

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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THE DOMINION.

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Death of Prof. J. Hoyes Panton.

The cause of advanced agriculture has lost one of its most helpful exponents by the taking off by death of Prof. J. Hoyes Panton, of the Ontario Agricultural College staff, Guelph, Ont. As reported in several late issues of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, the deceased passed through a long and painful illness, caused by a cancerous affection of the spine, to which he was made a more easy prey by reason of two heavy former sicknesses, followed by severe and self-sacrificing labors in connection with his duties at the College as Professor of Biology and Geology; added to this, work in connection with the study of farm crop and fruit pests, and the best means of avoiding and counteracting their destructive operations. In the field of inquiry he was an enthusiast, as he was in every subject of study that he took up. It was always his desire and effort to do the thing that would benefit his fellows. He was ever anxious to have agricultural science extended to the public schools, and the summer session for teachers at the O. A. College some years ago was largely his work.

J. Hoyes Panton, M. A., F. G. S., son of the late James Panton, Toronto, was born in Cupar, Fifeshire, Scotland, 1847. He was educated at Whitby High School and Toronto University, from which he graduated in 1877 as first silver medallist and McMurrich medallist in Natural Science. Before coming to Guelph, Prof. Panton was assistant master in Oshawa High School. In 1878 he was appointed Professor of Chemistry in O. A. C.; in 1885 appointed Professor of Natural History and Geology, which position he since held. He gave four papers before the British Association, and contributed many articles to agricultural papers, journals and magazines, but chiefly the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. He also wrote two small books—one on Economic Geology and one on Economic Entomology—also many bulletins in connection with the Department of Natural History. He had attended and delivered lectures at every series of Farmers' Institutes since established in 1885, previous to the present one. He was elected Fellow of the Geological Society, England, 1885, and Fellow of the Victoria Institute, England, 1887.

His loss will be keenly felt in his own family, the College halls, his Sunday school (of which he was the esteemed superintendent), his church (of which he has for years been a devoted elder), and the country at large, for which he lived and labored to benefit. More especially is this true when it is remembered that the end seems so untimely at the age of fifty years, when manhood is then in its prime and vigor of intellect. The funeral was very largely attended, at which services President Mills

said that: "He was a true man—as true as steel—and it always gave him the greatest pleasure to associate with him and discuss the affairs of the College. His life was the nearest to the Christian standard that he had ever met, and he hoped it would be an example to the students of the College whom he had so long instructed."

Professor Panton was married first to Miss Cattanauch, of Glengarry, by whom he had one son, Leonard. His second wife was Miss Harrison, daughter of Professor Harrison, Virginia College, Virginia, U. S. They have one son, Harrison. The surviving members of his father's family are Rev. E. W. Panton, pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Stratford, and two sisters at Oshawa, Ont.

Leasing Farms on Shares.

We have in the last few weeks had several enquiries as to the terms on which it is usual to lease a farm on shares. Renting farms has for various reasons in many sections become unsatisfactory, chief among which is the tendency for tenants to prefer grain-growing and the sale of grain as the readiest means of realizing on their season's work, a system which of late years, on account of the low prices that have prevailed for grain, has proved so unprofitable that it has in many cases been impossible to pay the reasonable amount of rent stipulated, a system which is also unsatisfactory as a rule to the landlord, since stock is not fed to any considerable extent on the farm, and as a consequence little manure is returned to the land to keep up the fertility. For these and other reasons it is considered by some landowners safer where a reliable man is available to let the farm on shares so that the owner may control the manner in which the farm shall be worked and cropped. The lessee under this plan is also interested in securing the best results by a careful attention to the details of the work on the farm, having an equal share with the lessor in the profits. Not having had personal experience in this way of letting a farm, we have decided to invite discussion on this subject in our columns and shall welcome suggestions. In the meantime we have, through the kindness of a friend, secured a copy of a lease prepared and used by a successful farmer and landlord in Central Ontario, a summary of which we herewith present, hoping that others may give their opinion of its merits or demerits and say in what respect they consider it may be improved.

This indenture in brief provides for a lease of the farm for a term of years under which the lessee or tenant agrees to pay for the use and privileges of the farm the sum of one half of everything raised and grown on the farm, to pay one half the taxes, to keep up fences, not to cut down timber, to use his best endeavors to keep down all noxious weeds. If not so done lessor may do so and charge the expense of so doing to lessee by giving three days' notice. Lessee to pay all necessary wages for help to work the farm, to cultivate, manure and crop the same by a regular rotation of crops in such manner as lessor and lessee may deem best for their mutual benefit, and to seed down in timothy and clover a certain number of acres in each year and have seeded down an agreed number of acres at the expiration of the term, the expense for so doing being borne equally between the two parties to the lease. The preservation of orchard and fruit trees, ornamental trees, shrubs and plants growing or to be planted is agreed to and the employment in a husbandlike manner on the premises of all straw and manure, and to allow the lessor or any incoming tenant to plow the land after harvest of the last year of the term and have stabling for a certain number of horses and bed room for one or more men. All grain to be threshed when wanted by the lessor and divided on the premises or at the elevator or storehouse where the parties agree to sell the grain.

A clause is inserted for the protection of the landlord in case of seizure or a writ of execution against the tenant, or in case he takes advantage of an insolvent act, makes an assignment or absconds.

Provision is made for the re-entry by the lessor on non-payment of rent or non-performance of covenants. Lessor and lessee agree to find one half of all seed and feed required for the first year. After the first year feed and seed should be kept out of grain and seed grown on the premises. Lessee shall do all labor and furnish all implements and repairs and horseshoeing at his own expense. It shall not be lawful for lessor or lessee to purchase or sell any stock or grain owned by said parties without the consent of both parties. Everything grown on the premises shall be sold by both parties and the money equally divided. The parties covenant to terminate and cancel the lease and yield up quiet possession to lessor by either party giving one year's notice in writing. A memorandum is made of stock and grain supplied by each, and which is owned jointly by the parties at commencement of lease on shares between the two, and a note is given for the balance or difference in value of the stock and grain supplied by each, said stock to be owned equally by the parties when the note is paid and satisfied, the lessee's stock to be given as a lien until the same is paid for as aforesaid. In the case cited the value of stock, etc., supplied by the lessor was \$200, and that by the lessee \$212.30. A note to balance of \$89.10 was given.

STOCK.

Shorthorn Prospects.

BY RICHARD GIBSON, DELAWARE, ONT.

A trip of over 4,000 miles through the States of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minneapolis, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming has given me opportunities of meeting many of the most prominent stockmen of both the breeding and feeding grounds. The feeding States are Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Illinois and Missouri. The breeding are those States where corn does not do well and where cotton seed is not found. While the districts of breeding and feeding are becoming more clearly defined, so are the breeds used and the systems of management. The probabilities are that the breeder will confine his attention more to breeding proper, while the feeder will attend to the finishing. They are, in fact, two quite dissimilar industries and can be better carried on separately. For instance, Nebraska and Missouri are fairly groaning under the weight of their corn crops, hence they become the feeding grounds.

Banks, railways and commission firms all combine to give cattle feeders opportunities that are unheard of in Canada. For instance, both banks and commission firms will advance money to buy cattle, and sometimes the feed as well if necessary. They charge six per cent. per annum interest for time in use. The railways give intending purchasers passes to purchase and then a "feed in transit" rate. For instance, I met Peter Hopley at Denver. He had a pass from Iowa and wanted 1,000 steers. As he did not find what he wanted in Denver, he got a pass to Salt Lake City, Utah. Suppose he bought there he would consign to Chicago, getting the benefit of the long haulage; and with a "feed in transit" permit he could unload at home and forward to Chicago when fat.

To show the big scale upon which some of the operations are carried on, I met with a Mr. Rankin, Mo.; he grew over 800,000 bushels corn last year, is feeding 13,000 steers and 18,000 to 20,000 head of swine. The Standard Cattle Co. is going out of breeding in Wyoming. This year they are feeding 11,000 head, 3,000 of which are under one roof. Another gentleman with whom I got acquainted is feeding 297,000 sheep. He has four feeding yards in Nebraska and four in Kansas. These sheep are bred in New Mexico, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah, the best, however, coming from Montana. I mention these to show the immensity of their undertakings and to enable you to judge of the possibility of taking some part in the great work. There is not only a possibility, but a great opening for a trade in thoroughbred bulls. Shorthorns and Herefords are decidedly in favor, while the Blacks have no friends on the range. They refuse to herd with other cattle, and also leave a smaller percentage of calves than other sorts. Their place is evidently by themselves and within fences, and they must not be asked to "feed thyself." In Texas the Hereford has got a great hold, and on the high-grade Shorthorn cow he is working wonders. Calves have sold this year for as much as \$20 each. How much of this is due the Shorthorn dam is not recorded; in my opinion, more than half at that age. In Utah, Montana, the West and N. W. States the Shorthorn is favorite. Prices are improving and the demand increasing. One man modestly informed me that he only wanted 500 thoroughbred bulls this season, but should want more next.

Yearly I have tried to encourage you, and though my sanguine anticipations have not always been fulfilled, still the little rift in the clouds that I thought I saw last year has become bigger until the silver lining is indeed plain to see; and this year I bid you be of good heart, stick to your flocks and herds, the market will surely spring up. So thoroughly convinced since my return am I that this is to be the thoroughbred center for this continent that I have no hesitation in writing these words of encouragement. Why do I say this will be the center? For several reasons. First: The day of the eight-year-old ox is gone; I saw thousands of five and six years old on feed. If early maturity is desired it can only be accomplished by the use of bulls of the improved breeds. Again, we understand the art of breeding better, we are willing to do things in a small way, and we have the patience to attend to the little thousand and one trifles, apparently of slight consequence, but in reality they make the difference between failure and success. While we are satisfied to sell a single bull, our neighbors, on the contrary, want to sell by the carload, and while we are content to have a few of the best, comfortably provided for, they would have them covering a thousand acres. Then let us set our house in order, looking for a better trade. Let us not be covered with the mantle of conceit and be satisfied with our past successes. Now that the quarantine is removed, fresh blood must be instilled into our herds. And with a fair wind the good old ship that has been springing leaks for the past eight years will again round-to and make port with the red, white and roan flag nailed to the masthead, and signals flying, "Shorthorns, and no surrender after a century's experience."

[NOTE: Paper read before the annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, in Toronto, Feb. 2nd.

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