

tries proves that an infusion of English or Eastern blood has in these points at least improved every race of horses upon which the experiment has been tried.

It is submitted that the not recognizing these facts has been a great hindrance to the improvement of the horses of New York and the other Northern States. If the award of prizes at our Fairs shall prove that the thorough-bred, or highly bred horse, in addition to the qualities he is admitted to have, possesses others that with them, constitute him the best horse for general purposes, that is to say, the horse we want and the best horse for us to have, our Fairs will then have established a fact of real value and usefulness. The light, weedy thorough-bred horse, bred so as to spoil him for everything but short races at high speed (if he retains even that merit), will never have any chance in our class of horses for general purposes, but when the thorough-bred horse has the size, the shape and the action that make him the best horse for general purposes (and the experience of this year shows that we have such), his pedigree guarantees his power to impart those qualities and characteristics to his produce, and renders him yet more useful as a sire.

SHEEP.

The show of sheep requires little remark; it was smaller than was expected, as several Cotswold breeders who made entries did not send their stock, but no division was entirely blank and the pure bred sheep exhibited were generally first class. The Leicesters had specimens from the excellent flocks of Walcott and Campbell, and Jurian Winne, the Cotswolds of the Mapleshade flock made a capital show; Walcott and Campbell exhibited their Lincolns. The South-downs were represented by several entries, from the flock of Mr. Cornell, whose quality called out very general expressions of approval. Of Merinos, Mr. Chamberlain made his usual excellent show in the A division, and division B was perhaps the best filled of all the classes of sheep, Messrs. Bronson and Marriner, of Ontario County, P. and G. F. Martin of Monroe, and Stone, of Ontario, being the most prominent exhibitors. Of Swine there was the usual excellent show of large hogs, perhaps less fat than heretofore, by the Jefferson County breeders, and Mr. Joseph Harris made a capital entry with his Essex.

POULTRY.

The Poultry made perhaps the most successful portion of the exhibition. Most of the prominent breeders were large exhibitors, and the show was never larger nor better. Of the arrangements in this department, Mr. John Haven writes as follows:

"The Society ought to own its own

coops, of uniform size suited to show poultry in; and let exhibitors bring their stock in whatever they find most convenient and as compact as possible; and put them in the prepared coops during the exhibition, and carry them home as they brought them. There is no more reason that Exhibitors of poultry should be obliged to furnish exhibition coops than owners of swine and sheep to furnish exhibition pens.

"Scales should be provided for the use of the judges, as weight is an important point with many birds.

"Another season this department can be arranged rather more advantageously for exhibitors and the public."

Undoubtedly a much prettier show would be made if the Society should undertake neat coops of uniform size and pattern, but the question is, as in the case of many other wished for improvements, whether the Society can afford the necessary outlay, which would not be less than a thousand dollars.

FYFE WHEAT.

In addition to the satisfactory returns of Fyfe Wheat already noticed in the *Journal*, we observe the following in the *Colonist*. The Fyfe Wheat has now been grown in the Province for some time, but a serious mistake was made by some of our farmers who obtained Seed Wheat from the County of Fife in Scotland. Fyfe Wheat is a Western Canadian Wheat originally raised by a farmer of the name of Fyfe. Since the Board of Agriculture has imported such large quantities of it for our Agricultural Societies, it has proved itself to be the best sort of all that have been hitherto tried in this Province:—

The *Amherst Gazette* reports that Mr. James Leslie, of Goose River, raised this year, from less than three bushels of Fife Wheat, 57½ bushels. Mr. Thomas Smith, of Maccan, sowed two bushels of Wheat on the 16th day of April last, from which he harvested 28½ bushels, weighing 56½ lbs. per bushel, as cleaned by machine.

EXPERIMENTS SUGGESTED RELATIVE TO THE PROPER SEASON FOR FELLING TIMBER.

To the Editor of the *Journal of Agriculture*.

SIR,—It has often been a subject of consideration and dispute among the farmers and ship-builders in Nova Scotia, what is the best season of the year for cutting down the trees of the forest for ship-timber or for other purposes for which they are in constant demand in this province,—some stoutly affirming the fall, some mid-winter, some the spring, and some mid-summer as the proper time,

when it is supposed that all the sap of the trees is in the leaves: and this matter is still a question and doubt even amongst men of observation and experience.—Recently I came across an article in a scientific work (*Building News*) on the subject, which may assist those who take an interest in this matter, to come to some sort of a useful and satisfactory conclusion:—

"*The Condition of Wood.*—The condition of wood is greatly dependent upon the time it is felled. The results of a series of experiments made in Germany show that December-cut wood allows no water to pass through it longitudinally. January wood passed in 48 hours a few drops; February wood let two quarts of water through its interstitial spaces in 48 hours; March wood permitted the same to filter through in two hours and a half. Hence the reason why barrels made of wood cut in March and April are so leaky."

Now, amid the many subjects that come before the Board of Agriculture, I think the above mentioned one seems of vital importance, as all throughout the Province the timber is becoming very much thinned, and on very many farms there are difficulties in obtaining even fence-poles to enclose the pastures. On seeing the above extract a thought came to my mind which I beg to communicate, and which may be turned to an useful end. If the Agricultural Board would hold out to matter-of-fact men in the different counties, encouragement to cut down trees in *each* month of the year and bury pieces of a tree as posts in the ground about three feet, leaving the other end about the same length above the ground with tops cut square that the weather could have a more immediate action, it could be seen from one or more years which month of the year would be the most favourable for felling timber. If this subject is taken up for consideration by the Board of Agriculture, I have no doubt that the many suggestions made and acted upon throughout the Province, would lead to useful and satisfactory results, and would be of service not only to those of the present generation, but to those who, in the course of God's Providence, will be here in this Province in the future.

Yours, &c.,

Halifax, Nov. 24, 1869. C. C. T.

FAIR AT ONSLOW,—CROPS.

Onslow, Oct. 14th, 1869.

I beg to state for your information, that in addition to the amount certified, we have raised in the Onslow Agricultural Society, the sum of one hundred and sixty dollars by subscription, which sum was offered as prizes at our Exhibition