

being the staple product, which are almost invariably sold off the farm, thus, year by year, impoverishing the land, till at last many excellent farms are nearly exhausted of the elements of plant nourishment, and bare fields, thistle patches, stunted, half starved stock, even in the early summer when vegetation is at its best, and grass should be abundant, have taken the place of luxuriant vegetation and thriving herds. To restore your lands, turn your attention to cattle breeding and feeding, select the breed best suited to your soil, keep only what your land will feed well, and you will soon find that you can manure your land, by consuming your crops on the farm and returning them to the soil, increasing its fertility, and thus your cattle will become a double source of profit.

Look at the advantages you possess! Our country is entirely free from contagious diseases of cattle, while almost every other cattle producing country in the world is scourged by cattle plagues which ruin the breeders, and have rendered stock raising an extremely precarious occupation.

The direct effect is that our cattle are at a premium in all European countries. We have the very best facilities for carrying on a large export trade; our rapidly developing railway systems, our increasing transatlantic steam navigation, all favour our cattle raising, and offer great inducements to change our system of farming. At the present time, owing to the existence of Lung Plague in the Eastern States, American cattle are not admitted to Canada at all, and to England only to be slaughtered at the port of entry, while our Canadian Cattle can be taken to any market in Great Britain. At present we are not in a position to supply the demand for any great length of time, consequently, if we would keep the trade, with all the superior advantages we now enjoy, we must go to work at once to develop our cattle production, which we are convinced can be done with advantage both to our farms and farmers.

At a low computation we are safe in asserting that 500,000 calves are killed in Canada every year, simply because hitherto there were no inducement to rear them: now, with a certain market at paying prices, it is clearly the duty of our farmers to feed their calves, and thus increase their incomes and develop a most important trade for the country.

DISEASE IN HOGS.

Owing to Typhoid Fever, or Hog Cholera, having been found among American hogs at Liverpool, a recent order in Council issued by the Privy Council in England compels all hogs arriving from the United States to be slaughtered at the port of landing. As this disease is a very contagious and extremely fatal one, we cannot exercise too much caution with regard to it. It is clearly our duty not to introduce American hogs among our breeding stock, and, as the Canadian Government has not yet included them in the prohibitory order, large numbers are allowed to come into the country for packing and exporting. Our farmers should therefore be extremely careful in purchasing breeding pigs not to get any that have been carried by railway from the West, or even that have been for a short time in infected yards, otherwise they run a great risk of losing their entire stock.

We have a sufficient number of healthy stock among our own breeders to supply our demands, and it will amply pay the farmers of this Province to endeavour to keep out this dreadful scourge. It is the interest of every farmer to report the existence of this, or any other contagious disease among their stock whether of horses, cattle, sheep or swine; in fact, the recent act passed during last session of Parliament intitled "an act to prevent infectious or contagious diseases in animals" makes it punishable for any person to fail to report such diseases to the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa;

the object being to enable the Government Veterinary Inspectors to take the necessary steps to prevent such diseases from spreading.

Foot and Mouth Disease in Sheep.

Since writing the above, the Contagious Foot and Mouth Disease has been discovered in a cargo of American Sheep at Liverpool, from Boston and Buffalo, which were in consequence ordered to be slaughtered at the port. This must necessarily be followed by an Order in Council prohibiting the entry of American sheep other than for slaughter at the port. The direct result of which will be at least twenty-five per cent increased value of Canadian over American Sheep. Some idea of the vast proportions this trade is assuming will be gathered from the fact that, during the first fourteen days of July, there were shipped no less than 12,914 sheep, from the port of Montreal, and the profits realized from previous shipments are such as to cause an increase rather than a decrease in this trade.

POULTRY DEPARTMENT.

Under the direction of Dr. Andres, Beaver Hall, Montreal.

POULTRY HINTS.

In the care of poultry there are two essential points to be considered, first cleanliness, to insure complete immunity from lice, which can only be secured by the frequent use of limewash, sulphur, and carbolic acid, or kerosene, upon the roosts, together with frequent cleaning of the floor, and occasionally the use of fresh earth or sand, and, secondly, the importance of plenty of fresh grass, or green vegetable matter, for food. If these are adopted as of prime necessity, there will be little difficulty in raising poultry successfully; roup, and other diseases, will be scarcely ever known. From careful watching, the giving of (in grass runs), young grass, cut, and put into the pens has been found indisputably necessary to the well being of fowls and young chicks, particularly when kept in confinement in small yards, or pens, to prevent them from destroying gardens, or, from necessity, in the cities where yard room is scarce. A flock of sixty chicks has been raised by ourselves in a yard, or gravel run of 10 by 30 feet, kept in perfect health through the summer months by giving them cut grass, lettuce, young beet leaves, carrot tops, once a week, onions, and raw potatoes, chopped and mixed with soft food, with a supply of meat twice a week. A cheap enclosure may be made by farmers who have the room for a grass run, by using tarred twine netting. A good fence, about eight or ten feet high, may be made with it round gardens and the birds may be allowed to roam over the farm after the seed is well started; they can do no harm but rather good, in destroying vermin that would otherwise damage the crops. A flock of turkeys would keep a large field of potatoes almost free from the ravage of the potato beetle.

As the warm days come on the nests used by your laying hens for the last few weeks should be thoroughly cleaned out, and fresh straw, or hay, provided occasionally.

Vermin will collect about the nest and roosts, in the best appointed fowl houses, and a few hot days will bring the lice out in swarms in old nests.

Wash the nests thoroughly, outside and in, with common kerosene, as soon as they are empty, and keep every thing sweet and clean; your birds will be comfortable, and pay you for your trouble by a well filled egg basket. Wash the roosts too once a fortnight, or even every week, if necessary. Do not allow the lice to get the better of you.