

## EDITORIAL.

## 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 [4], 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" (399), 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 shearling 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 shearling 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.

The Western Division of the Travelling Dairy, under the management of F. B. Linfield, has begun its work down on the River St. Clair, in the County of Lambton.

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."

Nothing gives a farm such an unsightly appearance as dilapidated fences and gates. Between planting and haying is a good time to complete any repairs that were not finished before seeding. Be careful that no barrier is so low or shaky as to tempt stock into the growing crop. In one night they may acquire a bad habit that will worry their owner for the whole season.

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.

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.

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.

An enquirer in the Country Gentleman writes: "I have used ashes from Canada, but the transportation to my farm on the top of the Catskills is so high that it does not pay me to buy them," and he then asks for a substitute. The editor of that paper suggests a mixture which will be lighter in weight than ashes, and will cost \$11.15 per ton, or, as the paper says, "a little less than Canada ashes cost on the average." In view of the number of articles on this subject in the ADVOCATE, it surely is not necessary for us to make any comment on the above, nor to call attention again to the folly of selling and shipping ashes from Canadian farms.

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 larvæ. 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.

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.

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.

The different brands of Paris green and the other chemicals used will often vary so much in strength and purity that it is a good practice to spray a couple of trees, noting the result, and if any of the leaves turn brown use a less quantity next time. As the Paris green does not dissolve, merely being held in suspension in the water, great care is necessary to keep the mixture properly stirred, for if this is not done the Paris green will settle to the bottom, and the last of the barrel will be so strong that the leaves will be found to be severely burned.

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.

The practical use of the Bordeaux mixture has shown that it is of great value in combating the scab of apples, and also that its use increases the keeping qualities of fruit, and to a certain extent prevents the appearance of rot. A good combination fungicide and insecticide is made by combining the Bordeaux mixture and Paris green as follows:—Copper sulphate, four pounds; fresh lime, four pounds; Paris green, four ounces; water, fifty gallons. This will cost about 45c. or 50c., or \$2.00 per acre. (See page 128). The combined fungicides and insecticides effect a great saving of time and are less liable to injure the foliage.

The larvæ of the codling moth should be given their first dose of Paris green as soon as they hatch and before they have had time to eat their way into the apple, where no treatment can affect them until they choose to come out. Spray the second time in about a week or ten days. If the trees are sprayed at the proper time there will be very few wormy apples, as is proven by the perfect fruit in orchards where spraying has been practiced for several years.

For the curculio the treatment is the same, but the result is hardly so satisfactory, though sufficiently so to pay for the trouble of spraying many times over. Here the object is different; instead of the young insect it is the mature one which you wish to poison while it feeds upon the leaves or is gouging the crescent-shaped mark on the plum to lay its egg. The egg is laid in the plum, and the larva is well out of harm's way. One reason of the only partial success of the treatment is, that many eggs may be laid before the female is poisoned. Spray at the same time as for codling-moth, and give two or three applications, at intervals of a week or ten days, or oftener, if rain has fallen. Use one pound of Paris Green to two hundred gallons of water for apple trees, and a little less for plum and cherry trees.

The black knot scourge is spreading through the country, and if the plum and cherry trees are to be saved then united action must be taken by all farmers and gardeners. The appointment of an inspector for each township is giving good results in some places. The best remedy is to cut out all knots and burn them, and dig out all worthless trees by the roots. Very often when spoken to about the knot a farmer will say, "Oh, those trees are of no use, so I did not bother cutting away the knots." This is just where most of the harm comes from. Kerosene is said to kill the growth, but we could not recommend it except when the knot is on a large limb of a very valuable tree, and then it might be tried. Nothing gives such good results as the knife and fire. In using kerosene care must be exercised so that it will not touch any other portion of the tree except the knot.