

GOSSIP.

"Pardon me, gentlemen," said the individual who had just moved into the little town as he entered the grocery store, "but is there a chicken-raiser here?"

"Why don't you take an axe?" asked the village Talleyrand. "A razor will lose its edge if you use it on a chicken."

Mr. Geo. W. Kennedy, Ilderton, Ont., desires us to correct an error which occurred in the footlines under the cut of his Standard-bred stallion, Lord of the Manor, appearing in the October 15th issue of the "Advocate," page 939, where the age of this horse is given as four years, while most horsemen know that his age is eleven years. Lord of the Manor won first prize and the silver medal for best stallion (Standard-bred) of any age at the Dominion Exhibition, at Toronto, and also at the Western Fair, at London, this year. Mr. Kennedy's three-year-old stallion, Sir Casimir, won first at Toronto and London this year, and second at the National Horse Show at New York.

"What are you feeding to those hogs, my friend?" the professor asked.

"Corn, professor," the grizzled old farmer, who knew the learned gentleman by sight, replied.

"Are you feeding it wet or dry?"

"Dry."

"Don't you know if you feed it wet the hogs can digest it in half the time?"

The farmer gave him a quizzical look. "Now, see here, professor," he said, "how much do you calculate a hog's time is worth?"

In this issue, John Campbell, of Fairview Farm, Woodville, Ont., offers for sale a few of his good Shropshire ewes bred to imported rams. Anyone wanting to introduce new blood, of the choicest strains, into his flock, or one intending to lay a foundation for a high-class flock, should write for prices and description. The Fairview flock is claimed to be the oldest-established flock of Shropshires in Ontario, and certainly has produced as many winners and noted individuals as any flock in our country, its owner claims more than any other. A special selection, being a small percentage of a large number of Barred Rock cockerels, is also offered. Last year's offering in that line gave the purchasers good satisfaction, and should this season as well.

LIVE-STOCK MEETINGS, SHOWS, SALES, ETC., 1904.

January 8th-7.30 p. m. Meeting of the directors of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, at Toronto.

January 19th-11 a. m. Eighteenth annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, at Toronto.

January 20th-Hamilton combination sale, Stock-yards, Hamilton.

February 2nd-11 a. m. Meeting of the directors of the Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association, at Toronto. 1.30 p. m.—Sixth annual meeting of the Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association, at Toronto. 8.00 p. m.—Third annual meeting of the Harness, Hunter and Saddle Horse Society, at Toronto.

February 3rd-11 a. m. Fifteenth annual meeting of the Canadian Shire Horse Breeders' Association, at Toronto. 2.30 p. m.—Twelfth annual meeting of the Canadian Hackney Horse Society, at Toronto. 4.30 p. m.—Third annual meeting of the Canadian Pony Society, at Toronto.

February 4th-11 a. m. Meeting of the directors of the Canadian Clydesdale Horse Breeders' Association, at Toronto. 2.00 p. m.—Eighteenth annual meeting of the Canadian Clydesdale Horse Breeders' Association, at Toronto. 8.00 p. m.—Annual meeting of the Canadian Horse Breeders' Association, at Toronto.

February 5th—Sale of cattle, Maritime Winter Fair Building, Amherst, N. S.

The provincial auction sales and the Eastern Ontario Live Stock and Poultry Show will be held during February.

March 2nd, 3rd and 4th—Second annual Canadian Spring Stallion Show, Toronto, Can.

March—Live-stock convention and sale, Winnipeg, Man.

It Leads Them All!

As applied to the gain in net amount of life insurance in force in Canada for the FIVE YEARS ending December 31st, 1902,

THE MUTUAL LIFE OF CANADA

has once more established its right to the above claim. It stands to-day

at the head of all

life companies doing business in Canada in the NET AMOUNT IN FORCE GAINED OVER all its competitors, during the past five years, as shown by the Government reports.

Policies in force January 1st, 1903, - - \$34,106,294
Gain in Canadian business in 5 years, - \$12,679,416

This Company for the whole period of its history (34 years) has been noted for

- (1) Economy in management, resulting in low ratio of expense;
 - (2) Great care in selecting risks, resulting in low death rate; and,
 - (3) First-class investments, resulting in large income from interest.
- Three potent factors, producing very satisfactory dividends for its policy-holders.

Agencies in every town and city in Canada.
Loans at current rates negotiated at any of its agencies or at its Head Office, Waterloo, Ont.

AGENT AT WINNIPEG, P. D. MCKINNON, BANK OF HAMILTON BLOCK.
ROBT. MELVIN, Pres. GEO. WEGENAST, Mgr. W. H. RIDDELL, Sec.

CANADA'S BEST COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

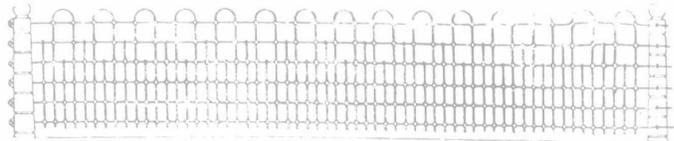
Central Business College

STRATFORD, ONT.

Only One Grade of Education Given to Our Students, and that the Highest.

Scores of business colleges apply to us for our graduates. They are wanted as teachers in other business colleges. This is the kind of proof you are looking for, as to the best school to attend. Handsome catalogue FREE.

WINTER TERM OPENS JAN. 4. W. J. ELLIOTT, PRIN.



The Anchor Fence

is constructed entirely of No. 8 and 9 galvanized steel wire. The horizontal wires being absolutely locked to the upright wires by our patent Anchor clamp, making the joints rivet tight. They cannot slip.

We manufacture FARM FENCES and GATES, as well as ORNAMENTAL FENCES also carry in stock all kinds of FENCING WIRE. Write us for catalogue and prices.

ESPLEN, FRAME & COMPANY,
AGENTS WANTED. STRATFORD, ONT.

In answering any advertisement kindly mention the name of THE FARMERS ADVOCATE.

TRADE TOPICS.

QUEENSTON CEMENT is still to the fore for house, barn and silo walls, and stable floors. Mr. Isaac Usher, Queenston, Ont., manufacturer of this cement, reports a very successful year in the demand for and sale of this cement, his sales far exceeding the record of last year. He has just finished a large two-story factory for the Challenger Leather Goods Company, of Cayuga, Ont., and a very large number of houses, bridge abutments, barn basements and stable floors have been completed during the past summer and fall to the entire satisfaction of customers. Mr. Usher makes a change in his advertisement in this issue, to which attention is directed.

A NEW BOOKLET.—"Horseology" is the title of a booklet issued by the Dunlop Tire Co., Toronto. "Horseology" is a word that spells "sensible talk about the horse" in ten letters. It will be mailed free to any subscriber of the "Farmer's Advocate" sending for it. So marked a success has attended the Dunlop Pads in Canada that their future may now be declared assured. The money spent in advertising an honestly-made and valuable article is never wasted. Such an article sells without trouble upon its own apparent merits. The Dunlop Pads have met with this success. The Company acknowledges its indebtedness to the publishers of the "Farmer's Advocate" for bringing horseshoe pads to the notice of those to whom they are most valuable. The advertising has been of the simplest form, yet it brought numerous inquiries, and a corresponding number of sales. The booklet, "Horseology," contains a short talk about horses and the utility of the Dunlop Pads. It is not so much advertising as it is good sense.

Postmaster-General Payne says there is a western bishop who has been visiting regularly a certain town to make confirmations for fifteen or twenty years, and who decided last year that there was one woman in this town's confirmation class who had a familiar look. He studied the woman, therefore, closely. He scrutinized her figure, her face, her dress. She was old and poorly clad, and decidedly her appearance was familiar.

"Haven't I seen you before?" said the bishop.

"Indeed ye hev, sir," returned the woman cordially.

"Haven't I confirmed you before?"

"Oh, yes, sir; many a time, sir."

"Why—what on earth—how—" the bishop, amazed and perplexed, began; but the woman, smiling, interrupted him to explain:

"I get confirmed, sir, as often as I kin, 'cause I'm told it's good for the rheumatiz."

THE SOVEREIGN BANK.—The Sovereign Bank has just issued an attractive little folder, which clearly sets forth the noteworthy fact that this strong, aggressive financial institution established an unparalleled record during the year ending October 31, 1903. In these twelve months, the deposits increased from \$1,681,730 to \$4,309,432; the notes in circulation from \$759,995 to \$1,237,650; the reserve fund and undivided profits from \$240,000 to \$332,838; the loans and discounts from \$2,988,668 to \$5,821,350; the bonds and investments from \$439,363 to \$713,397, and the cash and bank balances from \$383,097 to \$622,774. When it is considered that the bank only commenced business May 1st, 1902, these advances appear all the more marvellous and important. Absolute security, unexcelled facilities, modern methods, courteous treatment and careful management have combined to gain the confidence of over ten thousand customers. Branches now include the following well-established offices: Amherstburg; Aylmer; Belmont; Claremont; Clinton; Dushwood; Crediton; Exeter; Harrow; Havelock; Hensall; Frelighsburg, Que.; Markham; Marmora; Milverton; Mount Albert; Montreal (2); Newmarket; Ottawa (2); Perth; St. Catharines; Stirling; Stouffville; Sutton, Que.; Toronto; Unionville; Waterloo, Que., and Zurich. Readers of the "Farmer's Advocate," who have banking business to transact, will, doubtless, avail themselves of the advantages of this institution.