one village to pick a quarrel with a neighboring village, and to settle their disputes, not by arbitration, but in the more orthodox, if less humane, "mortal-combat" style. The millennial order of things was reversed and plowshares were beaten

(Continued on next page.)



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**Valuable Premiums Given Away Free!**

Herewith will be found the picture of a Castle on a hill and some old trees. At first glance, no one would notice anything else, but by close observation and perseverance two full figures and five faces can be found. The figures are those of a King and a Queen and the faces those of the Princesses.

Can you find them? It is not easy, but by patience and perseverance, you can probably find them all.

If you find them all, you are entitled to your choice of any one of the premiums mentioned below. Send your reply with a simple statement about which we will write you as soon as we have received your solution to the puzzle.



It is not necessary to write up a letter. Simply mark X with a pencil on each one of the full figures and five faces, then write your name and address on the blank below very plainly, cut out the advertisement and return it to us. We will write you at once telling you about the condition that must be placed to.

The condition mentioned above does not involve the spending of one cent of your money. This is an excellent opportunity to obtain a handsome and useful present. Do not delay, write to-day. It is possible you may not see this advertisement again. Only one premium is given in each locality. So if you wish to have one, be the first to apply and state which present you would like to receive.

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- Ladies' Solid Silver Watchcase;
- China Tea Sets.
- Rogers Silverware Dinner Sets.
- (Six silver plated halves and six knives)
- Rogers Silverware Dessert Sets.
- (Six Dessert Spoons, Six Tea Spoons, Sugar Shells, Butter Knives, etc.)
- Gold Filled Parlor Clocks.
- Water and Lemonade Sets.
- Photograph Albums.
- Ten Key Hardwood Accordions.
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- Telnet Sets.
- Parlor Lamps, etc., etc.

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(State which premium you desire.)

Do not fail to write your name and address very plainly.

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