

known over Canada and the United States, and he has sold large numbers of them to the best farmers in both countries. He has also devoted great attention to the breeding of sheep, and his flock of Shropshires has a reputation not inferior to that enjoyed by his Cruickshank Shorthorns. The foundation of this flock was laid by an importation from England, and new blood is added by fresh importations at frequent intervals, for which purpose Mr. Dryden goes over and makes his own selections from the best flocks of the English breeders. "A few years ago," he once told the writer, "I was going over on this errand, and among the passengers on the vessel were several Americans who were also going to buy Shrops. They were wealthy men and spoke freely of what they were going to do, saying that price was no object if they could get the best. It was their first trip. I kept my own counsel, for I could not compete with those men; but I knew all the best flocks in England, and I lost no time after landing to get to them and make my pick. I met the Americans a few days after, and you can imagine how satisfied with their own cleverness they were at being outwitted by a Canadian farmer and obliged to put up with second choice." Mr. Dryden is a leading member of breeders' associations in his own country and in the United States, and has held the highest offices in several of them. At the present time he is president of the American Shropshire Registry Association of Canada and the United States.

An opportunity to enter public life came early to Mr. Dryden, and here again he was without influence from his father's example. He was induced to stand for the office of councillor in his township in 1864, and although young and but little known his frank and manly address made so good an impression upon the electors that a large majority was given to him over every other candidate. In this training school of public men he continued for a number of years, and in 1879 he was chosen as the candidate of the Liberals to represent South Ontario in the Local Legislature. The constituency had long been held by the Conservatives, and it was no easy task to dispossess them of it. But Mr. Dryden won, and at every election since he has carried the seat in spite of vigorous efforts to defeat