

We would again speak of the advisability of beginners commencing in moderation, for we have a duty to perform to the buyer equally with the seller. No man is sure that he will make a successful breeder until he has tried it, and this trial should be moderate at first. When he has proved to himself that he can succeed in the business—that is, that he can produce stock of a useful type, and that will sell at paying prices, then he may launch out extensively in the business, buying up, if he see fit, whole herds at one time.

There is great room for the extension of the business in Canada. Whole townships are yet to be found, and numerously, with scarcely a good purebred male in them of any kind. The advice to the inhabitants of these to invest is usually met by saying that if such were introduced they would not get sufficient patronage. This objection should not carry great weight, for now they can be obtained at a cost so reasonable that any one having much of any one class of stock will be abundantly repaid by the benefits accruing to himself in the improvement of his own stock.

The first persons who introduce good stock into any neighborhood, and demonstrate its superiority over the common stock of the neighborhood, will be the first to reap a reward. They may have to wait for it some time, but it will assuredly come.

Think of It, Farmers.

Mr. R. C. Brandon, of Pearldale Farm, Cannington, Ont., refers to the way in which some farmers provide for the entertainment of their sons, his object being to show the extent of the mistake they make compared with what they would accomplish if they spent a similar amount in providing for them suitable farm literature. He says: "Instead of being stimulated by love of agriculture and husbandry through the medium of such papers as the JOURNAL, they are provided with a gun and a hungry hound, and are allowed to run down a fox or shoot a rabbit for the sheer purpose of obtaining a pelt, the price of which will perchance be invested in tobacco."

We do not wish to have the boys deprived of all manly sport, but farmers who deal thus with their sons are not acting altogether wisely. Young people may be led like little brooks running through a field, to take this corner or that at the pleasure of the husbandman, but not without labor. If they are not at all inclined to follow any course of reading, there is all the more reason that the parent should be solicitous to provide such for them, after having ascertained what is adapted to their tastes and that will prove serviceable to them.

If the gun or the books only can be purchased, the gun should be left with the gunsmith, and a supreme effort made to induce the boys to get all the valuable information they can on what is to be their future life work. In the conflict between brain and muscle for supremacy, brain will assuredly win, and the farmers of the future who depend mainly on their own muscles to advance them in the future will assuredly be left. Think of it, farmers, if your sons and daughters have a taste for farm literature, do not deny them; it would be far wrong to do so, and if they have not a taste for it, help them to cultivate one, if it lies in your power to do so.

"Please find enclosed amount for renewal, with the names of two new subscribers. Your JOURNAL, I am pleased to say, commands much real interest, and this it richly deserves. You may count me a life member."—Sidney Upper, Two Rivers, Manitoba.

"I am highly pleased with the JOURNAL. Your editorials are always timely, well written and reliable. May you have the best success."—Donald Fleming, Kilsyth, Ont.

Selecting Judges for the Provincial Exhibition.

This is one of the vexatious questions connected with the management of every exhibition, and will, perhaps, never be arranged to the complete satisfaction of all parties interested, yet this is no reason why the attempt should not be made to mend the matter so far as human legislation can mend it. Because we cannot have perfect government is no reason that we should not try to have government as good as we can make it.

At the annual meeting of the Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario, held at Guelph last September, this matter was discussed, and a motion was made proposing that in lieu of the present system, which requires each of the members of the council to furnish a quota of judges from his district, the appointment of judges be put into the hands of committees of the board, with instructions to select those whom they deemed the fittest men for the work, without so much regard to locality. This motion met with considerable support, but not enough to carry it in the meeting. We supported the motion and voted for it, and as we thought then so we think still.

The present arrangement is a good one in theory, seeming to give equal rights to every party, but in practice it has worked badly, and therefore we desire it to be changed. Exhibitors have rights as well as electoral constituencies, and their rights cannot be long ignored by an exhibition that is to command the respect of the country. The present arrangement presents a standing temptation to members of the council to appoint unfit men who may have helped to elect them, without due regard to fitness, and it compels them to choose men sometimes whom they know to be unfit, owing to the paucity of suitable men in their respective localities. Although this applies, it may be, more to the selection of stock judges than to those of any other class, it may apply in many instances to the selection of judges in other departments.

We do not know that any members of the council have acted upon the temptation, but we do know that unfit men have often been chosen, and we would naturally suppose that the members of the council would be anxious to have the temptation removed. Some have remarked that it was an insult to any certain division to "hint" that it could not furnish a first-class judge in every department. We do not simply hint this, we go the length of saying it broadly. A region where there are no Jersey cattle cannot usually furnish a competent judge of Jerseys, nor will a person who lives north of the corn belt region be likely to prove a good judge of corn. Let men be selected where they can best be found, and the fittest men for the work assigned them.

Although the motion did not carry at the meeting referred to, we are mistaken if it is not in favor with the people of the country generally. Away with those judges of sheep who do not know a Shrop from a Southdown save by the entry cards; and those judges of dairy breeds who do not know what is meant by the escutcheon of a cow, and so of all those who are equally ignorant in other lines.

We hope the association will give it a trial, and if it is found that it does not work better, it can go back again to the present system; but we have no fears that it would not be found an improvement on the plan that has been tried so long, and that has worked so badly.

We hope that our friends who favor this will let us hear from them, and also those who are in love with the present system.

Rambling.

The village of Durham, on the beautiful Saugene, is scattered, and the region in the neighborhood hilly. The lands are in some parts light, and the farmers in the neighborhood are wisely pushing dairying as a means of retaining their fertility. Some purebred stock is being introduced, and the breeding of good horses is rapidly extending. H. Parker and C. McPhayden are amongst those who have introduced Shorthorns.

The south riding of Grey has a flourishing farmers' institute, and the president, Mr. James Murdoch, of Yeovil, and the secretary, Mr. W. Irvine, Lamlash, are laboring faithfully to scatter useful knowledge through this medium. Here, as elsewhere, the farmers are foolishly allowing party politics to hinder the usefulness of the institute. How many centuries is it going to take farmers to rise to a full knowledge of the glorious privileges of their birthright, and to refuse to sell them for less than half a mess of pottage? Those privileges are inalienable, unless self-forfeited, and it does seem sad that so many value these so lightly. O fellow farmers! why should it matter whether a Liberal or Conservative gives a paper on the enrichment of the soil, or whether the majority of the listeners are Grit or Tory? If any manna is to fall, take your measure and go and get some, whoever else may go or stay.

EXETER,

in South Huron, is fast becoming interested in the production of good stock, and many good horses and cattle, mostly of the Shorthorn types, are now being raised in the neighborhood. The institute held there February 1st and 2d, was very successful, good papers and pleasant and earnest criticism being the order of the day. In Mr. S. Smellie, of Hensall, the president, and Mr. R. McMurdy, Kippen, secretary, the institute finds solid assistance. In the evening some four or five hundred people were entertained with addresses on agriculture, with music interspersed. It is well when the farmers and townspeople see eye to eye in this matter, and mutually assist each other. Mr. Samuels, a merchant of Exeter, lent a helping hand, hence one reason for the great success of this meeting. It is very pleasing when the people of the town and country meet together to drink in enjoyment and instruction from the same fountain, and all the more so when that fountain flows from the pure reservoirs of rural life.

SIMCOE,

in the county of Norfolk, has its institute and in good hands. Mr. A. W. Smith, the president, is alive to the interests of the farmers, as is also the secretary, Mr. H. Glazebrook. Dairying abounds in this region, and is gradually rooting out that suicidal system of selling coarse grains off the farm. Good stock is being fast introduced. A. W. Smith has a fine Ayrshire herd; J. B. Carpenter, Simcoe, of gold medal prize farm fame; H. Trinder, W. Dawson, Vittoria, and Messrs. C. H. & J. Shand, Port Dover, are amongst the breeders of Shorthorns, and a good class of horses are now being grown.

HUNTINGDON,

in a county of the same name, on the south side of the St. Lawrence and in the Province of Quebec, is prettily situated on the banks of the Chateauguay, the fertile basin of which is filled with good farmers, a goodly number of them being stock men. Dairying, too, has taken a deep root here, owing largely to the efforts of Mr. D. M. McPherson, of Lancaster, who runs no less than 60 cheese factories in the "Allan Grove" combination, and who has for years past been