

In these circumstances, your committee conceives it to be its duty to request the Council, as a mark of recognition and gratitude, to pass a vote of thanks to Mr Gibb for his eminent services, expressing your appreciation of the noble devotion of such men, who never calculate the amount of personal sacrifices they impose upon themselves when the interests and prosperity of their country are in question. Your committee, in addition, hopes that the Council will, at the same time, humbly pray the government to cause the valuable report of Mr Gibb to be translated into French, and to be distributed among all our agricultural societies.

Were it not for the impoverished state of the Council's finances, your committee would have wished you to accompany this resolution with some more tangible mark of your appreciation of the immense services rendered to the country by Mr Charles Gibb.

But your committee cannot close these remarks without making a suggestion which it submits to your kind consideration.

You have doubtless learnt, through the papers, that the government has established a farm-school at Rougemont, on the property of Mr George Whitfield, with an annual grant of \$6,000. Without desiring to interfere with the management of this new school, which, besides, is perfectly independent of the Council, your committee believes that the government would with pleasure accept the suggestion of the Council, that a certain sufficient part of the Whitfield farm should be placed at the disposition of the Montreal Horticultural Society, for the cultivation, acclimatisation, and propagation of the fruits of Russia and other countries, and their subsequent distribution over all parts of The Dominion.

We have already five County Horticultural Societies, which, in great part, owe their existence and their success to the excellent practical suggestions of Mr Gibb. These associations work with ardour to spread abroad a taste for this kind of cultivation, and they have all obtained results which exceed their most legitimate hopes. These associations would be the first to benefit, more directly, by the happy results thus obtained, and before long, would reap the immense advantage of adding to their list—already a pretty long one—many an excellent sort of fruit, and a great variety of new species, the rapid sale of which cannot but increase our national resources.

Your committee has the honour to submit these suggestions to the Council. They are dictated, solely, by its admiration for the disinterested devotion of Mr Gibb, and by the conviction that the Council will feel it to be its duty to second, as far as its power goes, the generous efforts of a citizen who has well deserved of his country.

The whole humbly submitted,

J. M. BROWNING, president.

From the French.

I have just received the Prize-list of the Industrial Exhibition Association of Toronto. As far as I can see, there are prizes for every thing in nature and in art, from a pumpkin to a *Lady Rider*. I wish some one would follow suit in Montreal, in the prize for "class 13.—For tandems. For best tandem of horses and turn out (*upset?*), style and skill in handling, &c." The &c., I presume, refers to the management of the whip. This is evidently a lost art in Montreal. I was amused the other day at seeing a "swell dragsman" mounting his box, and after four fruitless attempts to catch up his whip *back handed*, reluctantly resort to the process of winding the thong round the crop by a series of convolutions beginning at the handle. One twist of the wrist does it, and the art can be learnt in five minutes. Most of our tandem

men let the leader do too much work. The long traces should never be tight except at a heavy piece of road or up hill, and the same thing holds good with the four-in-hand. A. R. J. F.

POINTS OF CATTLE—PROF. BROWN.

A most sensible statement—thorough common sense. Mr Brown is evidently no more a believer in the escutcheon theory than I am.

IN THE BULL—Favour masculine character without coarseness; consider size and weight according to age; a good carriage is invariably an indication of vigour and breeding. A bull should show all the beefing qualities desirable in his offspring with grades,—we are too apt to overlook this in criticising high feeding; discourage a wedgy muzzle and narrow nostrils; test the ear, as well as other parts, for indications of quality. Curly hair, irrespective of breed, is good evidence of constitution. Colour of hair is nothing particularly, except for Herefords, Aberdeen polls, Galloways and Devons. A very uniform or evenly balanced animal, without any prominent points, often wants in character, according to his kind. Never neglect pedigree.

IN THE COW—Secure the forequarters of a milker, according to breed. The colour of the skin is a good guide seldom used, and as a whole is more reliable than the escutcheon, among beefing breeds. Width and depth of hind-quarters must be got in all classes. It is more difficult to judge cows than bulls.

Maine Inspection of Fertilizers.

We are indebted to Secretary Gilbert of the Maine board of agriculture for a copy of the report of the inspector of fertilizers in that state. Notwithstanding the adoption by the inspector of the absurd and misleading standard of prices set up by the Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey inspectors for the main ingredients in fertilizers, hardly any of the fertilizers reported upon show a "value" equal to cost. Some of them are ten and even eighteen dollars in value per ton less than the estimate which persists in making phosphoric acid in a "soluble" phosphate worth twice as much as in raw bone. This we call absurd, for there is every reason to believe that the advantage, agriculturally considered, is with the raw bone, especially when it has been packed with ashes and moistened, as we have frequently advised. Yet the acid or soluble phosphate is reckoned twelve and one-half cents per pound for its phosphoric acid, while only six cents is allowed for the phosphoric acid of ground bone. At this rate every farmer ought to know which to buy, and if farmers generally did know, and would buy the bone in preference to such high priced fertilizers, the price of the latter would soon come down somewhat nearer to its true value. Ground bone, if pure, has from twenty to twenty-eight per cent of phosphoric acid and from two to four per cent of nitrogen. When ashes is added in the proportion of two to one, we have a fertilizer containing about eight per cent of phosphoric acid, one to two per cent of nitrogen and ten per cent of potash, which is just about right for all root crops except onions and all grain crops except wheat, both of which want about four per cent of nitrogen. This mixture at \$40 a ton for bone and twenty five cents a bushel for ashes costs as follows:

One ton of bone (25 bushels).....	\$40.00
Fifty bushels unleached ashes (3,000 pounds)..	12.50

Cost of two and one-half tons..... \$62.50

or \$25 a ton, while phosphates in the market containing no more phosphoric acid or nitrogen, and less than two per cent of potash, are sold for from thirty-five to forty-five dollars a ton. We consider all estimates of value, based upon the tables used as mentioned above, to be about twenty-five per