

GOSSIP.

In writing to advertisers, please mention the Farmer's Advocate.

By reason of a series of experiments carefully conducted by Prof. W. A. Henry, of the Wisconsin Experiment Station, it was proven quite conclusively that of pork, beef, and mutton, the production of the last named is considerably cheaper per 100 pounds than either of the other two.

The largest piggery in the world, just now completed, is claimed to be in Chicago, and has been two years in building. It is capable of accommodating 220,000 hogs in its 36 blocks of 100 pens each, on two floors, one above the other. It is in two parallel sections, each 3,000 feet long, connected by 22-foot passageways. It covers 49 acres of surface. Seven railway companies have sidings from which pigs are to be delivered into the building.

One of the prominent Canadian breeders of Hackney horses, Mr. George H. Hastings, of Deer Park, Toronto, died on Nov. 5th, at the end of nearly a year's indisposition, at the age of 52 years. Mr. Hastings was well recognized in horse-breeding circles, having for a number of years figured conspicuously in important show-rings of the Province with his Hackneys. A paper from his pen on the subject of Hackney breeding appeared in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for August 1st, 1896. He was associated in a business way with the Ontario Straw Goods Company, of Toronto, being as he was a partner of Mr. Robt. Crean, of that Company.

The sixth annual meeting of the Western Holstein-Friesian Association was held in Chicago on October 27th and 28th. The financial statement submitted shows the condition of the treasury as being in a creditable state. The \$1,600 of one year ago has grown to \$2,577. During the year 582 certificates have been issued, of which 170 were for males and 412 for females. On motion, it was decided to voluntarily dissolve the Association known as the Western Holstein-Friesian Association of the State of Illinois, continuing business under the same set of By-laws as before. The Illinois charter was taken out in the names of Messrs. E. F. Irwin, M. E. Moore, M. S. Babcock, W. H. McCall, W. B. Barney, H. A. Brown, M. H. Gardner, J. P. Cooper, W. J. Mashner, W. S. Carpenter, and J. H. Coolidge, Jr., who constitute the new Board of Directors, which body organized with H. A. Brown as President; W. B. Barney, Vice-President; E. F. Irwin, Treasurer, and J. H. Coolidge, Jr., Galesburg, Secretary. On motion, \$300 was appropriated to be used in duplicating cash prizes offered by Western States Fair Association in milk and butter tests where such prizes are won by Holstein-Friesian cows. A movement was also set on foot to have a committee appointed by the President to confer with the Illinois State Board of Agriculture with a view to inducing the Board to institute a dairy and dairy cattle show in connection with the Fat Stock Show to be revived in Chicago next year.

The following from the Aberdeen Free Press (Scotland), Oct. 13th, referring to Mr. Duthie's sale of Shorthorns reported along with others, by our Scottish correspondent, in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for Nov. 2nd, will be of special interest to Shorthorn breeders. Bearing in mind the reputation of Aberdeenshire beef with the most fastidious Old Country people, and the good results of this sale, the deterioration of the breed through the use of those "little red Critchank bulls," about which a warning note was not so long ago raised, does not seem very apparent. Says our Scottish contemporary: "Yesterday Mr. Wm. Duthie, Collynie, who was, at the close of a remarkable sale, aptly described by the late president of the Shorthorn Society as the 'Prince of breeders,' put into the ring, in presence of the elite of the Shorthorn breeding interest, a magnificent draft from his celebrated herd. The auction was, as usual, regarded with the keenest interest by Shorthorn breeders throughout the country; and a feature of the attendance was the large proportion of English buyers, who, in spite of a somewhat silly attempt to get up a prejudice against the Scotch Shorthorns in that country, turned out in large numbers, and by their spirited competition showed how utterly the attempt had failed. But in the face of such a pleasant-going sale it were out of place to refer to controversial matter, though one can, on an occasion like this, hardly refrain from pointing the moral of a discussion which was suddenly sprung upon the Scotch breeders. Mr. Robert Bruce, an interested spectator yesterday, has told the story of how the Sittyn cotton cattle have come to occupy the place they now do, as the natural result of a tenant farmer trying to breed to meet the wants of his customers, who, however correctly bred an animal might be according to the canons of fashion which ruled some twenty years ago, and to a greater degree perhaps at an earlier period, would have nothing to do with him if, on analysis, he could not pass muster when his produce came to the shambles. It is on the solid basis of constitution, substance and flesh that our Scotch Shorthorns are to be ranked in the first-class of their species, and no more outstanding examples of cattle answering this description have come under the hammer than the 'crop' of young bull calves which Mr. Duthie offered yesterday. In the presence of a critical company he scored a great success, particularly when straight-bred things came before a company of good judges.

27 bull calves averaged.....£70 6s. 2d.
10 cows.....48 6 0
12 heifer calves.....46 5 9

49 Total.....£2,936 17s. 0d.

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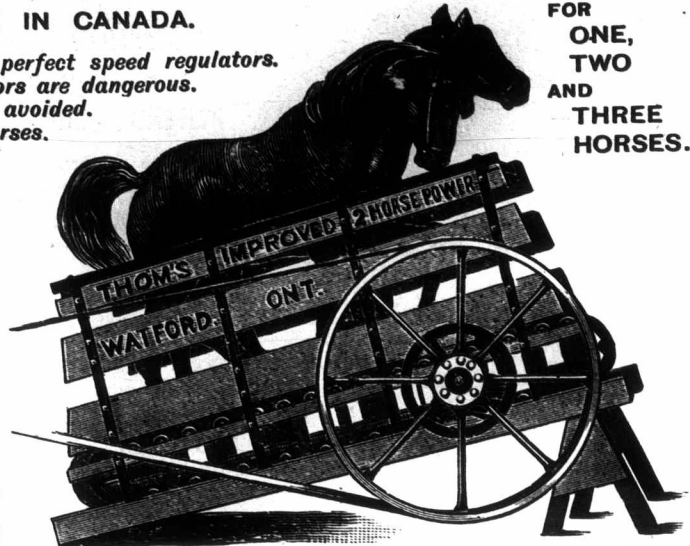
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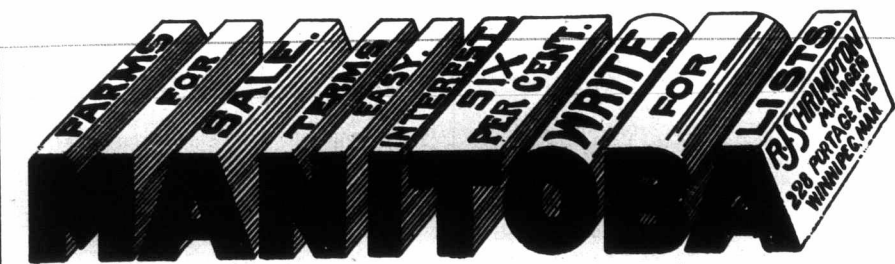
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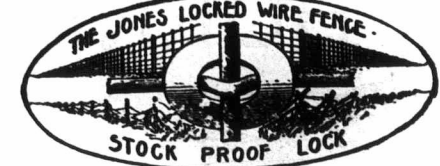
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