

DAIRY DEPARTMENT.

N. Dickey, Editor.

COLORING CHEESE.

This is an entirely useless and expensive habit, first introduced, we presume, for the purpose of deceiving customers, by giving the article a rich appearance. Persons accustomed to the use of cheese will prefer the colored to the uncolored, although much inferior. Of course it is not generally known among consumers that the color is artificial. There is nothing in the coloring matter injurious, as it is the outside of the seed of a tree called the *Bisa prellum*, but it is sometimes adulterated with poisonous compounds. Besides the danger of the coloring matter containing poisonous substances, it is troublesome and expensive, and adds not the least to the nutritive value of the cheese. In some of the English markets pale cheese is preferred, but in the majority the yellow.

We have been speaking of some two or three dairymen on the subject, and they think it would be well if the practice was stopped. Of course it would be utterly folly

To Advertisers.

The Molsons Bank in this city has let their business be known through the columns of this journal, and we are happy to record the fact that whereas its paid-up capital was one million, it is now two millions; its rest was \$60,000, and now it is \$300,000. No bank in this city has ever progressed so rapidly.

THE AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT SOCIETY has increased its legitimate and uninflated business in the most permanent manner, and is doing one of the surest and safest businesses in the city. His money is in safe and reliable keeping who places his capital into this institution.

THE AGRICULTURAL MUTUAL ASSURANCE COMPANY are doing a larger business with farmers than any other in this Dominion. Their advertisements always appear in the columns of this paper. Farmers, you may depend on correct business being done by each of the above institutions.

Stock sales that have taken place during the past month have been most successful to those whose advertisements have appeared in this paper. We know of some sales of

We have noticed many reports of this variety in our exchanges. One in particular—a clipping in the *Canada Farmer*, last year, stating that it yielded fully three times as much as ordinary buckwheat.

We can supply a few bushels at the following rates: \$2.50 per bushel; $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel, \$1.50; 1 peck, \$1—bags included.

The farmers of the Province of Quebec are uniting to establish a combination sale of blooded stock; many leading breeders are sending stock to it from long distances. The sale is to take place at Montreal. The advertisement appears in this paper. We suppose the managing committee will most probably make arrangements with the R. R. Co. to carry persons attending the sale at a reduced rate. We hear, also, that a similar sale is contemplated by the breeders west of London. We have a few Short Horn bulls on our list to dispose of.

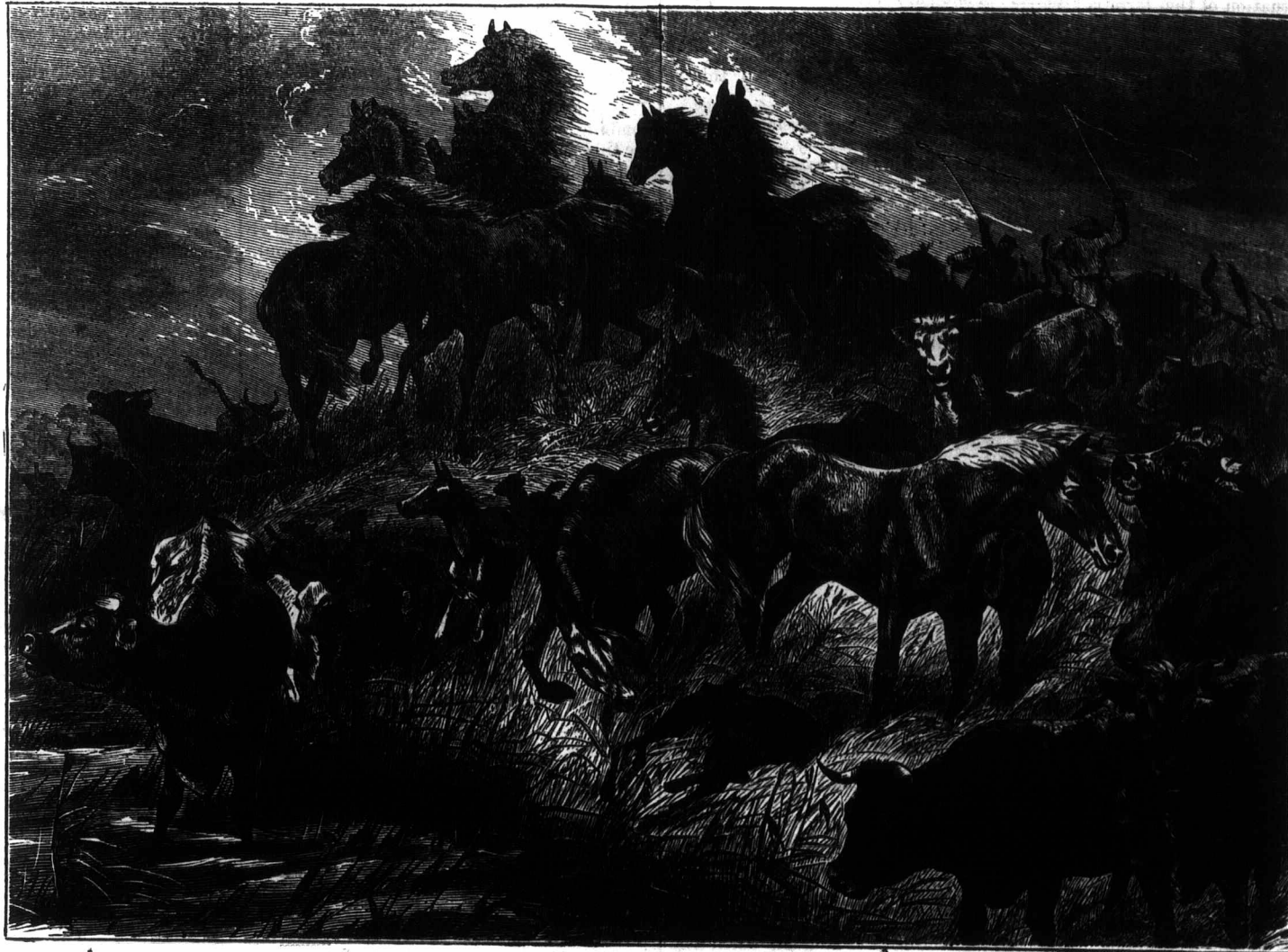
FARMERS' CLUBS.

We notice with great satisfaction the increase of these institutions in all parts of the country, and notably in the New England

new fruits, flowers, implements and stock. They break up the dull routine of the farmer's life, and are doing something to make farm life attractive to the young.

We have often called the attention of our readers to the value of these clubs in past years, and are glad to see that the good seed sown is springing up in so many places. The State Board of Agriculture in Connecticut has been doing a good work the past winter, in holding meetings in connection with these clubs in various parts of the State, for lectures and discussions. The meetings have generally been confined to one day in a place, holding three sessions. Lectures have been given by Professors Johnson and Atwater, and by the Secretary, T. S. Gold, with discussions at the close. It would do much to popularize the work of our boards of agriculture if they would follow the example of Connecticut in all the States.—*American Agriculturist*.

We hear the beautiful Agricultural Exhibition Grounds of this city are to be sacrificed to city purposes, and city interest, also that grounds are to be procured for Agricultural purposes, in the selection of which, the first thing that will be considered will be the city interests.



THE AUSTRALIAN CATTLE SCENE.

for us in Canada to stop it, unless the Americans do the same, as it would injure our sales. We think that it will only be necessary to suggest the abolition of the practice at the Dairymen's Conventions, and it will no doubt be acted upon by dairymen on both sides of the lines. If so acted upon we do not think any loss would accrue on sales, if the reform was well advertised in the English markets and also at our home markets. We hope those interested will make the necessary effort at the proper time, and not neglect the throwing off of a bad habit before it gets too deeply rooted in the imagination. There can be nothing advanced in favor of its continuance, while much can be advanced against it.

Use of Bone Dust.

Mr. Thos. Evans, of London Township, reports the following good effects from the use of bone dust:—On one of the poorest farms within ten miles of London he raised eight acres of Western Corn last year, which he sold as it stood in the ground for \$170.—He put on a mixture of bone dust and manure.

Short Horns that took place during the past month that might have been advertised in local papers; but buyers were wanting, and the prices paid were low, in fact, some stock could not be sold.

Our paper has the largest circulation among the leading farmers.

Silver-Hull Buckwheat.

We quote the following description from the Catalogue of B. K. Bliss & Son:

"This extraordinary variety, originated abroad and carefully tested here for three years, is now offered as a great improvement upon the ordinary black or grey buckwheat. Sown at the same time as the common buckwheat, it continues in bloom longer, matures a few days sooner, and yields nearly or quite double under the same conditions.

"The grain is of a beautiful light grey color, varying slightly in shade, and the corners are much less prominent than in the ordinary variety, while the husk is thinner, thereby saving from 15 to 20 per cent. waste in the process of manufacturing into flour, which flour is whiter and more nutritious."

States, and the provision they are making for the entertainment of rural communities. They are so well managed in many places that they contribute a very important element to the social and intellectual life of the people. They are taking the place of lyceums, and to some extent of balls and fashionable parties. Their informal and business character makes them attractive to many who think they have no time for visiting and social enjoyments. Pomology and floriculture receive a due share of attention, and make the meetings acceptable to villagers, who have only fruit yards, gardens and conservatories. Indeed, the most flourishing clubs generally have their centre in the village, and the winter meetings are held in some public hall. Sometimes a course of lectures is given, which draws full houses from village and country. Often there are discussions upon questions of practical interest, which bring out the experience of the best cultivators in the town. Exhibitions of fruit and flowers, and exchanges of grafts and seeds and eggs are frequent adjuncts of the meetings, and not the least important of their advantages. The educating power of these clubs is very great. They quicken thought in many ways. They direct the attention to the best methods of husbandry. They serve to economize time and labor, and introduce

Australian Cattle Scene.

Last month we presented our readers with an illustration of the Ashantee farmer tilling his fertile plains. We now present them with a pastoral scene from the youngest of the continents, as Australia has been sometimes called. From Ashantee to Australasia we take our good readers; but throughout the earth we are now no strangers to each other—science has brought us near. England's Postal Service now girdles the earth, and this great mail route of over ten thousand miles, girdling the earth in about fifty days, has been established after repeated efforts. Where the kangaroo lately browsed. The scenes presented in our illustration is such as to remind us of the lovely scenes so familiar to us in the Island-Empire of Europe, with the stock of improved English blood. The progress of civilization in Australasia has been so rapid that "towns and villages, dome and farm," are like similar objects of beauty in the old countries. In Australasia, under the happy rule of Britain's Queen, there are six divisions with populations ranging from 24,000 inhabitants up to 731,628 in Victoria.