

The Grimsby Show.

Grimsby has a show peculiar to itself, and a good one it has been thus far, and promises to be still better in the future. They formed an agricultural society in the usual orthodox manner, and thus obtained the grant, but instead of holding a fall show hold it early in December, confining the prize list to fine classes, viz.: poultry, grain, horticultural products, fruit and art. The society is known as the North Grimsby Agricultural Society, and has held two exhibitions, both of which have been an unqualified success. The prizes on poultry, 1st, \$1, 2nd, 50 cts., and on grain, fruits and flowers, the various sections in art receiving from \$2 down to 50 cts. No money prizes were given for third, but highly commended cards. The show is liberally patronized by the citizens and people from the adjoining country, and as the admission fee is 15 cts., children, 10 cts., the amount realized has been very encouraging.

Parasites of Poultry.

Domestic fowls in the northern United States and Canada are attacked by several species of lice, and also by mites. When these tormentors are very numerous, as they are sure to be if remedial measures are not used, especially if the poultry are not allowed to run at large, they cause the fowls to languish, and eggs are a minus quantity. It is very easy to exterminate these pests, as I have practically shown on several occasions. The house and yard should be thoroughly sprayed with a dilute mixture of carbolic acid and water. The crude acid will answer well. A pint of this should be mixed with three gallons of water. This is to be sprinkled, with syringe or force pump, all over the inside of the house and yard. A mixture of kerosene and lard—one third kerosene—should also be kept right in the chicken house (in a close can or jar so as to keep it clean) to rub on the roost poles, and also on the fowls—under the wings, about the breast, along the thighs, etc. This may be applied after dark without disturbing the birds. —[Prof. A. J. Cook.]

Hens versus Cows.

A few miles from the city of London, resides a gentleman and his good wife owning and tilling fifty acres of land. The gentleman has always had great faith in his cows paying well, but thought the hens a bill of expense. The lady, on the other hand, contended that the hens paid better than the cows. Accordingly, one spring, she determined to keep books for one season and ascertain the respective merits of both. She credited the hens with all eggs laid, and interesting indeed was the contest as the time drew nigh for receiving the check from the cheese factory. But it came at last, and behold the hens were ahead, and so it continued throughout the season. One hundred hens to three cows, and as they had decided in the spring that it would cost about the same to keep each, the gentleman was forced to yield the point and admit that the hens were most profitable; and if others would keep an exact account they would be surprised at the result, but most farmers do not give their hens credit for anything except what eggs are taken to market. It is not at all difficult to make hens pay one dollar per head per annum if properly cared for. The writer on one occasion, made three dollars per head on five Dark Brahma hens after paying all expenses. This it will be understood, was per eggs and meat alone, not for breeding stock, as half a dollar was the highest price realized for young birds.

Commercial.

FARMER'S ADVOCATE Office,
January 1st, 1889.

Another month of mild, open weather, with a few snow flurries in some sections, followed by rain in most cases, has been the bill of fare, so far as the weather is concerned, the past month. Business has been very dull, and merchants are complaining, both with regard to sales and payments.

WHEAT.

This commodity has ruled very dull the past month, with lower tendencies. The foreign demand is light; in fact, almost nil. Flour stocks are still liberal, and millers are buying but very sparingly; but with all this there is undoubtedly a gradual adjustment of affairs towards a better general position, and firmer markets at no distant day.

Beerbohm's calculations as to wheat and flour supplies for the United Kingdom, from December 1 to March 31, aggregate as below, compared with estimated consumption, and the available supplies and consumption for the same period in the past two years:—

	1888-9. Quarters.	1887-8. Quarters.	1886-7. Quarters.
Wheat and flour.....	5,370,000	5,343,650	5,932,000
English wheat.....	2,450,000	3,100,000	2,450,000
Total, qrs.....	7,820,000	8,443,650	8,382,000
Consumption.....	9,100,000	9,000,000	8,900,000
Deficiency.....	1,280,000	556,350	518,000

If these calculations be justified by subsequent events, it will show that while the period mentioned is usually one of deficiency, this season will fall much more than usually short.

Dornbusch's review of December 7 says:—

The advices from Odessa are not cheerful reading. It appears that holders of grain are anxious to sell, but the question is, where to find buyers. The lowering of values in America has disconcerted the plans of South Russian shippers, who looked to the great republic to uphold the standard of value and keep prices firm until spring; but all this is changed. New York and Chicago have joined with West European markets in the retrograde movement, and Odessa and Nikolayev, as well as other export depots, must continue to carry the heavy stocks which have accumulated and are still coming in. To add to the unpleasant aspect of the commercial situation, it is said that great difficulty is experienced by the railway companies in supplying the requisite number of wagons for the transport of grain, and almost all the stations in the South are encumbered with cereals exposed to the weather in view of the owners, who can do nothing to prevent the deterioration of their property.

The week's exports of wheat from Atlantic ports were practically nothing; a moderate quantity of flour was cleared, 118,000 barrels, being larger than for three previous weeks. The aggregate represents 532,000 bu. held.

Receipts of wheat at primary markets were reduced, being the smallest weekly total on this crop thus far. Last year the receipts fell off sharply a little later.

LIVE STOCK.

The Montreal Gazette reports the live stock market as follows:—Cattle weak and lower, although in light supply. Trade medium.

Cables to-day were unfavorable, and although receipts have run light, prices ruled much lower, as the trade has been overdone. At Liverpool to-day prime steers were at 11½c.; good to choice, 11c.; poor to medium, 10c., and inferior and bulls, 7½c. @9c.

HOGS.

At Montreal there appears to have been a very good demand for hogs, but Ontario packers have regarded prices too high for active operations. In writing to the Montreal Trade Bulletin, Thomas Lawry & Son, of Hamilton, say:—"As far as Hamilton is concerned, the packers here have laid off most of their men, and are not going to pack until prices get low enough to pack with some chances of making a profit, but at present figures and prospect of a heavy crop, we prefer to wait. There has been no hogs of any quantity come to either Toronto or Hamilton, and what are now coming in are costing from 6c. to 8½c. for selected weights, which is considered too high for packing purposes. It is Montreal that is keeping prices up, and our Western packers are only waiting for them to get what they want, and then to lower the market. Six to six and one-quarter is high enough for hogs, considering the prospects of a very large crop, which, there is no doubt, there will be. It will be a great deal larger than last year's, owing to the high prices paid during the last season. Farmers have found it most profitable to feed, having any quantity of rough grain."

The action of the Canadian Pork Packers' Association, with regard to adulterated lard, and an increase of duty on pork, has attracted the attention of the American packers, and they are protesting

against this movement on the part of the Canadian packers. Would it not be more becoming on their part were they to agitate the reduction of their own duties on these products, and allow Canadians to compete with them for the New England trade? Were they to do this there would be no excuse or just reason for our packers asking for increased protection. But with regard to adulterated lard, we think it is quite time the government took some action in the matter.

CHEESE.

has ruled quiet but very steady, and stocks are gradually getting into smaller compass, and we hope to see a bare market before the make of this year is ready to move.

BUTTER.

The butter market remains unchanged and steady. Good fresh rolls are in good demand at fair prices.

NOTICES.

Mr. James N. Fairbairn has sold his 50-acre farm a mile and a half east of Bowmanville for \$6,500, being at the rate of \$130 an acre.

We have just received from Wm. Bryce, of Toronto, a beautifully illustrated work, entitled "Canada from Sea to Sea," with sixty illustrations. One grand feature of this work is that there is a very good description of all the principal places of interest. This work should be in every family. Mr. Bryce deserves credit for this production, and should have large sale for his book.

THE KNABE PIANOFORTE.—The Knabe pianofortes were introduced in Boston only a comparatively short time ago, although the merits of the instruments had long been recognized elsewhere, but the purity and brilliancy of tone, the strength and durability of the pianos quickly recommended them to the musical public. Mr. E. W. Tyler, the Boston agent, brought the Knabe piano to Boston nine years ago, and their success has not been eclipsed by any other piano during that period. —[From the Boston Journal.]

Every one knows that cocoa is an excellent tonic. Taken in the morning, at breakfast, it has no equal for nutrition, and strengthening qualities, but it can be taken with advantage at any time. It is especially recommended for nursing mothers, to whom its benefits are invaluable. Unfortunately, cocoa is sometimes mixed with starch, arrowroot, or sugar, and thus loses a great part of its special properties; hence, great care should be taken to procure the best in the market. Baker's Breakfast Cocoa and Chocolate preparations have long been the standard of excellence, and are guaranteed absolutely pure.

We want good, live agents in every county to take subscriptions for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. Good agents can make from \$2 to \$3 a day. Send for sample copy.

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Now is the time for our old subscribers to show their appreciation for a first-class agricultural journal by sending us one new subscriber for 1889. We expect to give the farmers of Canada a better volume this year than has ever been issued before. The subscription price of \$1 cannot be invested in any other manner that will do the farmer as much good.

Please find enclosed \$2 to pay two years' subscription. I find the FARMER'S ADVOCATE indispensable. JOHN WATTEWORTH, Glencoe, Ont.

Wm. Weld, Esq., City. Dear Sir,—I beg to advise you that the City Council at its last session adopted the following resolution, viz.: "Ald. Callard, seconded by Ald. Winnett, moved that the thanks of this Council, on behalf of the citizens of London, are due to Mr. Weld for his indefatigable and valuable services in advancing the best interests of the city, and we recommend the FARMER'S ADVOCATE and HOME MAGAZINE to every Canadian for its patriotic, independent and valuable information." Yours truly, C. A. KINGSTON, for City Clerk.