

amount of labor connected therewith, but it is labor that brings its reward, which is especially apparent when we consider that this crop answers the purposes of a summer-fallow most completely, where the work is properly performed.

The increase in the acreage of hay and clover is a step in the right direction, for this means not only rest, in a manner, for the land, but also resuscitation, more especially where much attention is given to the growth of clover.

The whole acreage of wheat fall and spring, which in 1882 was 1,775,337 has fallen in 1888 to 1,194,387, or a reduction of 580,950 acres in that period. This, too, is as it should be. The country had, it is true, been largely indebted to its prosperity to wheat-growing, but that prosperity was being seriously curtailed by continuing the process too long. The resources of the soil were rapidly being transported to other lands. We hold it, therefore, as a most hopeful sign of the times, that the area devoted to wheat-growing has to so large an extent decreased.

This decrease cannot, of course, go beyond a certain limit, for a certain acreage is required for home consumption and for the production of straw for litter, but beyond this there is no occasion for attempting to grow wheat in Ontario. The farmers of those vast plains to the west of us can carry on this work, as they have so much more nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash that they can spare than we have.

The increase in the acreage of pease is encouraging, as this is one of our best crops. A leguminous crop—it draws its food mostly from the atmosphere and is therefore not hard on the soil. The grain is very helpful in laying on fat. Pease may be used as a part of the ration with much advantage when this is the aim.

The increase in the acreage of buckwheat is also as it ought to be. The fowl industry is one of our most important, and buckwheat renders excellent service when fed to fowls. This crop is, however, more liable to damage than some crops, from frost or blight, from the strong sunlight when in blossom, which will always so far tend to hedge in the area of its cultivation.

The increase in the acreage of corn is also considerable, but less than its importance demands, and less than it will be, we confidently predict, when the fruits of the teaching of Professor J. W. Robertson, the great apostle of corn growing, will be more apparent. The dairy interest is ever growing, ever increasing, and an extension of its growth must be largely dependent on the extension of the growth of corn for silage purposes. The increase in the acreage of corn since 1882 is only 16,216 acres, which is less than the increase that will probably take place every year in the future for many years to come. It is now pretty clearly established that an equal amount of food for dairy stock, similar in value to that of ensilage corn, cannot be realized from the growth of any other crop of an equal area.

We have repeatedly said that Ontario must grow great through stock-keeping, and we rejoice to notice that there is a steady increase in the growth of all the essential food-factors that are identified with successful stock-growing in this country.

### Canadian Exhibitors in the United States.

Of all the national traits that cling to the inhabitants of the "tight little island," there is none so marked as that which gives rise to the disposition to try anything, no matter how discouraging the prospects or how insurmountable the difficulties. An anecdote is

told of the Duke of Wellington which all Englishmen at least will believe, if we cannot quote the authority, illustrating this feature that enters so largely into the composition of the Briton. Wellington was riding with the Emperor Nicholas of Russia before the troops of the latter, which had been called out for review for the Duke's inspection, and as they passed before the Emperor's favorite regiment, composed of the finest men of the empire and excellently equipped, Wellington, with an expressed admiration and enthusiasm usually foreign to him, complimented the Emperor on the appearance of the men before them. "Yes," replied the Czar, "we think they are fine men; and I ask you to tell me whether twice the number of your British household troops could beat them?" "That," answered Wellington, "I do not know, but I do know that half the number would try."

Transplanted to our soil this characteristic has not languished, but has rooted deeper. Innumerable instances arise to mind to prove the assertion, but the one freshest in our memory is the foray of our stockmen on the prize honors offered by our neighbors across the line. It must be a source of much gratification and patriotic pleasure to the citizens of Ontario to learn of the successes that attended our live stock exhibitors when they came in conflict in the show-ring with the best our friends to the south could bring forward. At the exhibition recently held in Buffalo a very large proportion of first and other important prizes came to Ontario, as will be seen by the fuller report elsewhere, which we had to hold over owing to our crowded issue of last month. In Leicester sheep, John Kelly, jr., of Shakespeare, well-nigh bore down all opposition before him, and the same may be said of John Jackson, Woodside, Abingdon. Mr. Kelly won nine firsts out of a possible nine, and five seconds out of a possible seven. He then divided his flock, sending a portion to Canadian shows, where they won many prizes, and another portion to Detroit, to the dismay of all his opponents in that great show-ring. Mr. Jackson was over in Buffalo with a full contingent of his beautiful Southdowns, and won every red for which he entered them in competition, including the flock prize. He also divided his flock and utterly routed his opponents in Detroit, bringing home the most coveted honors in his line. Robert Marsh, of Richmond Hill, along with other prizes, brought back first for best ram and five of his get, but left most of his exhibit for the benefit of the flocks of that country, so eager were the shepherds of the Union to obtain the excellent blood which he has bred in much purity for many years. Peter Arkell, with his finely developed Oxfords, also came home with some good prizes.

In the horse classes a complete review is given elsewhere, and here we need not do more than state that our horsemen deserve great credit for the excellence of their exhibits, as testified to by the many honors they won.

But the crowning laurels for Ontario fell to Bow Park, whose able manager, Mr. Hope, has so frequently, on former occasions, come off victorious in competition with the whole American continent. On Sept. 11th, 1889, the following telegram, which tells its own tale, was received by R. Gibson, of Delaware: "Sweepstakes for best aged bull, beef breeds, also for best yearling bull, best cow, best two-year-old, best yearling, and best calf. First for aged herd and first for young herd." This herd was brought out in fine condition, and was the admired of all the beefing breeds on exhibition in that great show-ring. Journeying on to Detroit here again the invincible Bow Park beauties made conquest after conquest, putting Manager Hope in the position of the great Alexander, who, tradition says, wept because he had no more

worlds to conquer. Cupbearer won for him first in the class of aged bulls. Baron Waterloo sustained the herd's reputation by winning first in the two-year-old class, Haverling Nonpareil 2nd proved invincible in the class of aged cows; Isabella 3rd carried away the highest honors in the two-year-old heifer class; Julia 24th secured first and Lady Aberdeen 9th second in the yearling class, while in heifer calves Bow Park was again to the fore. Higher honors were yet in store for Bow Park, for Baron Waterloo was decorated with the first rosette, the young herd prize was similarly awarded, and to fittingly cap the whole series, the aged herd wrested from strong competitors the championship.

With such examples as these before us, we shall only say to those of our live stock breeders that Ontario and all Canada is proud of their achievements. So long as they can score records such as these in continental competition, we need not fear much for the live stock industry of Ontario.

### With the Stockmen.

#### THE COMMENTS OF A RAMBLER.

There are few articles which justly may claim space in live stock periodicals that are more effective in exciting an interest and inaugurating new practices in the vocations they apply to than those partaking of the nature of reviews; for stockmen, as well as others, are always anxious to hear and read with avidity what their neighbors are doing, so that they may profit by the nuggets of experience that brightly gleam in the everyday practice of their distant though keen competitors. Recognizing this we have, not without some difficulty, secured the services of one competent in every sense to act as a reviewer, not one either of the laudatory or carping style, but a writer that, with a wide experience and extended acquaintance with our live stock industry, is able to draw conclusions and place their applications, so that we are not the least backward in asserting that before the series that this introduces is finished our readers will find much that they will do well to make their own and apply in their methods, not to say anything of the pleasant reading which the articles will undoubtedly afford all those in the least connected with our important live stock industry.—[EDITOR.]

#### MR. HUNTER'S SHORTHORNS.

Mr. James Hunter, of Alma, rightfully resting on past laurels, did not come out in the show-ring this year. His herd of strong, large, and good fleshing cattle numbers some 60 to 70 head. The feature of the herd at the present time is a large number of heifers of various ages, which would answer nicely to build herds upon but are not in show condition. For breeding purposes they are all the more valuable because of this, but it should not be forgotten by breeders that they are far oftener by having their stock under rather than over-fleshed. Let the animal be ever so good in conformation, and let it have a hundred crosses of the very best blood, if lean in flesh ninety-nine out of a hundred purchasers will pass it by.

The stock bull Sir Ingram, three years old, by the Bow Park Ingram's Chief, and out of the dam Queen May 9th, by Socrates, is a massive bull and of good parts. He is one of the heaviest bulls in Canada.

Mr. Hunter's Shrops are not numerous but excellent. His rams are very fine, being low, deep, well-covered on head, body and legs, and are withal of fine symmetry.

The young imp. Clyde stallion promises to do very well. If he prove as serviceable to Mr. Hunter as imported Gambetta, his predecessor, he will bring much gain to his owner.