

When passing by an iron grating, one of the bulls rubbed his horns against the iron bars, and acted, as we thought, cross. We remarked: "That is the worst objection we have to the Jerseys." Mr. Fuller answered: "That bull is not cross; he knows me and wants to be petted. Come into his stall." And instead of being cross, as we have seen them, he was as gentle as a pet lamb. Mr. F. says that the cause of bulls being cross is that they are shut up, and too often in dark places, and kept alone. He has his bulls' stalls made with iron rods, so that they can always see what is going on; and he has them handled. By this means they become gentle. All his cows and heifers are handled every day, and they appear as gentle as kittens, and put out their heads to be stroked and fondled. In this stable there are 43 of these valuable and beautiful animals. Speaking of value, we were shown some calves—little fawn-like things with such a thin skin, so fine and so soft we can scarcely describe the touch; perhaps one of the calves might weigh 20 lbs., yet \$1,000 was offered for it. A cow of the celebrated "Coomassie" strain was pointed out, purchased last February. Since her purchase she had a bull calf that was sold to go to Kentucky. The cow has just been sold, and Mr. F. has netted on the cow and calf a clean \$700. To prevent the cattle from slipping on the concrete, there are a lot of slat-like doors which are hung on hinges, and are let down when the cattle are coming in or going out. They are easily raised and lowered, and set on the wall out of the way, just behind the cattle. The cows are turned out into a straw yard for about an hour every day, half of them at a time. They were out when we were there, and we do not know that we have enjoyed a heartier laugh this winter, for just as soon as they were turned out they appeared even more delighted than school children; they ran, jumped and played with one another more like lambs at play than like any cattle we have ever seen before; and what was most remarkable, with all their capers, jumps, runs and antics, they all appeared to partake in the sport, and not one of them tried to interfere with any one of the others. They appeared like a real happy family; we never saw a lot act so without some one giving another one a poke.

Mr. Fuller took us down one of the ravines near the house. In this place he is excavating a large lot of peat or swamp muck, and is making his trout pond. The rich soil placed on his land he considers will far more than pay for the hauling, and he will have his permanent fish pond free of cost.

"Woodlands" is the name of this farm. It is naturally a beautiful place, lying on the Bay opposite to Hamilton. The ground is broken, and a fine lot of the old native trees are left about this farm, many of which would bring \$60 each where they now stand. We give on page 76 a sketch made by our artist. Those beautiful antelope-like animals running about these hills and lying under the shady trees, make a sight in summer that but few have an opportunity of enjoying.

HULLET BRANCH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The 20th Annual Dinner of the Hullet Branch Agricultural Society was held in Clinton on the 14th of Feb'y. This is the oldest established annual dinner we have heard of in Canada. Between 100 and 200 persons were present, and a very pleasant time was spent. Toasts were proposed, and the leading agriculturists present were called on to respond to the different agricultural interests.

What appeared to us to be one of the most important topics was introduced by Mr. H. Love. He pointed out clearly the great loss our farmers are sustaining at the present time by continuing to raise long-wooled sheep, on account of the poor

price that long wool would command, and the large sums that our manufacturers are now paying for imported wools. The cause of this he instanced by the improved condition of circumstances, showing that fashion and taste must be pandered to, and that people would not purchase or wear cloth made from our coarse wool, but a finer cloth than common Canadian wool would make was in demand. He spoke of the Shropshires as the most suitable sheep for Canadians, showing that this class of sheep would produce as good wool, and three pounds more per fleece than the Southdowns; also that they would dress fifteen pounds more mutton and were not surpassed for hardness of constitution. Mr. Love also stated that when he was last in Europe he saw the Shropshire and Southdown mutton selling for two to three cents per pound more than the mutton from heavy sheep would bring.

It was stated that a farmer had raised in this vicinity 100 bushels of shelled corn to the acre. This crop was so much in excess of any that we had ever raised on our farm, 60 miles south of this place, that we could hardly credit it. Mr. Silas Andrews, one of the oldest settlers in Canada, stated that he had raised 80 bushels of shelled corn to the acre close to the town.

Mr. Andrews now makes large quantities of sorghum syrup; he was one of the first to introduce sorghum into the northern part of Canada.

The enterprise and prosperity of the agriculturists and others around Clinton may be held forth as showing what others might do. In addition to the annual dinner, they have established a spring and fall exhibition, and an annual sale of pure-bred stock. They have gained a good name for their valuable horses. We believe it was stated that four million dollars' worth of this class of stock alone had been exported from this county (Huron). They also claim that there have been less failures in the town of Clinton than in any other in Canada, and that poverty is not known there. There are but few manufacturers here, the principal being the large manufactories of threshing machines, established by McPherson & Co., known all over Western Canada; a woolen mill; a cabinet factory and fanning mill works. One of the largest sale stables for horses is established here by Messrs. Rattenbury & Moody. When we were there they had 160 horses on hand; they ship to all parts, and buy and sell such as are wanted to fill orders from Canada or the States; they send very large numbers to Manitoba. The country around Clinton is blessed with excellent land, fine roads and good water, and the most varied crops are raised, with the best results. It excels in growing corn, apples, sorghum, winter wheat, and in stock-raising. Extensive salt works are here also, enabling the farmers to procure salt cheaply.

SOUTH PERTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We accepted the kind invitation of the members of the S. Perth Agr'l Society to their annual banquet, held at St. Mary's, Ont. This town is in the centre of an excellent farming locality; the farmers are rapidly progressing. Some leading business men of the town were present at the dinner, the proceeds of which, after paying expenses, will be used for the payment and improvement of their agricultural grounds. In the speeches which followed many useful suggestions and hints were thrown out, one of which, relative to our agricultural exhibitions,

One speaker favored the plans suggested by the Advocate—that was in endeavoring to make agriculture the principal attraction; but Mr. L. E. Shipley, a member of the Board of Agriculture and Arts, was of opinion that the great majority of visitors to fairs favor other attractions, and that we should try to cater to the wishes of the people. As dinner parties are not supposed to be debating clubs, there was no discussion. After a pleasant evening was passed the company dispersed.

PRIZE ESSAY.

The Advantages and Best Results to Farmers from Planting Forest Trees.

BY E. D. SMITH, WINONA.

I know of no subject of more importance to the farmers of Canada than forest culture, and especially to those of the older portions which are fast becoming denuded of the natural forest. For it has been demonstrated beyond doubt that those countries that have become stripped of trees, have paid the penalty with regular and long continued droughts that gradually turned the once fertile fields into arid wastes. So that one immense benefit and perhaps the greatest to be derived by keeping a large portion of the land clothed with trees, is the insurance of regular and sufficient rain falls. But there are many other advantages of apparently more individual benefit. One is, that trees can be planted upon the partially worn out land, and especially upon the ridges and hills that wash badly, and new land can be cleared and worked. They can be planted where they will do most good as a windbreak; as on most of our farms no care was taken in clearing to leave the bush where it would afford shelter, but rather generally on the back end of the farm or on some wet land, too wet for cropping, but which would now be the best of the farm, being drained.

Another advantage would be that all the ground could be utilized, whereas in the natural forest large patches are sometimes grown up with alders, water-beech, or some other useless tree. An artificial forest need have no blank places, nor any useless timber. Indeed, I firmly believe it would pay every farmer in Canada, whether he has bush-land or not, to plant at least one-tenth of his farm and cut down the natural forest, if he has any, gradually, as the new timber grows up; as he could grow more and better timber (the land being drained), on ten acres, if judiciously planted, than grows on twenty acres of natural forest. Then the trees being planted in rows, a wagon could be driven anywhere in the bush without difficulty. And lastly, the trees, if planted as I shall propose, would add enough to the appearance of the farm to pay for the cost of planting and growing.

I would plant, unless otherwise sheltered, a double row on each side of the lane, half of the trees evergreens, and half some tall-growing tree. Then on the south and west sides (if the prevailing winds come from these directions as they do here), of each ten acres a triple row, one row evergreen, the other two some tall-growing tree, and on the outside, from which no heavy winds come, a single row for appearance and fence posts. This would take about one-tenth of the land, and would, in a few years, answer for posts to which to attach wire for fences for the whole farm. If planted in this way, when grown up, such an effectual windbreak would be formed as would insure a crop of wheat, wherever there was sufficient snow to cover the ground during the winter and early spring, so far as heaving out by frost is concerned. Let us make an estimate of the cost and profit, planted in this way. As each field of ten acres should only be debited with the trees on two sides, we would have to charge against said field 240 trees (if planted a rod apart), costing, when planted, about \$24. Interest on this and on the value of the land, valued at \$60 per acre, at six per cent. compounded for 15 years, would amount to \$116; making total cost at that time for every ten acre field, \$140. Cost of cultivating for first few years would be more than met by crops of corn or roots grown between. After four or five years no cultivation would be required.