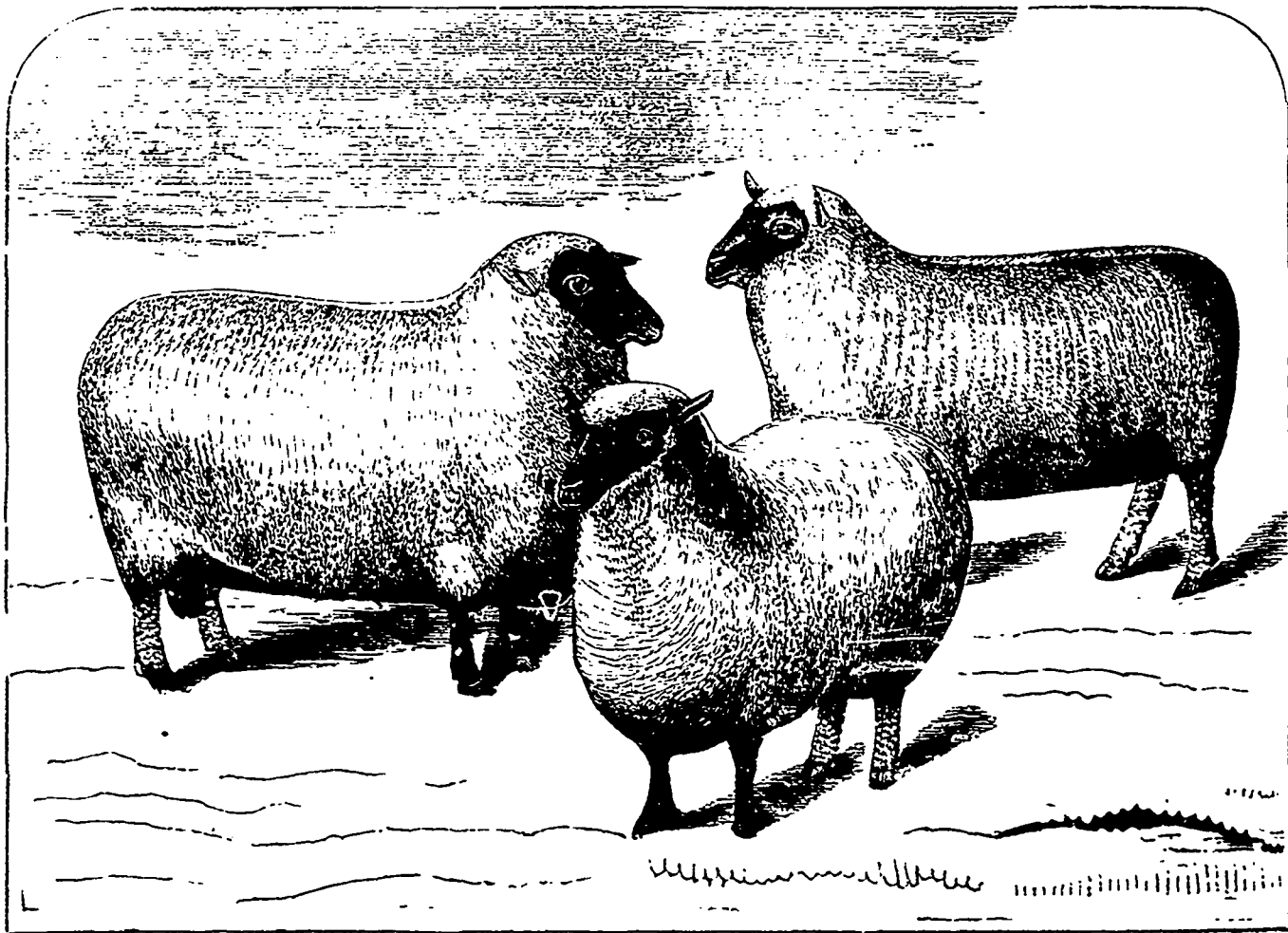


The best Implements!

To the *Rural New Yorker*—Your number of Dec 30 has just arrived, and is perused, as usual, with pleasure—I must sympathise with Mr. D. E. Stevens, of Kansas, and admit that his strictures, which apply to all respectable agricultural papers, are perfectly legitimate. How comes it that the best agricultural papers in the land cannot honestly and usefully advise as to the real comparative value of agricultural implements—offered in the market every day and every where? Who, to save his life, could honestly and conscientiously say which is the best sulky plow offered for sale? Who has, or have, made the necessary comparative tests—scientific and practical, in order to solve such problems? It

One of the most important features of the *Royal Agricultural Society of England's* invaluable work has been, for many years, the thorough test of agricultural implements. These tests, when necessary, are continued, from year to year, under the very best authorities in Europe, and the decisions have such weight that they are accepted, generally, on all sides.—The subdivision of labor is such that, in about five years, all classes of useful implements have been tested thoroughly and publicly reported on.

Why should we not unite in America, and organize a thoroughly *National* test of agricultural implements, under the best possible management? Why should we not without farther loss of time, work with a will towards the solution



HAMPSHIRE-DOWNS.

strike me that the agricultural interests of North America—throwing in Canada, are of such importance that leading agricultural journalists should have at their command some authoritative and satisfactory answer to Mr. Stevens' query, and to all questions of a similar nature.

We have, yearly, innumerable fairs: International fairs:—National fairs;—State fairs:—District, County or Township fairs, where, generally, any number of prizes are offered for agricultural implements:—And yet, where and when have we, in America, thoroughly scientific and practical tests of such implements as should be in daily use by farmers all over the land?

of such problems as every farmer in the land is directly interested in having solved?

Might not agricultural writers, in America, take up this subject of thorough tests for all useful implements, and keep it stirring until some proper solution be obtained.—

Ed. A. BARNARD.

Montreal, Canada.

Beans and Corn.

E. A. B. writing from Cap St. Michel, Quebec, asks: "Where can I get the best seed of field corn for our province? What variety do you recommend? What should