

and do a larger business and realize a larger income. By a small farm I would be understood to mean one containing from forty to sixty acres, and by a large farm, one containing a hundred or more.

Judging from my own experience and from what I can learn from observation, I am decidedly of opinion that the large farm pays better than the small one, provided it is well conducted—that there is as much done on it according to its size. I know that we are apt, and not without reason, to associate exhausted fields and light crops with large farms, and we frequently say on passing such—"that man has got too large a farm; he had better sell one-half of it, and till the remainder as he ought." Better for the man, I should say, if he would till the whole as he ought. Slack tillage and mismanagement are not always coupled with a large farm; and when we see a farmer who adopts such a course, in all probability he would pursue the same method if he were located on a small farm. It is in farming as it is in all other kinds of business—there are but few who will succeed. Place these on a large or small farm, and what they do, they will do well, and consequently will make it pay; but better on a large than a small one.

In deciding this question, a man should consider well what he wishes to be. A good farmer can go on to a farm of fifty acres, and if he conducts it well and studies economy, he can support himself and a small family, and that is all. If that is sufficient to satisfy his ambition, then it is all the farm he needs; but if he wishes to be really independent, to have enough and to spare, to have his receipts outbalance his expenditure, to be improving his farm, his buildings, his fences, his stock, then he must have a larger farm, and employ some help besides his own hands. Farmers often say they do not want a large farm, because they couldn't afford to hire the help. This is entirely a mistaken idea. If a man on a small farm can support his family by his own labor alone, certainly if he were on a large farm and hired a man to work with him, the two would do twice the work that he could do alone, and consequently receive twice the income; and one-half of this income, minus the expenses of the man, would be net profit over and above supporting his family. This is why I would advocate the large farms. Not that I think money is the chief end and aim of life, but we do not consider a

man a successful farmer unless he is gaining something, either by way of improvements or in money, over and above his living. We want to see indications of prosperity around his buildings and farm.

A suitable farm for common operations should not contain less than one hundred acres, and the larger it is the greater profits, provided it is well conducted. Thirty-five of the one hundred acres should be in mowing and tillage, fifteen in wood, and fifty in pasture. Such a farm, in a high state of cultivation, will keep from fourteen to sixteen head of cattle. Any man who is capable of being a good farmer would be capable of managing the business of such a farm.

The above remarks I mean should apply to the common practice of mixed farming. There are branches of farming where a man can use considerable capital, and employ a large amount of help on a small piece of land. This, too, is a question for him to decide before he knows how large a farm he wants. If he wishes to be a gardener, then he wants only a garden; if he wishes to become an orchardist, and give his attention to fruit growing, then he wants principally orchard land, and of course not a great number of acres. In any case he should consider well his taste, inclination, and ability, remembering that the larger the business, provided it is well conducted, the better it pays.—*Maine Farmer.*

CANADA HERD BOOK.

The Board of Agriculture for Upper Canada proposes to publish a Herd Book, containing the pedigrees of all pure blooded Short Horned, or Durham Cattle, which have been imported into or bred in Canada up to the present time.

A GREAT POULTRY-SHOW.

THE Agricultural Gazette, speaking of the late show of poultry at Birmingham says:—

"Seventeen hundred and eighty pens completed this year. While this affords an undeniable proof that the public interest in the pursuit remains unabated, the more practical side receives its illustration in the fact that the breeds that offer the most successful qualities are the most largely kept, and while there are sufficient entries in the fanciful sorts to afford competition and amusement, yet the public taste remains fixed on the noble Dorking as our best table fowl, and most profitable in-