

that Mr. Fergusson acquired a taste for Durham Cattle, or, as they are now usually called, "improved short horns;" a department of husbandry to which he devoted himself with distinguished success, both in Scotland and in Canada.

In 1831, Mr. Fergusson came to Canada, and purchased an extensive tract of wild land in the Wellington District, now forming the flourishing and well-farmed township of Fergus. His clear and penetrating mind foresaw the advantages which that part of Canada then offered to enterprising industry, and accordingly wrote a series of letters, which were published by Messrs. Blackwood of Edinburgh, a book that elicited much enquiry and conveyed valuable information to such as were seeking new homes in the then literal wilderness of Canada. In 1842 he was appointed by the Crown to a seat in the Legislative Council, where by his frank and straightforward course he commanded the respect, if not the confidence, of all parties. In 1846, Mr. Fergusson, in connection with Colonel E. W. Thomson, and a few others, succeeded in forming the AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA; the first exhibition of which was held in Toronto, in the fall of that year. Mr. Thomson, with whom the idea first originated, being President, and Mr. Fergusson delivered the Address. Of that association from its commencement to the period of his death, he was a constant and zealous supporter. He was also a member of the Board of Agriculture from its formation, and the originator of a scheme for giving to young farmers sound practical instruction in the veterinary art, with an ultimate view of establishing in Upper Canada, a veterinary school; a project that has already been commenced by Mr. Smith, a licentiate of the Edinburgh College, under the patronage of the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Fergusson was one of the oldest members of the *Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland*, having been elected, we believe, as early as the year 1806. He was among the first to introduce pure bred cattle into this province, and he always had, to the day of his death, a select herd of Short horns, a breed to which he was, we may say, enthu-

siastically attached; and for the dissemination of which he had bred and sold upwards of sixty male animals, exclusive of cows and heifers. Among the many proofs of his ardent love of rural improvement, particularly of cattle, it may be mentioned that he gave annually a silver cup, and two medals, the former for the best grade cow from a Short horn bull, and the latter for the two best pair of Domestic Fowls, exhibited at the Provincial Show.

Our good and venerable friend has been removed from a sphere of action, which by his virtues he adorned, and blessed. The writer of this hasty notice had the pleasure of spending a day with him at his picturesque retreat, Woodhill, only a fortnight before his decease, and found him as usual full of desire and hope in the great work of agricultural and social improvement. He was looking with anxious interest to the results of our forthcoming Provincial Show, during the holding of which he was summoned to another and, there is good reason for hoping, a better world. The members of the Provincial Agricultural Association gave expression, at the annual meeting on the show ground, to their esteem for his memory, by passing in solemn silence an appropriate resolution. Mr. Fergusson had entered, we believe, on his 79th year. The memory of the just is blessed.

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Aug. 30th, 1862.

6-mos.

THOROUGH-BRED STOCK FOR SALE.

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