

### Free Entry of American Cattle.

To the Editor of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

SIR,—May I call your attention to the statement that the government are about granting a certain company the right to bring in American cattle for slaughter, and that the English Minister of Agriculture had consented to such cattle being allowed to be brought in without prejudicing Canadian cattle interests. We all know the value to Canadian breeders of the market in England. Our cattle are, I believe, at present the only ones that have that privilege, worth, as I have heard estimated in Chicago, fully \$15 per head. Now, sir, I ask, shall we throw away that privilege, or should we remain passive when by so doing we may allow the English Minister of Agriculture to schedule our ports, for I believe this is what it means? Mr. Chaplin is not a pronounced Free Trader, and he, as a very large land owner, whose interests are with the English farmers, with any show at all, would schedule our cattle. His only chance to do so is to have some such excuse as would be offered if American cattle were allowed in Canada, and a case of simple pleuro-pneumonia developed during one of our fall shipments. Once that order is passed in Council it would take a lot of High Commissioners to remove it. I can't think our Minister of Agriculture is well advised in the matter. It seems to me like selling our birthright for a mess of pottage. This company could certainly live without establishing abattoirs at Three Rivers. The railways could carry the dead meat as well as the cattle, and yet, for the benefit of the few, the great mass of Canadian farmers' interests are submerged. If our government intend admitting a few, I would advocate to remove all restrictions. By so doing we should gain a lot of credit and give great satisfaction to our friends on the other side of the line. But if we wish to retain our present status, *keep all out*. If the virus of disease can be communicated so far as has been proved, then by all means the passage of American cattle through our borders should be stopped. I would instance the case of the champion Ayshire herd of the West on their return home from the Detroit Fair. They caught some contagious disease from a car of western beef cattle alongside of which they had been switched. The consequence was they went home to die. If this case occurred in Ohio, why could it in Canada?

Now, sir, the farmers of Canada are looking to you to assist us in this matter, recognizing that in the past you have ever been their champion, and no influence can be greater than yours in assisting us to protect our flocks and herds from disease.

R. GIBSON, Delaware.

### A Serious Matter.

DEAR SIR:

The article in your issue of today, under the above heading, is of interest to, and voices the opinion of, the cattle men of Canada, both the Ontario farmer and the Northwest rancher. We have facilities for supplying the abattoir company of Three Rivers with all the stock they require. In fact, unless they increase their capacity four-fold, Ontario alone can supply all they require. That phase of the question, the chances of our losing the English market, is not sufficiently considered by the Department of Agriculture. Allow me to further explain to your readers how it is today:—Denmark and Canada are the only countries that are allowed to send into Great Britain cattle for feeding purposes, i.e., our "stockers" (lean cattle) are sold to the British farmer, who feeds them on his farm and sells to the drover or butcher whenever the market is favorable. As stated in your article, cattle from every other country must be slaughtered "at the dock where they land" within 24 hours after arrival. Now, for a case confirming your statement that it is a "ruse" of American ranchers to get us shut out (scheduled) of the English market. Before the C. P. R. was completed to terminal points, the company, anxious to do all business possible, contracted to carry Montana cattle from Maple Creek, a station on their line in the Northwest, to Chicago. Every precaution was taken; the herds were driven in over an old trail, were not allowed to come in contact with Canadian cattle, skilled vets were employed, cars were whitewashed and not used for any other traffic. Well, what was the result? Certain Montana ranchers, hoping to have us "scheduled," called the attention of the English government to the practice, and "scheduled" we were; and although the shipping was stopped and cars and corrals fumigated, it took some hard work to get back to our old position. About a year ago the Montana Live Stock Journal complained that, by the action of the Dominion Government, the dressed-beef trade of our Maritime Provinces was lost to them, and a corresponding gain to our ranchers. To grant the Three Rivers Abattoir Co. what they ask will turn the tables on us.

C. F. GALLAGHER.

The Monetary Times says:—Sir Charles Tupper is financially interested in the success of the Three Rivers Abattoir Company.

### Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario.

All who know Professor C. C. James, the newly appointed Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, agree in saying that he is a man well fitted for the important position which he has been selected to fill.

Prof. James is a young man, twenty-eight years of age, born and brought up in the county of Lennox, Ont. His father was of Irish descent, and his mother belonged to one of the many United Empire Loyalist families who settled in the Bay of Quinte district after the American Revolution.

Mr. James received his early education in the Napanee high school, where he remained till the year 1879. At the latter date he entered Victoria University, and in 1883 took his B. A. degree. During his college course he gave special attention to chemistry under Dr. E. Haanel, who has turned out so many strong men in that department. At his final examination

bearing of all his points. No one knows better how to make the principal facts of agricultural chemistry simple, interesting, and profitable to all classes of persons. Such is the testimony of college students and of practical men throughout the province, who have had the pleasure of listening to Professor James's able and scholarly lectures and addresses at Farmers' Institutes within the last six years.

During his occupancy of the chair of chemistry at Guelph, Professor James took a leading part in lecturing to the Guelph Scientific Society, and published a number of valuable bulletins on marl, drainage waters, salt, ashes, phosphates, bran, ensilage, sugar beets, milk testing, etc., all of which was a good preparation for the important work which will be required of him in connection with the Bureau of Industries.

In conclusion we may say that Professor James is a man of unblemished character and more than average ability; a good scholar of more than

ordinary versatility; and a hard worker possessed of sound common sense; kind, modest and affable, a man who will be loyal to his chief and will do all he can to advance the interests of agriculture in this province.

We congratulate Professor James on his promotion, and the Hon. John Dryden on the shrewdness and good sense which he has shown in the selection of his deputy minister.

### Seed Grain.

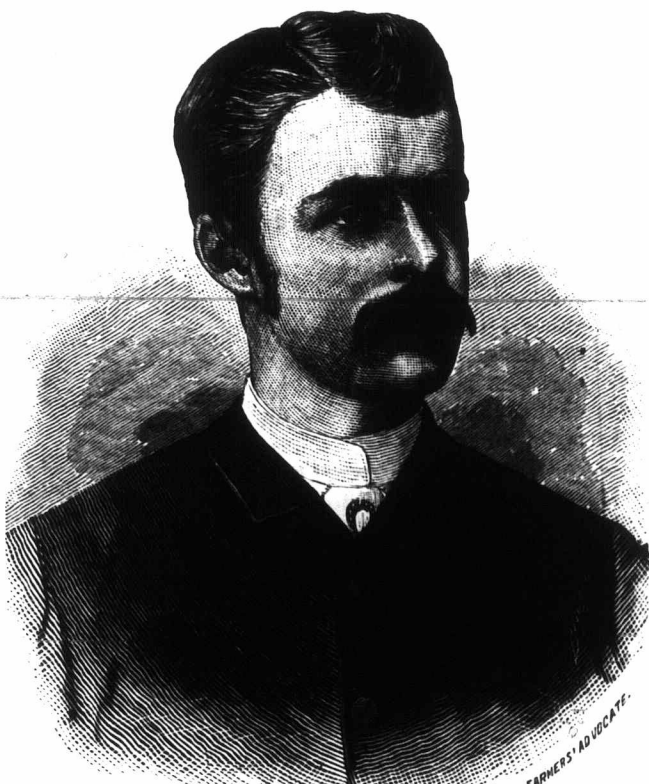
THE TRIAL PLOTS AT THE EXPERIMENTAL FARM, GUELPH.

Ever since the foundation of this paper the managers have given very close attention to seed grain, and have on many occasions discovered and brought to the notice of the public valuable new kinds, which have since come into general cultivation.

The experimental farms are now doing excellent work by introducing and testing new varieties. In order to spread the information thus obtained, we sent one of our staff to the Experimental Farm, Guelph, Ont., who made a careful inspection, and reported as follows:—

BARLEY.

In this grain sixty-seven named sorts were grown in the plots side by side under as similar conditions as possible. The seed of many of these had been imported from the different countries in the world where barley is grown. Our visit being just after the heaviest wind and rain storm experienced for many years in the Guelph district, a capital idea of the relative stiffness of the straw could be better determined, although it spoiled the handsome appearance of the plots. A multiplicity of varieties if grown generally would endanger the general value for malting on account of the necessity of a perfect unity in the time required for germinating. Yet wherever barley can be successfully grown it is extremely desirable that the most prolific grain, as well as the stiffest and most vigorous straw should be cultivated. The vast difference of character in this grain is all the more striking where we have only been in the habit of cultivating at most two or three varieties. We cannot help thinking that the want of change of



PROF. C. C. JAMES, DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE FOR ONTARIO.