

Mr. John Jackson's Southdowns.

Our front page illustration of Southdowns is a fair representation of one of the finest flocks of this breed of sheep on the continent, owned by John Jackson & Sons, Woodside Farm, Abingdon, Lincoln County, Ont. This is one of the oldest flocks in the Dominion, established over thirty years, although it has been entirely renewed during the last thirteen years by importations of the best to be found in England. The Messrs. Jackson have been particular in securing the very best stock rams, both for pedigree and individual merit, regardless of cost. The same practice has been followed in the selection of the ewes. The following is a list of Royal winners added to the flock during the last ten years: 1st and 2nd prize ewes at York in 1883; 1st prize ewes at Shrewsbury in 1884; 1st prize ewes at Newcastle in 1887; 2nd prize ewes at Nottingham, 1888; 1st prize ewes at Windsor, 1889; 1st prize ewes at Plymouth, 1890; reserve number at Warwick, 1892.

The stock rams used in the flock in 1892 were as follows: Imported Norwich Beau—2919—, bred by J. J. Colman; this ram has been shown twenty-five times and has won as many first prizes, having never taken a lower place. Imported Royal Warwick—5609—, bred by E. Ellis; this ram was second prize at the Bath & West, also second at the Oxford Show, and reserve number at the Royal at Warwick, and first at Toronto and London in 1892. Imported Lodore [44], bred by Geo. Jonas; this ram was second prize at Toronto and London in 1892. Imported Bill—5614—, bred by E. Ellis—a lineal descendant of Royal Newcastle; this sheep was second at London and first at four other shows as a lamb in 1892. Imported Warnham (410), Vol. 2, E. F. B., bred by C. T. Lucas; this sheep was second prize as a lamb at Toronto, 1892. Imported Ben—5613—, bred by E. Ellis, was first prize as a lamb at London, 1892. The lambs of this year, although by so many different sires, are a very even lot.

The Woodside flock has been shown with great success at the largest shows in Canada and the United States, and during the last ten years have been awarded over one thousand prizes, including ten gold and silver medals, making a clean sweep of the Detroit International Show for two years in succession.

The Messrs. Jackson always take pleasure in showing their flock to all interested in this breed of sheep. The lot selected for the World's Fair at Chicago is an exceedingly fine lot all round. Customers can be supplied with rams and ewes not akin, and when the quality of the sheep are considered the prices are as low as the lowest.

The ewe lamb in the front of our illustration, Duchess Northumberland—5615—, was bred by His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, Albury Park, Guildford, England. She has for her sire Ellis "117" (300), that won the champion prize for best ram any age or breed at the Bath and West, and at the Oxford shows in 1891. This lamb took first prize at Toronto and London, also at the Fat Stock Show at Guelph in 1892. The two shearing ewes on the right and left are twin sisters, bred at Woodside; sired by Norwich Beau—2919—, their dam being Royal Windsor "5"—4318—, one of the pen of ewes awarded first prize at the Royal Show at Windsor, 1889. These two ewes were first prize as lambs at Toronto, Detroit, Montreal and Ottawa in 1891; and when shown singly in the shearing class were first and second, and were in the flock that won first, the get of one ram, at the Fat Stock Show at Guelph, 1892, where they were photographed for this sketch.

Farmers who only send their milk once a day should be very careful to thoroughly stir and aerate the evening milk, for if this is not done the cream will be in flakes, which will not readily enter the pipette, and the patron will not be paid for all the butterfat his milk really contains. Do not blame the factory manager for fraud, or at least carelessness, unless you give him a proper sample to work with. Milk will also make more cheese and better cheese when thoroughly aerated.

Though it is a recognized fact that both the docking and castrating of lambs should be done while they are quite young, still many farmers neglect it until the warm weather arrives—when not only is the suffering and loss of blood greater and the recovery more doubtful, but the flies will be troublesome, and unless the lambs are closely watched death may result. If the above operations have not already been performed, lose no time about it now, while the weather is cool and before the flies make their appearance. A wether lamb will fatten easier, will not worry the ewes, can be fed later in the season, and lastly is worth more per pound.

A cheap insecticide has been prepared by B. W. Kilgore, assistant chemist of the North Carolina Experiment Station, as follows:—A mixture of one pound of the commercial white arsenic and two pounds of lime, boiled together for half an hour in from two to five gallons of water, and then diluted to about one hundred gallons of water.

The death of Joseph Harris, at "Moreton Farm," in New York State, has removed one of the best known American agricultural writers of the past quarter century. He did much to promote the application of scientific methods to farming. Among his most widely read works were "Talks on Manures," "Walks and Talks on the Farm," and "Harris on the Pig."

Do not neglect your currant bushes at this busy season of the year. During the press of spring work they are apt to be forgotten until the worms have stolen a march on the farmer and left the bushes nearly bare of leaves. Paris green may be used to destroy the first brood, but is too dangerous for use later on. Powdered Hellebore is the best remedy, either dusting it on pure or mixing with proportions of two pounds to forty gallons of water, or one part to ten of dust, ashes, or flour.

We hear that sharpers are now practising a new fraud upon unsuspecting farmers, so it will be well for them to be on their guard. A man drives up to a farmer's house in great haste and gives him a telegram announcing the serious illness of some relative. On the face of the envelope the charges are \$3 or \$5. He pays the charges and takes the first train for the home of the relative, only to find on arriving there that he has been duped. The stranger is miles away swindling some other honest tiller of the soil.

Get your spraying apparatus ready, so that when it is wanted for use you will not have to drive ten or twelve miles for a new pump, repairs to the old one, or for a supply of chemicals. A delay of two or three days at the proper season of the year will be just enough time to allow the grubs to get beyond the reach of Paris green, and the spraying will be comparatively useless. Never spray while the trees are in full bloom, for no good will be done and bees may be poisoned, but just as soon as the petals fall make the first application.

Are your trees troubled with the oyster shell bark louse? If so, now is the time to spray with kerosene emulsion to kill the young larvae. They leave the parent scale towards the end of May and make their way to the small twigs, where they insert their tiny beaks and never move from the spot again. In a few days threads grow out from their bodies, and in a very short time they are covered with a perfect shield, when nothing but the scraping of the tree will dislodge them. Spray while in the unprotected state with kerosene emulsion, made as follows:—Dissolve half pound of common soap in one gallon of boiling water; pour into two gallons of coal oil; churn with a force pump; when cold dilute with nine parts of water.

Have the Paris green ready for the potato beetles as soon as they make their appearance. Each female killed at this time may be said to represent five or ten hundred of the succeeding generation, for if not prevented she will lay that number of eggs. The handiest way to apply Paris Green at this stage is in the dry form; take old cans, punch holes in the bottom, and dust it on the plants where the beetles are at work, in the proportion of one part to forty of plaster, ashes or flour. Later on, when you have to apply to the whole crop, mix with water, and use the force pump, and apply in proportion of one pound to two hundred or two hundred and fifty gallons of water. The combined mixture (Bordeaux and Paris green) gives good results. See last issue, page 183.

Some farmers seem afraid that the introduction of the Babcock test for the division of proceeds in creameries and cheese factories will place an undue power in the hands of an inexperienced or unscrupulous person who may be in charge of the factory. In marketing grain, the seller either watches the scales, or what is better, has weighed the load privately. Many farmers occasionally check the weight of milk credited to them by the use of their own scales. Every farmer who sends milk may have a small Babcock, and know the per cent. of fat which his milk contains. Then if any variation is disclosed by the report received from the factory, he can soon find out the reason why. Besides this, he can test his cows individually, and if in quality as well as quantity any of them do not prove themselves good milkers, they should be discarded.

Winnipeg Industrial.

Much interest is being taken in the exhibition this year, and the Directors confidently anticipate a much larger display than last year. Two large, new horse stables are in course of erection, and many improvements are being made to other buildings and to the grounds. Many special prizes are offered in the prize list, which will be out in a few days. The ADVOCATE offers a very handsome marble clock, with a bronze ornament on top, as a sweepstake prize for the best stallion any age, open to the Carriage, Thoroughbred and Hackney classes; and also a beautiful silver egg stand for the best pair of fowls in the exhibition.

Timely Notes for June—No. 1.

TARIFF REFORM OR REMOVAL.

Personally I am in favor of "Removal" with a large R, but on the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread, I would like to indicate some of the lines on which farmers should insist on sweeping reductions. The following articles amongst others should be absolutely free:—Garden and farm seeds (25 and 10%); wearing apparel (10c. per lb. and 25%); bags of all kinds (35%, 25%, etc., etc.); Scales (35%); Bibles (5%); blankets (10c. per lb. and 20%); books (15%); corn (7c. per bush.); cotton fabrics (15%, 25%, etc.); cutlery (20%, 25%, etc.); woolen fabrics (22½%, etc.). And on agricultural machinery, barbed wire, binding twine, and in fact all the prime necessities of the farming population, the duty should be reduced, if not altogether abolished. The duty on spirits, jewelry, wines and luxuries in general should be increased to such an extent that nearly the entire revenue might be collected from luxuries, and have the necessities free. A tariff for revenue is all that we need. Let us have more chance given the masses to acquire a competence, and less opportunity for a few to become millionaires.

SUPPLEMENTAL CROPS.

A good many this year will be backward with their work, and will be debating whether to sow after 1st June or follow the land. If you have even a few cattle to feed it will, I think, be found profitable to sow a few acres in oats and peas, oats and millet, or a mixture of grains to cut on the green side (before the grain hardens) for fodder. I know from experience that a good stack of this green-cut fodder is greedily eaten by cows, even in the middle of May, and returned with interest in the pail. I wish I had more of it this season. In summerfallowing I find that the best men recommend and practice firming the soil after the first (and only) plowing. In no other way can this be done better than by growing a catch-crop of rape or strap-leaf turnips broadcast after the last harrowing, say in beginning of August. Just sow the seed thinly over the piece and roll it in. The cattle will eat it off in the fall when the prairie grass is dry and withered, and will also press the ground solid by their tramping.

GENERAL.

Carbolic preparations are better than sulphur in a setting hen's nest.

Keep the young chicks free from parasites.

An advocate of the small breeds of hens declares he gets ahead of the Brahma and Plymouth Rock men by giving less value for the same money—his eggs being so much smaller. Isn't it time they were sold by weight?

I see Mrs. Tilson criticized for her weight of eggs by a Plymouth Rock breeder, but as Mrs. T. says she has Leghorns she may still be right. My own eggs from Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks and half-breds average eight to the pound.

I have kept Leghorns, Hamburgs "*et hoc genus omne*," but though they certainly laid, especially the White Leghorns, a great many eggs, my chief difficulty was to find them—the crows, gophers and ground squirrels got as many as I did, while my Light Brahmas and Plymouth Rocks lay almost invariably in the stables or hen-house, and taking the year round I fancy I get a greater number of eggs, and certainly more meat and chickens.

"Arid America," I see, is giving up the idea of rain-making, and is going sensibly to work to irrigate. They should come here and get their moisture in the natural way.

Keep another pig instead of that superfluous dog. He will eat less, and will not bite off your cows' tails.

I am glad to see the Tamworth pigs coming to the fore. They certainly are prolific, and they grow very rapidly. "INVICTA."

Crop Prospects.

Notwithstanding the lateness with which spring opened, the weather throughout May was warm, and we were blessed with several warm showers, so that vegetation is now as far advanced as usual; the seed, having been sown after the ground was warmed, came away very rapidly. Doubtless more land will be sown with oats and barley, and a much greater per cent. will be followed. Much of the fall wheat in Ontario has been turned under and resown with spring wheat. The American wheat crop is reported much below the average. Great Britain and the Continent of Europe generally have been suffering severely from drought, so that on the whole the "outlook" for wheat is good, and besides the C. P. R. promise a reduction in freight rates on wheat.