

Now, with these and my own figures, how does the Province stand? Ten million acres growing food for man and beast; possibly one hundred thousand farms holding 1,608,000 cattle, and say 2,000,000 sheep, of all kinds. Actually, then, 16 head of cattle per farm of 100 acres; a very handsome representation indeed; most creditable to the country, because most other countries think themselves well when showing one cattle beast to every ten acres.

We start with the important and comfortable fact that, Ontario is well up in numbers of common cattle; that she has all the field required for beef and milk; but field is one thing, purity to give value is another, and an indispensable one. How many of the 272,000 store cattle, over two years old, now on hand, hold one cross of a thoroughbred bull of any kind?—not one-tenth of them. At the present moment there are, certainly, not 1,500 pure bred bulls in the whole land, or one to every 7,000 acres, or among fifty farmers. Is this private interest and national duty? Is it not a sad reflection on our enterprise that, for every 1,000 head of grade cattle we possess, but one pure bred, male or female, and that a very large proportion of these are allowed to be drafted out of the Province.

Altogether, therefore, the 50,000 farmers, who should be in possession of improved stock, to an additional, let us say \$10 in place of \$20 per acre, are keeping back the Province to a serious extent—an annual *interest* equal to \$6,000,000.

Other countries will be particularly surprised at the great disproportion between the cattle and sheep of Ontario. For any country to have nearly as many cattle as sheep, is unusual, indeed so much so, that it may be questioned whether another example like ours can be found. I submitted reasons for this, in my address at your annual meeting, in Kingston, in these words: "A forest country, an arable country, a grain-growing one, oxen for working, cows for milk, and the greater suitability of beef for human food, and for winter keep."

But, we are no longer babies in any of the science and practice of farming, and Ontario must be up and doing, in regard to mutton and wool, as much as in beef and grain. To be well up does not mean many, or any, more common sheep than now on hand, because there are about 20 head to each farm of 100 acres. With these as a base of operations, by use of the proper kinds of thoroughbred rams there is a wide enough field; but what agencies have we for such a purpose? Only 2,000 rams and 7,000 ewes pure bred of all classes, and some of the classes are not wanted; but grant these, and we have one ram to every fifty farmers; one to every thousand grade ewes. This gives us a painful idea of the utter unconcern of our people.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. BROWN.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
November, 1882.

80,652
4,245
4,897
7,001
1,838
2,861
4,759
3,297
8,056

2,780

sheep, but there
in the returns
notly not more
not purposely
roughbred, so
on.