

**Canadian Records Recognized.**

The authorities of the Columbian World's Fair have decided to recognize the Canadian Sheep Record, also the Canadian Swine Record. Animals recorded in these records are eligible to compete at Chicago, and need not be registered in American records.

**Mr. John Bell's Tamworths.**

The illustration on the first page of this issue portrays three Tamworth swine, the property of Mr. John Bell, Amber, Ont. The combined weight of these animals is 2,500 lbs., yet they are smooth and attractive in appearance and very active. The female in the background is imported Sally Ann 1-3908, bred by Mr. John Norman, jr., Cliff House, Tamworth, Staffordshire, England. The other two large pigs are Scarboro Bell and Major of Willowdale, two of her first litter, sired by imported Norman's Pride. Each of these animals has been frequently shown at Canada's largest exhibitions, and in each case has been awarded first prize.

These are fair specimens of Mr. Bell's now famous herd. His present breeding stock consists of three aged boars and twelve sows; two of the boars and four of the sows were imported from England. Ten of the sows have farrowed recently, two will farrow soon. This spring nearly one hundred young pigs have first seen the light at this farm, many of which are now sold. Orders have been received from nearly every state in the American Union, and from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Manitoba, Assiniboia, British Columbia, and a great many from Ontario. At the time of our visit the pens contained a grand lot of breeding animals and young pigs; all were surprisingly smooth and had the appearance of being easily fed and calculated to produce the finest grade of bacon and hams. They were uniformly light in the neck, jowl and back, wonderfully deep in the sides, hams full, thick and well let down, while the shoulders were fine and smooth. To many Canadian farmers these pigs present a novel appearance; their heads are not dished, nor their backs broad, two qualities much admired by many, but of no intrinsic value—in fact, a broad, fat back is not wanted by any of the pork-packers to-day, because the consumers reject all such. Although the snouts worn by these swine are long, the head is very light, and the offal less than usual. This sort will doubtless win their way among the rent-paying farmers. We have never heard of a section where they have been introduced that they have not grown in public favor. They are said to be excellent grazers, easily fed, and very prolific.

Mr. Nicholas Awrey, Ontario Commissioner to the World's Columbian Exposition, instructed Mr. Bell to prepare a full class of this breed for competition at Chicago, but owing to the authorities of this great show refusing to give this breed a class, Mr. Bell has declined to make an exhibit. What are known in Canada as Improved Large Yorkshires and Middle Whites are also compelled to show in a sort of general class, or consolidation class, which will include animals of very different types—so different that it will be impossible for any man to make just awards. The Tamworths and Large Yorkshires should each have been given a class. We were given to understand at one time that this would be done, but recently some mysterious change has come over the American managers at Chicago: they have changed their mind without giving any explanations.

Mr. Bell breeds Shropshires as well as Clydesdales and Tamworths. At the head of his flock of Shropshires is a ram imported by John Miller & Sons, Brougham, Ont.; this sheep is the sire of a lot of good lambs, which are doing very well.

The famous Granite City is at the head of the Clydesdale stud; this noble horse is as fresh and good as he ever was, and is doing a satisfactory season, standing in his owner's stable. Among the Clydes owned by Mr. Bell is a very good yearling colt which will be shown at the Columbian Exposition.

The breeder and owner of this stock is one of Canada's best live stock judges, a man widely known and as widely respected. We recommend him and his stock to our readers.

The Poultry Association held a regular monthly meeting in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE office on the evening of June 5th. After disposing of routine business, a revision of the constitution was discussed. Several important changes being deemed necessary, it was decided to leave this matter over till the next meeting (first Monday of July), when it should receive full discussion before the annual meeting, which will be held during exhibition week and of which notice will be given later on.

**How the Tariff Affects the Manitoba and Northwest Farmers.**

The present low prices for farm produce in this country have led a great many farmers to look a little more closely than usual into the conditions governing the basis of prices of wheat especially, and also in general the other commodities bought and sold by the farmers in the Northwest. So far as I have been able to judge from the tone of the letters bearing on the subject, as contributed to the provincial press, most of the writers seem disposed to lay the blame on the rather exorbitant prices charged for agricultural implements. Every one seems to take it for granted that the low price of grain of all kinds is altogether caused by reasons other than purely local. To begin with, the rate of freight to Duluth and Minneapolis as compared with the rate to Fort William is eighteen cents per hundred as compared with twenty-one cents with us—a difference of nearly two cents per bushel. Again, the export of hard wheat from Dakota and Minnesota is falling off every year, owing to the larger milling capacity in the States; as an instance of this, there is at Duluth and West Superior a milling capacity of about twenty-five thousand barrels a day, where four years ago there was not over a capacity of two thousand barrels a day. The mills at Minneapolis can grind thirty-five thousand barrels a day, running full time. The United States is still one of the largest exporting wheat countries in the world, but it is surprising how little of the quality of wheat raised in the north-western states is exported as wheat: this wheat goes out as flour, and the offal, bran and shorts, finds a market in the ever-increasing market in the great republic. As a rule, our two hard has sold at two or three cents less than one northern when sold for export; this year it sells for the same, but when it is remembered that what grades two hard this year is the pick of the wheat that would grade one northern, our wheat is still at a discount. Anyone can prove this who will take a sample of the same wheat to a Minneapolis miller and to a Montreal or New York exporter, and he will find that he would get at least two cents more for milling use than for export. We have had an example of this in our own Province this season; the Lake of the Woods Milling Company claim that they have not as much wheat as they want, and they have been lately, since the bulk of the wheat has been sold by the farmers, taking what was offered at three cents over the export value. If we had sufficient mills in Canada to grind up all the wheat grown in the Northwest, we would be in as good a position as the farmers in the states adjoining; but there are not mills enough, and if there were they would not have the market for their off-products, bran and shorts, or even for their finer brands of flour. The finest brands of flour produced in Minneapolis are sold in the States; it is the medium grades that are exported.

The United States is therefore the best market for our best wheat. It is also the best market for our poorest wheat. Take a year when we have a crop like that of 1891, when so much wheat was unsaleable on account of dampness; dealers could not buy it, because they dare not take risks of carrying it to Europe; it was too far even to send it to Ontario. How many farmers know this to their cost is shewn in the thousands of bushels that have been pitched out as useless on the prairie. Had we had the American market, this damp wheat could have been taken to mills within 500 miles of where it was grown and used up before it spoiled, or the very worst of it sold for feed in the immense market to the south of us. A visitor to Minneapolis market any time during the past year could have seen thousands of bushels finding a ready market at from thirty to fifty cents, that a dealer who had to export the wheat could not have looked at. But it is when we come to coarse grains that we can see the injustice that is done to this country in being shut out from its natural market more glaringly than in any thing else. Oats and barley, that have this past season been sold at fifteen and sixteen cents per bushel, could have been sold at five to ten cents per bushel more if allowed to go to American markets. Brewing barley has sold in Winnipeg for twenty-five to thirty cents, while in Minneapolis the same would sell from forty-five to fifty. The rate of freight from Brandon to Winnipeg is sixteen cents per hundred pounds, the rate to Minneapolis is twenty-two; a glass of beer sells in Minneapolis at five cents, in Winnipeg at ten. Minneapolis and Milwaukee beer sells at the same price in Winnipeg as the home product, after paying thirty-five per cent. duty and freight added. Comment is needless.

It is to be remembered besides that in oats the bushel here is thirty-four pounds, across the line it is two pounds less—this is besides the difference in price per bushel. So much for what our farmers sell; for what they buy there is now a pretty well-defined idea that they could do better, were the tariff between Canada and the States removed. The old argument that the tariff is higher in the States than with us is about played out. Let any farmer go from Emerson to Pembina and see whether he could not buy his goods of all kinds to better advantage. The fact is that while the

United States is nominally a protective country, it is really the greatest free trade country in the world. There is a system of perfect free trade between sixty-five millions of people—those people are the wealthiest people in the world, when the wealth per head of population is taken; and they are the greatest trading people in the world. I mean that on an average an American will do ten times the amount of trade in a year that is done by the average European, thus making their population for trading purposes equal to ten times the number compared with the European standard. That there are farmers in the Northwestern States no better off than farmers here is no reason why we should not improve our advantages by getting their market. No doubt the reckless credit system which we copied from the States has much to do with individual hardship over there, but we are rapidly getting into the same trouble, and the fact that we are handicapped both in our buying and selling will only make things worse here by-and-by. One of the worst handicaps that the farmer is under here is in the price of lumber. Most of the lumber used in Manitoba comes from the Lake of the Woods, a distance from Winnipeg of 145 miles; the same quality of lumber can be brought from Duluth, 470 miles, and pay twenty-five per cent. duty, and be laid down in Winnipeg at the same price. What does the farmer on the prairie want more than cheap lumber? And this is how he gets it under the National Policy.

Let anyone take a map of North America and try if he can see any reason why Canada should be cut off from the southern half of the continent. Look at the Northwest cut off from the east by a barren stretch of rock and great sheet of water, at the State of Maine running away in into what should be Canada and nearly severing the eastern extremity from the Province of Ontario. The whole of the Dominion stretched to a thin line—thin almost to breaking point, across the continent, and the great solid mass of territory to the south of us. Let us examine ourselves and say honestly, Are we honest when we say that we do not want anything to do with these scheming Yankees; that we want to keep Canada to ourselves? Was there no selfish reason that dictated the so-called National Policy? And now has it been a success? Let the Maritime Provinces answer, mouldering in a dry rot amid unsurpassable riches of mineral wealth; Quebec under the heel of a middle age ecclesiasticism, and her children fleeing in thousands to the south; Ontario with her barley and horses, that used to be a fruitful source of income to her industrious farmers, now unsaleable at home for want of the southern market, and her annexation clubs now forming all over the country; Manitoba and British Columbia, almost too young to know good from evil, and already writhing under the prick of an indefinable something, they know not almost what—let the whole Dominion speak, with its burden of debt mounting up by the hundred thousands, nay, almost by the hundred millions, the population unable, even with the aid of immigration, to hold its natural increase in the past ten years, all answer that the National policy has failed. Those in high places speak to us of relief to be obtained from a federation of the British Empire; free trade with England at the expense of other parts of the world. Why we have free trade with England now; our farm products and manufactured goods enter her ports free. Everything is talked of but admission to the only natural market we have, and one has only to look at the map to be convinced that man is trying to keep asunder what was never intended by nature to be separate. Let the farmers of Manitoba look to this; it will bear enquiry, and it is my opinion that when once they see the truth in its proper light, that it will not be a mere sentiment that will keep them from insisting on getting what is their natural right. M. W.

At a regular council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, held recently, the veterinary committee reported that they had had the question of abortion in cattle under their careful consideration, and recommended asking the board of agriculture to undertake at as early a date as possible an exhaustive inquiry into the nature and causes of this disease. They had prepared a memorandum on the subject, which showed that although there are no official statistics showing the losses caused by abortion in cattle, such losses have now become exceedingly serious, and they are very widely spread amongst the herds of the country. The cause of the affection has never yet been definitely ascertained, and, consequently, there is no degree of certainty attaching to any of the remedies that may be applied. To show the difference of opinion which prevails as to the nature of the disease, it is only necessary to mention some of the various causes which have been assigned to it, such as ergoted grasses, unsuitable food, impure water, "sympathy," bad smells, disease in the bull, tendency to fatten, etc. That the disease is either contagious or infectious, practical men entertain no doubt, but the question as to the means whereby the contagion or infection is communicated still remains unsolved.

Active preparations are being made under the direction of Sir Charles Tupper for the proper representation of the agricultural resources of Canada at the show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, which will be held in June.