

dozen for the eggs destroyed, and 2d per doz. for sparrows captured. It is being agitated in Britain to have the sparrow removed from the list of protected birds, which has been done in some of the American States in consequence of their enormous depredations.

The Four Cross Standard.—Some have argued of late in the JOURNAL that because the four cross standard has been adopted by the Clydesdale stud book a similar standard or at least a low one will suffice for cattle. This argument seems to rest on the strange assumption that a horse is a cattle beast, and a cattle beast a horse, or the other assumption that the standard of purity for all classes of animals should consist of an equal number of crosses.

Revision of Ayrshire Herd Book.—Some of the Ayrshire breeders in the West have expressed themselves as being dissatisfied with some of the committee appointed to revise the herd books. Mr. James McCormick, of Rockton, Vice-President for Ontario, has called our attention to this matter, and we quite agree with him in the expression of the opinion that the revisers have been well chosen, and that they will do to others as they would like to be done by. At the same time it is true that like other men they may err in judgment, but in this, as in every other court, there is the opportunity given of appeal.

A Feather for the Early Maturity Cause.—At the approaching fat stock show in Kansas City premiums are no. to be offered for three or four year old steers. The argument is, that to feed for profit when animals are pushed well along, they should not be kept until they reach the above ages. The show authorities do not wish to identify themselves with the encouragement of a practice that is a bane and a snare to the producer of meat for the butcher.

Feeding for Marbled Meat.—Professor Sanborn has confirmed by experiments in calf rearing that when the calves are fed on a nitrogenous ration as skim-milk, clover hay, bran and linseed meal, the meat was much more streaked and marbled than when fed on a carbonaceous diet, as timothy hay, flaxseed, corn meal and new milk. The former, of course, was much the cheaper diet of the two, while the gain in weight in each case did not materially differ.

Sittyton and Warlaby.—The fight for show-yard honors of late in the leading shows in Britain is setting down more and more between those two great foundation houses of two distinct types of Shorthorn cattle, Warlaby and Sittyton. The champion prize at the Dublin Royal Show, for bulls under three years, as many of our readers will have noticed, went to Scotland Yet (53640), a Sittyton bred bull. The great Sir Arthur Ingram himself has in his pedigree a Sittyton sire. Scotland Yet was purchased by the Messrs. Green Bros., of the Glen, Innerkip, last year to head their herd, but the purchase was relinquished on account of quarantine troubles.

Bonuses on Importations.—In the annual report of the Secretary of Agriculture for Nova Scotia for 1885, page 32, we notice that bonuses, to the extent of ten per cent. on the original cost, have been paid by the government to parties importing stock of the improved breeds not plentiful in the country. Some in our midst are saying to us that we should prohibit all further importations, that we have enough of imported blood. We are very glad to see that the people of Nova Scotia do not take this non-progressive view.

Indian Wheat Growing.—This may be expected to increase, with the development of railway communication in the country. Every new district opened up but swells the export, which in time will assume very large proportions. Be it so. Our Eastern Provinces must be concluding by this time that they are out in the race in the world's market for wheat. Why then persist in growing it for export? It is surely high time that we turned our attention to other branches of agriculture, meat, milk, butter, cheese, fruit and other items, for which there will always be a good home demand, and also more or less of a foreign demand at paying prices. In this way our manual resources are better conserved, and that fleecing of the soil so universal in a wheat exporting country is in a great measure stayed.

A Model Shropshire Ram.—From the *Farmers' Gazette*, Dublin, we learn Mr. A. Mansell's idea of a model Shropshire ram. He says. It should have a well developed head, (not coarse,) well covered and no horns, with clear and striking expression of countenance, a prominent eye, a body deep and symmetrical, placed as squarely as possible on short legs; good leg of mutton, straight spine, deep, well sprung ribs, massive chest, a muscular neck well set on good shoulders, nice style and carriage, no inclination to peel or drop wool round the jaw or on the belly, no incise skin, face and legs a nice soft black, not sooty nor a rusty brown, no white specks; ears thin and blood-

like, not heavy nor drooping, moderate bone; wool of the finest staple, and as close and merino like as possible with no admixture of grey.

Distilleries and Distillation.—The *Farmers' Gazette*, an excellent agricultural publication, issued in Dublin, Ireland, is surely forgetting its high mission. In the issue of April 9th, it is out with a leader on "Distilleries and Distillation," and says more is to follow. It says. "The vast importance of the distilling industry to the agriculture of Ireland is plainly shown by the fact that the output of Irish whiskey during one season—that of 1885-6—was 10,620,584 gallons, these figures representing an annual consumption of grain approaching to 9,000,000 stones." The story is only half told. The editor says not a word about the "lamentation and mourning and woe," which this accursed business brings to Ireland. Far better that our grain should perish in an unpropitious earth, if we are to depend on distillation for its consumption.

Holstein-Friesians at the New York Dairy Show.—The Holstein-Friesian cattle at the New York Dairy and Cattle Show, held some time since in New York, acquitted themselves very creditably, as was observed by numerous admirers of the breed at the time. There were some 400 to 500 cattle shown of the various dairy breeds. The sweepstakes for the best milk cow of any breed went to Lady Fay, of the Lakeside herd of Smith, Powell & Lamb, Syracuse. The sweepstakes for the best butter cow of any breed, the one producing the largest quantity of butter in 24 hours went to Clothilde, owned by the same firm, although 5 Jerseys and 1 Guernsey competed, her 3-year-old daughter, Clothilde 4th, stood second. In a competition of 38 entries, a Holstein-Friesian won first prize on a 5 pound package and second and third prizes on a 30 pound package.

An Old Parasite.—"EDITOR LIVE-STOCK JOURNAL: Sir,—I observe that the *Farmers' Advocate* is imputing selfish motives to you and Mr. Fuller in connection with the Central Institute and advocacy of Commercial Union. Of course I cannot even guess what either of you feel upon the point, or what you propose doing. If you knew as much of the character of the man who owns and edits the paper in question as some others do, you would, I think, keep quiet. This world now and again seems to allow of the existence, and even the prosperity, of such vile agents as are so well portrayed in Paradise Lost; indeed some men look upon the infiction as one intended for good, because the present life is one of much necessary discipline—destined for good. So be it; and so long as you and Fuller keep the highly honorable and patriotic course you are doing, your country will rejoice and enable you to spurn the low venom. Don't reply, is the advice of AN OLD FARMER.

Agricultural Societies.—For years past, several agricultural societies have given a year's subscription to the JOURNAL as a premium, thinking this would do more real good than the small cash prizes usually offered. This plan has proved so satisfactory that in some societies the number has been increased to fifty copies, which has been the means of increasing the demand for a better class of stock. Few men will read the JOURNAL for a year without becoming convinced that it is to their advantage to make live stock-raising and the dairy interests prominent features of their farming operations; or, if they have already given some attention to these matters, improve the stock they have. It is now the season of year when premium lists for fall fairs are made up. Will not our friends in those societies where the plan has not already been adopted use their influence to have the JOURNAL included among their premiums? Special rates will be given where a number of JOURNALS are offered in this way.

Cattle and Their Diseases.—This is the title of a neatly bound volume of 269 pages, issued by the J. H. Sanders Publishing Co., Chicago. A. J. Murray, M. R. C., V. S. late special Veterinary Inspector for the British and American Government and editor Veterinary department of the *Breeders' Gazette*, is the author. Part I, which treats of the breeding and management of cattle, contains much information that will prove very useful to the cattle grower; but we cannot agree with the writer in his estimate of bank barns. He says in speaking of these. "The bank barn is an expensive structure, the basement story costing very much more than the same amount of room above ground, while it seems difficult to understand why it is in any respect more valuable. The last part of this sentence is unfortunate. The bank barn, rightly constructed, is as far ahead of the ordinary barn as travelling by the express is ahead of travelling by the accommodation train, as those will know who have tried the two. The second part of the book, it will be observed, treats only of cattle and their diseases, and is, therefore, neither voluminous nor ponderous. The author appears studiously to have avoided the introduction of unneces-

sary complications and references, and speaks of the disease in hand in a manner at once concise and clear, and the remedies prescribed are usually those which, of a number, were deemed the simplest and the best. We fail to see why it would not prove a most useful book to the ordinary farmer. For sale at office. Price, \$2.50.

The Provincial Exhibition.—This exhibition will be held in Ottawa, Sept. 19th to 24th (see advertisement). The prize list is a good one, and it will afford an excellent opportunity for stockmen, especially those of Central and Eastern Ontario and Quebec, to bring out their champions in competition. If there is truth in the statement, and perhaps there is, that Eastern Ontario is to some extent behind the West in improved stock, we hope they will rally around this oldest of our exhibitions which has done so much for the advancement of the stock interest in the West, and that it will be the means of stimulating them in the effort to get even with their western competitors. The officers of the Western Exhibition have fixed upon the same week for holding their exhibition in London, although the Provincial Board had chosen their time as early as December last. This does not seem kind to the old Provincial, nor to the stockmen who might wish to exhibit at both places, which, no doubt, many of them would like to do. It is not the first time in the world's history that a venerable old man has been so treated by the various members of a large family nourished by him, so soon as they are able to do for themselves. The scenery of the Ottawa is very beautiful, and apart from the exhibition will well repay a visit to this Dominion capital.

Imported Sussex Cattle.—We have been favored, of late, with an inspection of the imported-Sussex cattle, owned by Mr. Stanford, Markham, Ont., of the firm of Messrs. E. & A. Stanford, Steyning, Sussex, England. The lot consists of 5 bulls, 2 and 3 years old, a three-year-old fat steer, 4 cows and 6 calves. They were detained in quarantine all winter, and have not been in Markham more than two months. They are neat, smooth, fine limbed, low, level cattle, of a deep red color, which should readily find a home in this Province, so pre-eminently adapted to the rearing of a variety of breeds, and they carry a lot of flesh in comparison to the bone. They have smooth skin, are well filled on the crops, and all roughness of build is notably absent. The bulls have very strong horns, extending outwards from the head, and possess only a small amount of curve. They have but little crest, and are nearly level along the back. The cows are decidedly pretty, clean cut in the head, have good, even shaped bodies, with nice, well proportioned udders. A large herd of them feeding in a pasture must make a very pretty sight. The horns are long, smooth, and neatly curved outwards and a little forwards, and the half toward the tips are dark. The eye is bright and mellow. Each one has a light nose and white switch, with that exception all else about them is red. The steer is well packed all over, carrying a large, heavy load of flesh. This breed will evidently flourish on a moderate amount of food, as there is about them evidence of the lack of all grossness in their make-up. We hail their advent to this Province with much satisfaction, and as they are for sale, we hope that they will find permanent quarters on Canadian homes.

Progress in Ayrshire Herd Book Revision.—"James McCormick, Esq., Vice-President, Ontario, Dear sir: In reply to your enquiry about the work of revising the Ayrshire herd book, published in Toronto, I may say: Full reports have been made to Mr. Wade of the revision of one half of the bulls and about one half of the cows, in which is pointed out the errors discovered. As soon as the errors are corrected and returned to me, they will be properly recorded and given correct numbers for the next volume. I regret to say, we meet with much delay in tracing some of the animals to satisfactory breeding. This, I suppose, arises from the fact that the book of record kept in Toronto was first opened with the permit to enter animals of a certain number of crosses, which produced a complication now difficult to overcome, and causing much trouble to separate from pure breeds; and on the other hand, some were entered that cannot now easily be shown to be pure bred, owing to the death of owners and loss of papers. I am pleased to say I have obtained information enabling me to correct errors and omissions and make good many I feared would be lost, and yet hope to get answers to correspondence that will add to the good list. I did not think it prudent, as yet, to reject any as bad; we write to say they are withheld for further information. Many answers have not yet come to hand that I have written to, Mr. Wade, to yourself and to others, but I hope owners will hasten replies and assist all they can to get all possible information. You may rest assured every possible pains is taken to help on the honest and proper revision. I will send you a list of all that are right as soon as it is possible to do so with fairness and safety to all parties. I am, dear sir, yours very truly, WM. RUDDEN, President Ayrshire Breeders Association. Plantagenet, June 18th, 1887."