JUNE 4, 1908



### AT ASHFORD, KENT, ENGLAND, ON

Thurs. & Fri., Sept. 24 & 25, '08

The show being held on Thursday, 24th Septem-ber, 1908, at 1 p. m., and the sale on Friday, 25th September, 1208, commencing at 10.30 a. m., sharp. Both show and sale take place in the cattle market. Prizes and challenge cups are given for the best rams and group of rams, and the entries, which will number upwards of 400, will be representative of all the leading flocks, as well as of the best strains of blood. The most important sale of the year. Full partic-ulars and catalogues of

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## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

#### KILLING FERNS.

Can you tell me how to kill out a fern bed ? We have a small, swampy piece of black loam we want to clean, and drain, but cannot get rid of the ferns. We tried to plow it, but it is so tough the plow can't cut it.

Ans .- Where there are comparatively few ferns, it is not a difficult matter to destroy them by thorough cultivation; but this seems to be an exceptional case. Possibly some reader may have had experience in this connection, which will be helpful, and we trust that any such will forward his experience to "The Farmer's Advocate."

### BOOKS ON FARMING.

Being a subscriber, in Scotland, for The Farmer's Advocate," I have been much interested in the replies of Mr. G. E. Day to the many and varied queries and conundrums submitted for his advice and opinion, and would esteem it a favor if he would name one or two of the best books for a beginner in mixed farming. I purpose taking up farming in Alberta next spring, and meantime am desirous of cramming in as much by book as possible. I find "The Farmer's Advocate " very instructive, and more valuable as an educator than any home journal I have come across yet. Thanking you and Mr. G. E. Day in anticipation. SCOTT.

Ans .-- It is difficult to get single books which deal fully with all the various phases of farm work, and I do not know of any book which makes a specialty of arming in Western Canada. One of the best books on general agriculture is "Surcessful Farming," by William Rennie. Another very fair book on general agriculture is "Soils and Crops of the Farm," by Morrow and Hunt. I believe that both these books can be obtained through "The Farmer's Advocate.' G. E. DAY.

#### GROWING CELERY.

I have a piece of black muck land that has had water lying on it for a number of years, and am afraid it will be sour or I would plant it with celery. 1. What shall I do to make it fit to

grow celery ? 2. Give culture of celery. When shall I plant?

3. Is it too late to sow seed now? W. B.

Ans.-Celery does well upon black muck land, provided it is well drained and the soil is not sour. The first requisite in preparing land of this kind is to have it thoroughly drained of surplus water. and if the land is, inclined to be sour, it could be sweetened by top-dressing with lime. It should then be well-cultivated to decompose the vegetable matter upon it, and if there is much undecomposed matter, it might be well, the first year, to plant a crop such as corn or potatoes to better prepare the land for celery. Celery seed for late crop in this section of the country, should be sown about the middle of April; but possibly in your district, where the season is much longer, you might yet be able to obtain a fair crop if the seed were sown at once, although it would not likely have time for a full season's growth. You will find a good article on celery culture in the "Vegetable-growers' Report" for 1906, which can be obtained upon application to the Department of Agriculture, Toronto. This will give much fuller directions than could be H. L. HUTT. given here. O. A. C.



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It was Washington's birthday, and the minister was making a patriotic speech to the children of the secondary grade. 'Now, children," he said, "when I arose this morning the flags were waving and the houses were draped with bunting. What was that done for ? ' 4 Washington's birthday," answered a

youngster. "Yes," said the minister, "but last month I, too, had a birthday, but no flags were flying that day, and you did not even know I had a birthday. Why

was that ? " "Because," said an urchin, "Washing-

