

poses, as well as a fine flock of Shropshire sheep. The cattle are very highly bred, and many possess great individual merit, especially the West Highlanders. Besides these, a herd of buffalo are kept, and are breeding regularly. Both the buffalo and Highland cattle are very docile and tractable. All interested parties should visit this farm. Mr. R. M. Traill, the manager, is a genial and hospitable gentleman. A few miles further west, near Headingly, is the residence of

THE HON. JOHN TAYLOR,

ex-Minister of Agriculture. He is a native of the country, and owns a large tract of land. The farm he resides on embraces 960 acres, has a river frontage of 30 chains, and extends back four miles. Two hundred acres are in crop, and is very promising. During the last five years the grain on this farm has averaged, per acre, as follows:—Wheat, 20 bushels; oats, 50; barley, 30; peas, 20; potatoes, 150. Roots and vegetables do remarkably well. He is a firm believer in mixed farming, and keeps 40 horses and 70 cattle. Among his horses is Lisgar, a fine traveller, and the sire of a large number of speedy horses. His sire was an imported thoroughbred; his dam a native mare. He also keeps for his own use, the Clydesdale stallion, Jumbo. At the head of his cattle stands an imported Short-horn bull of good quality. His pigs are a very good lot; a fine boar, bred by J. C. Snell, of Edmonton, is the stock animal. The stabling here will accommodate 60 head, besides open sheds, as before stated. All his young horses winter out on the prairie, and are never stabled until they are broken, at four years old. Two hundred tons of hay are annually stacked, and, judging from the stacks now in the yard, keeps in excellent condition. He considers the native grasses better suited to the country than the cultivated sorts. Speaking of settlers he said, most emphatically: "Those wanted are good, practical farmers. A man having \$2,000 can make a fine start; one having \$1,000 can also do well; and men without capital soon become independent, if industrious. Such persons should hire to a farmer for a year or two. I know many who have come in this way, who are now wealthy. Those who have money should be most careful in locating; they should be sure to get a good farm in a good locality. Deal only with reliable men. Enquire freely and fully of settlers, when you know them to be honest. Do not buy land because it is cheap; any amount of good land can be procured in this vicinity for \$5 to \$15 per acre, according to improvements, &c."

Pea Harvesting.

All our readers know what a tiresome job it is to cut a large field of peas with the scythe. Many farmers pull them with a horseshoe, this will do when the straw is abundant, the peas few, and the field clean. But such conditions are seldom enjoyed. When the straw is heavily podded and grass and tall weeds abundant, the rake or even the scythe will shell a great many peas. We have found the Pea Harvester, manufactured by Talon Bros., Guelph, Ont., a splendid implement when attached to a wide-cut, mower, or self-rake reaper. When attached to a mower of the proper width, two men and team can cut ten acres per day; with a reaper, one man will accomplish as much as two with a mower, and do it easier. Besides the ease and speed with which the work is done, the straw can be cut somewhat green, and will be free from dust and dirt with which it is loaded when harvested with the scythe or rake. When cut with a machine, the crop may be housed sooner than is possible when bunched in any other way.

Stock-breeders and farmers are beginning to realize the value of well-saved pea straw. That from the finer sorts of peas is more valuable than any other kind of straw, and even that

from the common Marrowfat pea is good feed when well-harvested and housed as soon as dry. Some of the largest and most successful breeders chaff and feed this straw to their stock animals. Given this with roots and meal, cattle and sheep do remarkably well. Our advice to all our readers is, cut your peas a little green. Keep the straw clean and do not let it get wet; handle it with as much care as clover hay, both before and after threshing, and you will be surprised at the results when fed. There is no crop so much neglected and abused in harvesting as the pea, and none which will pay better for careful handling.

Our Subscription Prizes.

Wherever we go through the province, we are forcibly impressed with the fact, that Canadian farmers are losing tens of thousands of dollars every year, because they use as stock animals inferior and badly-bred males. It takes as long to rear a colt worth \$70 as it does one worth \$200. The proportionate value is the same in all other stock, even to fowls. The best is not too good. If, where the land is divided into small farms, the yeomen would unite and buy good males, of the breed best suited to their wants, they would double the value of their stock in, at most, ten years; which would mean a great increase in national wealth. To encourage the introduction of good animals everywhere, we will continue to give as subscription prizes first-class stock animals of the various breeds. Every animal given will be selected from the stock of reliable breeders only. See the list of PREMIUMS NOW OFFERED ON PAGE 230. We will guarantee every prize to give satisfaction to the winner. We have a lot of most flattering testimonials from those to whom we have awarded prizes. We give the following as an example of the value of the prizes we are now offering. The following is an extract from a private letter received from Mr. James Graham, Port Perry, a large breeder, and an estimable and honorable man:—

DEAR SIR:—The young bull chosen by you is a rangy, good show beast. On the 22nd of April last he weighed 1,066 lbs. I presume you have the Dominion Herd Book. I will go over a number of his crosses in the front part of his pedigree, and confine myself to their performances in the show-ring, which I think will give a good idea of their merit as a family; and, I may say, they achieved great fame in the hands of George M. Bedford, Kentucky, U. S. They were known as the Bride family. He was got by Prince Victor 5th, a pure Bates bull, by Fourth Duke of Clarence, of Bow Park Farm. Second cross, Minna Duke=2108=. This was a grand show bull, shown often—always 1st and sweepstakes. He was by the Twentieth Duke of Airdrie. General Meredith & Sons paid \$10,000 for him. Grand-dam, Zora=5055=, by Royal Buck=2374=, a low-set, heavy-fleshed, and good show bull, never beaten in the county; he was by Scotsman 2nd, a first-prize bull at the Provincial Fair. Fourth cross, Lothair=801=, a fine show bull, got by imp. Young England, a prize winner. Fifth cross by Loudon Duke=803=, a very successful prize winner in the hands of the Snell Bros.; he won four first prizes at the Provincial fairs, and stood twice at the head of the Prince of Wales' prize herd, and won the sweepstakes as the best bull of any age, at the Ohio State fair in 1872. Sixth cross, by Meade Massie=840=. This was a fine show bull; illustrated in the 7th Vol., A. H. B. Seventh cross, by Grand Duke=673=. This bull won the first prize, and a sweepstakes prize of \$600, given for the best bull of any age, at the St. Louis State fair in 1861. Seventh cross, by Bell Duke of Airdrie=354=; he by imp. Duke of Airdrie, a pure Duchess bull; his dam, Lady Bell, by Second Duke of Athol (11376), running back through pure Bates stock to Fletcher, by Young Wynyard (2859). He won the same prizes at St. Louis in 1860.

Farmers' Clubs.

West Middlesex Farmers' Institute.

The Board of Directors made arrangements for a meeting of this Institute at Strathroy on the 29th, and at Glencoe on the 30th of May. The weather proved very unfavorable, and the Glencoe meeting was postponed. At Strathroy the attendance was small, but those who were present had no reason to regret the effort put forth. One of the best results of Farmers' Institutes is the development of local talent. Of this the Strathroy meeting gave evidence. One of the best practical addresses we ever heard on farming was there given by Mr. D. Leitch, ex-President of the Dominion Farmers' Council, who is a reader and thinker. Mr. Leitch is the first practical farmer we have heard attempt to explain the feeding and manurial value of the different grains. This is of great importance, and in the near future many will realize this fact, who now think it unnecessary to take the trouble to give it a moment's consideration. He was followed by Mr. Charles Simmons, of Ivan, Ont., a thoroughly practical farmer, with a slight tendency to be enthusiastic on the beef question. His address was also of value, and could more of our farmers be persuaded to farm as he does (for he farms as he talks), it would be the means of increasing the wealth of our Dominion in general and Ontario particularly.

Dr. Roome, M. P. and Hon. G. W. Ross, addressed the meeting at some length, and were listened to with attention.

FARMERS' PICNIC.

A very enjoyable picnic was held under the auspices of the East Middlesex Farmers' Institute, at Pond Mills, on Wednesday June 12th. The programme consisted of music by local talent, addresses by Messrs. McMillan, M. P. for East Huron, Armstrong, M. P. for East Middlesex, S. B. Gorwell, London Tp., and W. L. Brown of the London Free Press. All the speakers were listened to with intense interest throughout, by an intelligent and appreciative audience, of between four and five hundred.

Mr. McMillan referred to the too prevalent but fallacious idea, that the bright boy must not stay on the farm, and the stupid one was fit for nothing else, so he must remain. He cited the case of Sir J. B. Lawes as showing the scope for intelligence in agricultural pursuits. He considered the competition so keen between different countries, that intelligence was an absolute prerequisite. He briefly referred to the vigor of body and mind that can only be acquired and sustained by out-door exercise. That the farmer to keep the boys on the farm must take an interest in his work, must be an enthusiast in it, should keep his house well supplied with agricultural literature, and study the same himself, particularly agricultural papers. Have hours of reading as well as hours of labor. He deprecated the fact that many farmers were averse to agricultural papers, applying the term book-farming to the information therein contained. He claimed that two boys with equal opportunities starting farming, one reading agricultural papers and the other not, that the reader will in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, excel the one who does not read. The speaker claimed that farming paid if followed intelligently and economically, but the man who was always wanting to sell out would not make it pay. And above all