

lished their fortunes, to the great benefit of English agriculture, and, through it, of all the world. Ere the modest parish minister of Carmyllie is quite pushed out of sight by the crowd of familiar names that succeeded him, it is worth while to recall the fact that to his practical skill, patient research, and earnest ardour in pursuit of science, we are largely indebted for the beneficent revolution now in progress."

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

To the Editor of the ONTARIO FARMER.

Sir,—The following few jottings by the way may not be entirely devoid of interest to some of your readers:—

I attended, by invitation, the May cattle fair at Georgetown, and met a considerable number of the members of the Halton Agricultural Society, and after the business of the day was got through with, an agreeable hour or two was spent in the consideration of several subjects affecting local agricultural interests. Hop culture, among other matters, received considerable attention. Hops have been grown in this vicinity for several years with satisfactory results; but last year's crop being so much in excess of the demand on this continent, and a similar condition of things existing in Europe, the business has become excessively depressed, and prices unprecedentedly low. A large part of last year's growth remains in the grower's or merchant's hands, some of which will probably never go into consumption. Hop growing, in all countries, is always been characterised by "ups and downs;" paying well, exorbitantly indeed, some seasons, and in others just the reverse. The extension of hop-growing in Canada is certainly at present to be advised, and old plantations could everywhere be grubbed up. With better attention to culture, picking, and curing, and in some cases the adoption of finer varieties, hop-growing will pay, in the long run, on suitable soils and well sheltered situations; that is the supply does not outrun the demand.

The advantages of stated markets for the sale of cattle to farmers, dealers, and the public at large, are so obvious that they have of late years been gradually extending, and in some localities they have attained considerable magnitude and importance. In the course of time the same principle will, no doubt, as in older countries,

be applied to grain. It is not only convenient and advantageous, but in a social point of view, very agreeable and pleasant for producers and dealers to meet at stated periods for the transaction of business. Farmers, as a body, have but few opportunities of meeting together, and no doubt their interests often suffer thereby. The members of the Esquering Agricultural Society have been accustomed for a considerable time to meet at stated periods for comparing notes and discussing subjects affecting their pursuits—an example that might be generally followed with advantage by similar organizations throughout the Province. /

Leaving Georgetown, I spent several agreeable hours with Mr. Stone in going over Moreton Lodge Farm, in the immediate vicinity of Guelph. This is a very fine estate, which its enterprising proprietor has done much of late years to improve. It is a practical illustration of the high status to which Canadian farming can attain, when accompanied by adequate capital and directed with judgment and perseverance. The live stock of this farm is too well known and appreciated to require any notice in detail from me, I can only say that it would be difficult to find on this continent, perhaps, a larger and finer collection of farm animals, and notwithstanding a long winter and the deficiency of the root crop, occasioned by the severe drought of last winter, the cattle and sheep were in good condition, quite as much so as is necessary for breeding purposes. Great care, and no little expense, must necessarily have been involved in the winter management; and the straw and root cutter, pulper, &c., had been brought into constant requisition. Much can be done in carrying stock through our long winters in a thriving condition, and when provender is scarce, by a judicious mixture of food, however coarse the materials, regularity in feeding, a copious supply of wholesome water, shelter from cold draughts, and scrupulous attention to ventilation and cleanliness.

There is one point which I wish particularly to notice: Mr. Stone is of opinion that for the general improvement of the common breeds of the country, the Hereford bull is equal, if not preferable to the Shorthorn. This is a view certainly not in accordance with the prevailing