

**ENGLISH SHEEP AS JUMPERS.**

A Vermont correspondent writes us that since the depression in Merinos, many flocks of Canadian sheep have been driven into this State for sale, a large portion of which "are a sorry kind of mongrel scallawags; they jump like deer, and are the utter disgust and torment of every neighborhood where kept. Our farmers have an impression that the Cotswolds are of this character, as all that are sold are christened 'full blood Cotswold.' This is much to be regretted, as if any advantage is to be derived from raising coarse wool sheep we are in danger of losing it by a bad start. It will be useless for us to attempt keeping any sheep that are not as quiet as the Merinos. Our fences are poor, and as the old lady said of her rennet, 'always eternally will be,' and the suggestion that 6-foot stone walls, or 7-rail fences will be needed, will be fatal to any kind of business that requires them."

What say our friends in Canada and the Cotswold men generally to this indictment?

We extract the above from our favorite agricultural paper, the CULTIVATOR AND COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, of Albany, N.Y., and in reply to the editor must unhesitatingly differ with the above remarks, in regard to the unruly qualities of the Cotswold. We have raised Cotswolds for years, and have them solely as our stock at the present time. We keep Leicesters and Cheviots with the Cotswolds also, each class separately, and the Cotswolds are the quietest and gentlest sheep we ever kept. They never have jumped over any fence with us, and both of the other class have. This is speaking of the pure breed. The introduction into the States of scallawag mongrels as you term them, may arise from your scallawag dealers and some of our scallawag pretended breeders, who, for the sake of gain, will resort to the vilest falsehoods to catch the unwary. They will purchase any of our Canadian sheep that are running on the commons, and pass them off as pure bred animals. If any of your farmers wish to procure a really pure Cotswold, let them apply to Messrs. Stone, Miller, Cochran, Snell, or some other of our real breeders, and we will guarantee that they will not complain of their wildness or jumping propensities.—[Ed.]

**TO OUR PATRONS.**

We return our sincere thanks to each one of you that have in any way, and particularly the only three gentlemen that now hold bonafide emporium notes for the sum of \$5 each, namely: S. Eccles, of St. Thomas; Mr. A. Deadman, of Delaware; and Mr. R. Saul, of Strathroy. We wish to carry out more fully our emporium plans, and to live and die in the cause we have undertaken. We never intended nor wished our paper to be controlled by party politics, but to advocate or condemn such things as we might deem of importance to the agricultural interest. Our present position is such that has not been attained by any editor or farmer. We have the highest commendations that ever have been given from hundreds of farmers, from Agricultural Societies, County Councils, and the highest honor that the new Board of Agriculture could place on us, namely: the awarding of the first Board of Agriculture prize ever given.

We wish to show you that these honors have not been misplaced, and from these results to build up a paper and emporium that will be an honor and credit to our country, and of great profit to our patrons. We feel satisfied we can do this if each of our readers will do their duty. We believe if they so act that we shall be able to issue such an agricultural paper as may be quite equal to any published on the other side of the lines. It only requires your patronage to do this. If the county will expend the same amount of money in our paper that is now leaving our country for American papers we can and will furnish you a paper that will be of more value to you. You never have seen a remark in our paper advocating annexation. Do you wish for annexation? If you do, take the American agricultural papers, and you are quite as sure to have it as the sun is to shine. If we are to be a country, nothing but the agricultural press can save it. The pandering to party politics in the papers you read are but a mere stride for power or wealth, all of which must come from us farmers—we must pay for all. Then let us take our position and say if we shall be British or be gradually and surely glided into the great republic by being ruled by their agricultural press. Remember their agricultural press is becoming the great commanding voice. Give us your united support.

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.**

We had reasonably expected the Minister of Agriculture would have aided our undertaking in some way ere this; he has promised to do so for years past. He should, as one of the ministry, be depended on, and should also notice the requirements for agricultural advancement. We consider him in duty and in honor bound to fulfil his promises in taking the position as Minister of Agriculture. All things pertaining to general agricultural prosperity should be attended to. It is true that he may have numerous other offices to fill, but the one from which he derives his honor and his salary should be the first attended to. The feeble state of the agricultural press, the lack of information about varieties of seeds, the admission of still-fed hogs from the States to be slaughtered in the city where he resides, and passed off as Canadian pork, must tend to the depreciation of our own. This shows a lack of attention, and he should protect our interests. The Americans tax us heavily. Why should we have the whole pork crop of our country depreciated in value for the profit of American sharpers? We say our Minister of Agriculture may have too many offices to attend to. Let him resign some of them. We hope he will not neglect his duty to agriculture, and in that capacity act with honor to himself and to our country.

**CAUTION.**

There is introduced to our country an apparently useful invention, and a patent right obtained for it. A regular plan is adopted; good talking agents will be throughout the country. The

patent rights will be sold to many an enterprising person, but the whole is of no value. Thousands of dollars will be expended and lost in this way. We have sometimes an opportunity to see these new patents and enquiring about them. We refused to advertise this one.

There is great complaint among manufacturers and inventors of really good articles, that infringements on patents are made, by some slight alteration, other patents are granted; the fear being more looked after than the protection, and persons are subject to a suit at law to defend themselves.

**THE GRAIN GROWERS' CLUB.**

Farmers! we find the Fruit Growers' Association is acting beneficially. The Boards of Trade hold their meetings. Mechanics Institutes have done good. Agricultural Societies are a benefit to the country. Can we not form ourselves into a company or form a Grain Growers' Association, and discuss the merits of different new varieties? one person may be in error or may be deceived. Unity of action is required; who will lead it?

**ANNEXATION.**

This subject is absorbing more attention in Canada, among men of influence and power, than the laboring farmer of the country has any knowledge of. We never, as yet, have advocated such a course; the glorious old flag under which we were born has never been deserted by us. The world is constantly changing; as one power rises another falls. Men are like sheep; they will follow a leader, and the policy of any ministry is known but to the favored few. The mass of people are like children looking at a "poppy show." Two figures appear on the stage, the wire pulling is all concealed, and the spectators know not what the next movement will be. The newspapers read by the masses, influence the minds of their readers. Let a person be a constant reader of either a Reform or a Conservative paper only, and he will only hear one side of a question and be only able to judge from it; consequently he becomes strongly attached to that party.

The Agricultural Press of the United States has a greater circulation, a greater power over the people than that of any other country. Their agricultural papers are large, highly embellished and well conducted, and are looked on with, perhaps, more respect than any other. Our present government has opened wide the gate for annexation in this respect, by having our country flooded with them. We blame no man for purchasing them, nor the editors or agents for sending them here, but we do blame our own authorities for not assisting our own periodicals, so that they may be able to compete more successfully with American publications. The government of Canada in place of assisting has effectually stamped out the few Canadian agricultural papers; they have put a most heavy and thorough check on such enterprises, by compelling