

and few districts in this northern part are better supplied with a desirable class of stock.

Mr. W. Pritchard is another enterprising dairy farmer who lives in this neighborhood, and operates 300 acres. He has fine stock, and is considered one of the most advanced butter makers in the north. His entire make is shipped to Toronto, where he realizes fancy prices.

At St. Helen's, four miles from Lucknow, the renowned breeders, Mr. N. Gaunt & Sons, reside. This farm is beautifully situated and supplied with a living spring of water, which is conducted to various parts of the farm through pipes. They have made a specialty of Shorthorns and Leicester sheep, and at all the leading fairs in Canada they have been known as successful exhibitors. At the present time they have a fine herd, which is in excellent condition and shows careful breeding. Mr. Gaunt, like many other pioneer farmers, commenced operations on small resources, but his push, energy and integrity have raised him to his present opulent position as a breeder of more than ordinary ability. He and his sons have been close students of agriculture, and are capable of expressing their views on the subject in a thorough and conversant style. They gave large quantities of roots and also fodder corn. Mr. Gaunt places a very high value on corn as fodder, and intends next year to grow it extensively as a summer and winter feed. He sows his corn broadcast, and gang plows it in, and on the surface he sows millet and then rolls the land. He claims the corn grows equally as well, and the additional crop of millet enhances the quantity and value of the crop. The fodder is hauled to the barn and cut, the millet and corn making rich and wholesome diet for the cattle. He has pursued this course for some time, and is sanguine that the system is profitable. He and his sons are liberal in their views, and the deep interest they have taken in agriculture has been the means of disseminating useful knowledge in that locality, and instilling others to adopt progressive systems of farming. Throughout that northern district, the splendid stock everywhere to be seen is the result in most instances of Mr. Gaunt's untiring zeal and energy.

One of our Leading Canadian Farmers.

A study of the career of Mr. Arthur Johnston of Greenwood, the subject of our sketch for this month, will, perhaps, prove quite as instructive and encouraging to our young men as any that have preceded or that may follow it, in illustrating the possibilities of the business of a combination of farming and stock-raising in this country.

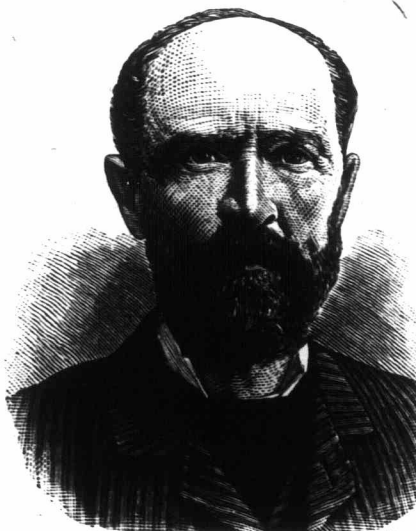
It is all the better adapted to general application from the fact that Mr. Johnston—as he expresses it himself—has never at any time done anything wonderful; has never made any considerable amount of money at any one time, and that he has never handled a dollar of any other person's money either by gift, bequest, or in trust; but by a steady, continuous and plodding business of twenty odd years, he has made a name among the breeders and farmers of this country, that may well be the ambition of any farmer in Ontario or America.

Mr. Johnston was born in 1840, in the County of Tyrone, in the north of Ireland, where he remained until five years of age, when his father—who was a small farmer—emigrated to this country, bringing his family with him and settling on a farm in the County of Peel. At that early date, and in that particular locality,

educational facilities were not all that could be desired. At the age of thirteen, Mr. Johnston had never handled writing-paper, pen, ink, slate, or pencil; nor had he ever seen the inside of a school-house. His sole scholastic acquirements at that advanced age consisted in his ability to read the New Testament—an accomplishment for which he was entirely indebted to his mother, who is still alive. It may be easily imagined how little time she had for educational training, when it is stated that Mr. Johnston was the eldest of a family of eleven. When of the above mentioned age, the first school within possible reach of the farm was started, and the future importer and breeder was duly placed in the second book of National Readers, and at the foot of the class.

His advancement was then considered phenomenal. He afterwards attended the Grammar School at Brampton; finishing up at the Normal School in Toronto, where he obtained a Provincial Certificate, and commenced teaching school, in which profession he continued for several years, and was considered an excellent teacher.

In 1865 he married the youngest daughter of the late Mr. Ebenezer Birrell, J. P., of Pickering Township, who was at that time Local Superintendent of public schools. In 1867 he commenced farming and stock-raising in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. David Birrell, and the firm continued actively and energetically to push the business for several years.



ARTHUR JOHNSTON, GREENWOOD, ONT.

In 1874 Mr. Johnston made his first importation of Shorthorns from Scotland, importing only two heifers in that year; one of which afterwards became the property of the Messrs. Potts, of Jacksonville, Illinois, in whose famous show-herd she had a place for several years. When this heifer left Greenwood Farm she was in calf to 3rd Lord of Racine, and in due time she produced a heifer calf, whose winnings in the leading show-rings of the United States amounted to something over \$2,600 in cash premiums.

From 1874 to the present time his annual importations have been constant and extensive, but at the present time he devotes his whole energies to the importation and breeding of Shorthorn cattle and Clydesdale horses. He was at one time one of the best known and most extensive importers of Cotswold sheep in Ontario. Though he has long since ceased to show at the exhibitions, yet animals from the Greenwood herd have been numerous and successful at almost every leading

exhibition in the Province of Ontario for many years.

The herd at Greenwood Farm at the present time is probably in as good form as it has ever been, numbering about seventy head in all. Of bulls, there still remain four first-class imported ones, besides a lot of extra good young ones bred on the farm. Of females, it may be said, where all are good, it would be invidious to particularise. Suffice it to say, that from a personal inspection recently made of the herd by a member of our staff, it would be difficult to find a more uniform lot of animals of the various ages. The Clydesdales are also in good shape for breeding purposes. For more particulars of the herd, we would advise our readers to apply for the new catalogue recently issued.

Farmers' Clubs.

Dominion Farmers' Council.

The Dominion Farmers' Council meets in the city of London, Ont., on the second Thursday of every month, at 1 o'clock p. m. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary, F. W. HOBSON, LONDON, ONT. This Council has now on hand pamphlets containing its Constitution and By-laws, with an account of its origin, objects, etc.; Constitution and By-laws suitable for Farmers' Clubs, and notes on how to organize a club. These will, on application to the Secretary, be sent free to all parties having in contemplation the organization of clubs.

The Dominion Farmers' Council assembled April 11th, as announced, President O'Brien in the chair.

After routine business, Mr. Frank Shore of White Oak, Ont., read a paper in which he showed the necessity of carefully saving and applying farm-yard manure. This paper was fully discussed; we will give it and a portion of the discussion in a future number.

The following resolution was then introduced: "That this Council appoint a Committee to revise the constitution, and devise means whereby we can make the Council of greater value to the farmers generally, and especially to those of Western Ontario. That we consider the advisability of hereafter holding a spring stallion show in London, and if such should prove successful to supplement the same with a bull and dairy show."

In moving this resolution the Secretary said he deplored the fact that all our live stock associations have their head quarters in Toronto, though liberally supported by western men. The Shorthorn, Clydesdale, Hereford, Ayrshire and even the Sheep Breeders' Association all hold their annual meetings in Toronto. The people of London and the farmers of Western Ontario are entirely to blame for this. Whatever is proposed in the way of an agricultural association, leading citizens of Toronto are ready to assist and encourage, the result is several thousand farmers meet in that city annually and do a good deal of trading there. The Clydesdale Association's Show never could have attained the success it has had not the citizens and breeders in the vicinity given Mr. Wade the hearty support they did. It is true Mr. Wade and his executive, though most of the credit belongs to him, were the real promoters of this grand show, yet success would not have been attained if they had not had enthusiastic support. It is also true that Messrs. R. Beth & Co., and Graham Bros., live near Toronto, who could themselves make a fine display of horses, and who favored and supported the show, yet while we might not be able to have quite as fine a display of horses as lately met in Toronto, I think we could hold a show of a high order, which would be a benefit to western farmers and the city, and bring the western breeders more directly to the notice of American buyers. The show in Toronto has had a very beneficial effect on the counties which surround the city in this respect, there all the Canadian-bred animals which are for sale are readily sold at better prices than are obtained in the western counties. London is the centre of a rich agricultural district, and here a good spring show could and should be held. The Council proposes to assist the breeders in this matter, which can and will be made a success if the breeders in the vicinity will assist.

Mr. Richard Gibson followed with a very able speech in which he fully endorsed the project, and showed with what success similar fairs were conducted in England, and of what great value they were to the farmers and breeders. After further debate, in which nearly all the members joined, the following members were appointed a committee to consider the subject, and report at the next meeting: Messrs. R. Gibson, Frank Shore, R. McEwen, J. R. Little, Thos. E. Robson and Geo. McBroom.

The members who last year composed the deputation sent by the Council to visit the Ontario Agricultural College, were appointed a committee to consider the advisability of holding a farmer's picnic some time in June next.

The Council then adjourned to meet on the 9th of May, when every member is requested to be present.