

tunity of being present at each of the fairs, which cannot be the case when two of them are simultaneously held;—and some alteration is required in the Constitution, so as to give better facilities for holding an annual County Show, which should not take place until after the Township ones; this arrangement would be proceeding from the smaller to the greater, giving an opportunity of ascertaining, first, the best articles locally, then bringing them into a more extended competition.

All competitions for premiums at these exhibitions excite, as they are meant to do, a keen spirit of rivalry, and as, from the imperfection of man's nature, we are all more apt to observe the beauties than the defects of our own properties, it is often difficult to convince even the candid and honest that they have been justly dealt with in the awarding of premiums; therefore great pains should be taken by the Directors to afford all possible satisfaction in this respect, so that the society may maintain the confidence of the people, which is indispensable to its prosperity.

In addition to the foregoing remarks on the management of the society, it would be the duty of the President, and is my inclination to discharge that duty, if competent, to offer some suggestions of improvement on our present practice in farming as to stock, tillage, implements and the like.

The improvement of farm stock and produce, coupled as they are together in the foregoing constitution of the association, must likewise be coupled in our practical operations.

The natural wants of farm stock should be regularly supplied, whether that stock be horses, horned cattle, sheep, swine or poultry; they should have shade, salt, drink, and good pasture in summer; they should be well housed, carefully attended and fed in winter;—this can be most advantageously done on a productive farm, and there only can the keeping and rearing of good stock be rendered profitable.

As the keeping of good stock requires a productive farm to afford them these requisites, so does the productive farm require good stock, the better to convert its coarser products into cash.

Although the common breed of cattle in this country drag out a miserable existence, without being housed, with little attendance, and scanty fare, they would yield a better return to the owner under better treatment; it is a loss to neglect even the inferior description of stock, and as care is necessary, that care may as well be bestowed on an improved as on an inferior stock.

The growing of root crops is a highly profitable branch of good farming, and almost indispensable to the wintering of stock. In some parts of this Province as much as 800 bushels of turnips per acre is frequently raised: this quantity properly secured and regularly fed during the winter to ten head of cattle, at the rate of half a bushel per day each, with a proper allowance of hay and straw, would yield a good return to the dairy or the shambles, as well as in the superior health and

growth of young stock. It may be said of both farm stock and produce that they yield remunerative returns in proportion to the nourishment which they judiciously and economically receive.

The manure heap is the great source of nourishment to the soil and its products: the housing and good feeding of stock gives increase to the heap beyond what it would arrive at without the system of housing and good feeding. Industry in collecting and skill in economizing manure, whether liquid or solid, is one of the most valuable lessons inculcated by the advocates of high farming. Every farmer should have a manure pit into which the liquid manure would run from all his cattle-houses, and into which should be collected everything convertible to the same purpose that could conveniently be obtained. "A penny saved is a penny gained." Every nuisance could there be converted into gold—even the Canada thistle as well as every other noxious weed that springs up. So careful of manure are the farmers become now in parts of Great Britain, that to prevent the escape of the more active gases so beneficial in stimulating the varied forms of vegetable re-production, they cover over with soil each little heap carted out on the fields, till it can be conveniently ploughed into the soil, digging little ditches around those heaps to catch the rains that wash them, and carefully returning this liquid again into those heaps.

The sooner we follow their example in this respect the better.

The proper keeping of superior stock, good ploughing, substantial fencing, an occasional covered drain, with plenty of open surface ones, a good supply of manure mixed into the soil, a seasonable sprinkling of lime, due regard to a rotation of crops, with skill and promptitude in securing them, constitute an important portion of good farming; and until we understand and practice these plain rudiments of the science, elaborate research into the modern discoveries in agricultural chemistry would but little avail in the balance sheet of profit and loss at the end of the season.

The Committee appointed at the special meeting of the society, held in October last, to purchase improved Stock, have reported their proceedings to the Secretary, which report with other communications will be read for the information of the Society.

Lastly, gentlemen, permit me to recommend that a change of President take place annually, as the honorable distinction of holding that office for a season would be likely to stimulate the influential and intelligent portion of the agriculturists to exert themselves in this common cause; and under this impression, I return you my sincere thanks for the honor done me in my appointment a year ago to the office, and now beg leave to tender you my resignation.

The Society having appointed their President to purchase a number of Durham Bulls, he procured four animals of the best description of that