

enormous, and it never fails to come again. Like orchard grass, it is worthless if allowed to stand too long.

Buckwheat as green food.—"As a soiling crop," says Professor E. W. Stuart, "green buckwheat would be slightly worse than nothing. It is certainly worthless as a green crop. A herd of cows, kept wholly upon this as a soiling crop, would become seriously emaciated in a month's time."

A strong statement, indeed, and a surprising one in the face of Mr. Barnard's idea, that the extreme richness of the milk of his Canadian Jersey cows is chiefly attributable to their being fed upon green buckwheat.

Shorthorn Dairy cows.—A friend of mine proposes to import a small herd of shorthorn dairy-cows from England early this spring. If he succeeds in getting the right sort, and crosses them with his Guernsey bull, I fancy he will have, in time, the best herd of dairy-cows in the country. His land is rather light for such cattle; but as it is his intention to continue his present plan of giving his milch-cows additional food on the pastures throughout the summer, I do not think he is likely to fail from that cause.

I see that it is proposed to establish a dairy-register as an appendix to the American Shorthorn herdbook, "and," says the Rural New Yorker, "it does seem as though Nature intended the Shorthorn for the 'general purpose' cow after all." Well, she has been for years the general purpose cow in England, and I do not see why she should not occupy the same position in this country.

Food for Milk.—When Mr. James Drummond was feeding his cows, at the Sherbrooke Exhibition, on ground meal, he looked at me and winked, as who should say: You know where that comes from. The meal was compounded of oats, pease, and linseed.

Muck as a Manure.—Muck contains, sometimes, (i. e., where the remains of some animal or other are found), 2% and upwards of nitrogen. Now, as one hundred weight of sulphate of ammonia containing 20 pounds of nitrogen, is a fair top-dressing for an acre of wheat, barley, or oats, it follows that ten hundred pounds—one cart-load—of muck should answer the same purpose; and putting the value of nitrogen at sixteen cents a pound, it follows that a cart-load of muck is worth \$3.20! Which, it seems to me, is rather what logicians call, a *reductio ad absurdum*.

The mechanical effects of sand on clay, or of clay applied to sand, are, no doubt, excellent, but consider for a moment the extraordinary cost of carting even a hundred loads of either from place to place. In England, when we clay soils, never less than from eighty to a hundred three horse loads are given to the acre and the clay is always taken out of trenches on the spot to be improved. As to sanding clay soils, I fear in three years, at farthest, the sand will be found to have slipped through the clay into the subsoil.

The effect of muck on soils of every description would be to darken the soil, and thereby to enable it to absorb and retain the heat rays of the sun, but, again, would the game be worth the candle?

Dry muck would make an excellent absorbent for liquid manure.

Practice, in all these questions, is the only safe guide, and this question of muck is one that I hope to see thoroughly sifted at the new experimental farms.

My opinion is shortly this, that our seasons are so short, and our labour so dear, that, except as an absorbent in the

stables, for *celery* and *tomatoes*, carting muck can never pay. Mixing muck with lime for a top-dressing to meadows is Lord Meadowbank's plan of one hundred years ago. Lime costs, here at Sorol, 40 cents a bushel, and I leave my correspondent to judge of the expediency of using it on land at that rate. Less than ten bushels to the acre would have no *chemical* effect, and less than 120 bushels to the acre would have no *mechanical* effect. I cannot see what would be gained by mixing sulphate of lime plaster—with muck, though perhaps the organic acids might make it a little more soluble.

And it is not on every soil that plaster acts. Here, it seems to have an immense effect on all leguminous plants, but none at all on the grasses. The very first thing I should do on a new farm would be to try plaster on clovers; but as 120 pounds are enough for an acre, I should spread it broadcast instead of composting it.

American Horticultural Society.—The address of President Carlo to the above society at its annual meeting is of great importance. A few extracts will be found at p. of this number of the Journal.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST.

OUR ENGRAVINGS.

Group of Lincoln Ewes.—Great roomy sheep are the Lincolns. Capital legs of mutton, but too fat all along the back and on the brisket to be economical meat. The original stock of the county were coarse boned, straggling brutes, and they owe their improvement to crosses with Bakewell's improved Leicesters. Like the Kents, the Lincolns are seldom seen out of their own county, where, on the rape grown in the fens, they attain great weight of carcass, and clip a vast coat of wool. One or two rams of this breed are occasionally met with at our exhibitions; but what good they or the Scotch blackfaced are expected to do here in Canada I cannot conceive. The day for keeping sheep for their wool alone is long gone by.

Romeo of Saint-Lambert.—A Jersey bull bred by Mr. Reburn of Saint-Anne, whose ardour is the propagation of this strain of blood is known over all the world, *ed in altis siti*.

Lady Fawn of Sainte-Anne.—Calved October 1st 1870. See performance below.

Ste-Anne de Bellevue, Nov. 8th, 1886.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST, ESQ.

My dear Sir,—I have sent by same mail as this a photograph of one of my Jersey cows. Now I am aware that the Guernseys are your favorites, but still I think you will agree with me when I say that there are few cows of any breed can beat Lady Fawn's record at the same age. When we tested her she was not forced, forcing a cow to test is a thing I don't believe in. She was on very poor pasture. I could not keep her with the other cows, as she was very lame, and could not keep up with them, therefore was compelled to put her on a four acre lot, on which I had kept five Exmoor and Shetland ponies all the season, until she was put there with another cow to keep her from being lonely.

She was fed with from 20 to 24 lbs. oats and pease (mixture 1 bus. pease to 2 bus. oats ground by ourselves with a Vessot 2 horse grinder) and 2½ to 3 lbs. ground oilcake per day. You will find test on back of photograph. We kept her milk record for 88 days she gave 2,715 lbs. of milk, and thirteen days of that time she was kept in the stable (on dry bran no grain whatever); she decreased 101 lbs. milk from the previous thirteen days. I have sent you a copy of the Jersey Bulletin of Dairy World which contains a woodcut of her by