

Midland Loan and Savings Company of Port Hope, which necessitated him moving about amongst the farmers in the adjoining counties. He also for some years before selling the farm conducted a considerable insurance and railway ticket business in Port Hope.

In 1882 he was appointed from amongst ten applicants to the position of Secretary of the Council of Agriculture. No doubt his experience as a farmer and cattle breeder was the turning point in his favor. He then applied his usual energy to the management of the Provincial Exhibition, to the organization of Live Stock Associations, and has met with great success in that line, as the heading of this article will show. Since 1882 he has edited five volumes of the Canada Shorthorn Herd Book, five volumes of the Dominion Shorthorn Herd Book, with the irksome labor of the change of Standard, one volume of the Ayrshire Herd Book, four volumes of the Canadian Clydesdale Stud Book and one volume of the Canadian Draught Horse Book, besides overseeing the registration of Hereford, Polled-Angus and Devon cattle, and Berkshire and Suffolk and Yorkshire swine. He also compiles each year a valuable report to the Minister of Agriculture of the proceedings of the Council for the year. As Secretary of the Provincial he has always shown great attention to the breeders of stock, and spares no pains in assisting them to record their animals, visiting a great many of the shows for that purpose. He is also well-known in Chicago, where he has visited nearly all of the fat stock shows that have been held there. He also was instrumental in starting the Provincial Fat Stock Show of Ontario, of which the seventh is to be held in Guelph this winter. He has also taken an active part in the International Association of Fairs and Expositions held at different cities, has been Vice-President for several years, and has read papers at nearly all of them. He is also one of the Directors of the Eastern Dairymen's Association.

#### Commercial and Green Manures for Wheat.

In an experiment made by the North Carolina Experiment Station, a series of plots was laid out in such manner that one end of each plot should be on land on which cow peas had been previously plowed under, and the other end on land without peas. The whole was sown to wheat, and kainit, acid phosphate and cotton seed meal were applied to the several plots, singly and in combination, two plots being left without any fertilizer.

The result was that on the land which had had no fertilizer the highest increase of any of the fertilized over the unfertilized plots was four bushels per acre (for 300 pounds cotton-seed meal), while on the green manured land the increase from the pea vines was from six bushels at the least to fifteen bushels per acre, averaging ten bushels.

#### Stock.

##### Yorkshires vs. Berkshires.

Mr. Sanders Spencer is certainly an adept in obtaining free advertisements for himself and his stock in England, and from his extending this practice to Canada with success, it may reasonably be inferred that he is an "expert" in such operations. Like others, I have read his letters with amusement, not unmingled with astonishment, at his audacious ingenuity, and certainly he cannot, like Bismarck, "marvel at his own moderation." In one of his letters he claims that the Improved Large Yorkshire was evolved from his herd, as if, by some special dispensation of Providence vouchsafed to him, Sanders Spencer, the whole breed of Large Yorkshires were completely obliterated except those miraculously

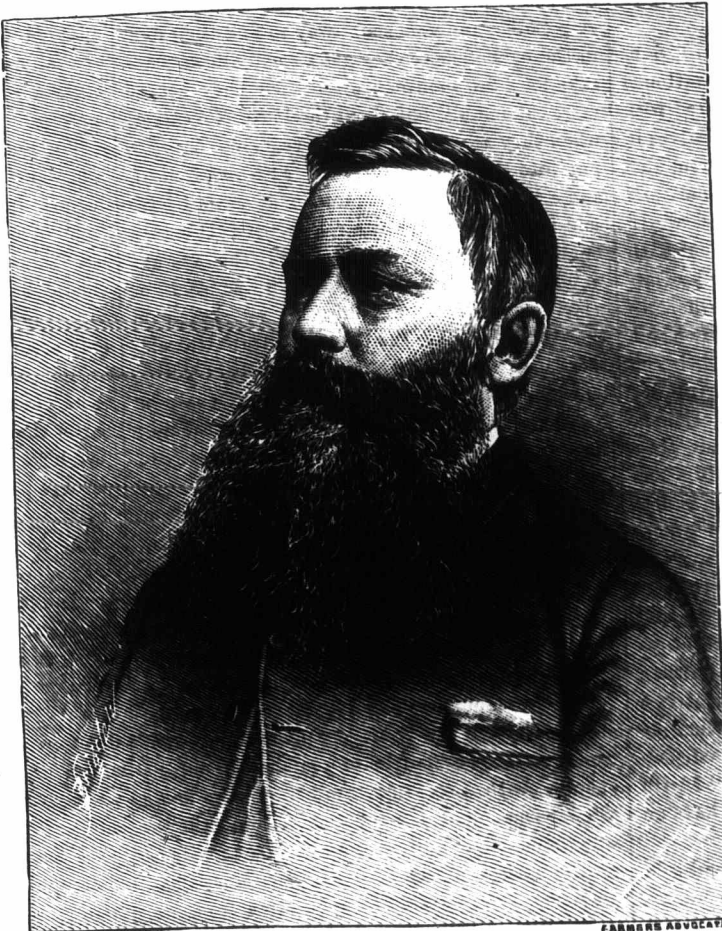
those effected privately, while he does not forget to run in an advertisement at the last exactly like the "patent medicine man." Indeed, when I read his letters, which, when written on the pig question generally, are admirable, I now involuntarily look at the end expecting to see "Ivy Holywell Pigs." I had almost written "Holloway's Pills."

As a matter of fact, I believe Mr. Green's statement will be found substantially correct, but Mr. Spencer in contradicting it offers as proof merely the prices made at a recent auction sale, and carefully refrains from giving any names or some essential particulars, which I will now endeavor to supply. The sale was, I presume, one made by Mr. John Thornton for Lord Moreton, who was removing from an estate in Gloucestershire to one in Oxfordshire, and who had in consequence resolved to dispose of his herd

which was composed of three varieties — Large Yorkshires, Small Yorkshires and Tamworths. The attendance at the sale was not large, and the Large Yorkshires, with due deference to Mr. Sanders Spencer, who was not, I believe, present, were not brought out in as good trim as either of the other two breeds, whose prices were, I see, satisfactory. Mr. Spencer next coolly proceeds to upset all recognized axioms of breeding by the extraordinary statement that "reputed winners" (whatever he means by that), "or being exhibited at Royal Shows, or even entry in the herd book proves nothing, and if your pig breeders buy on that ground alone they are doomed to disappointment." Now, Canadians cannot really swallow this, for we are well aware that the offspring of well-bred ancestors of individual excellence, than which there is no better proof than the result of a show ring, are always to be preferred, yet Mr. Spencer, although he places stress on the prizes won by his pigs, informs us this is all wrong, and the only deduction to be drawn from his letters is that to avoid disappointment one must buy from Mr. Spencer's own herd, and in the next place pay a good

price for them. To an outsider it does look a little selfish, as well as an extravagant claim on Mr. Spencer's part, and it would be more dignified, as well as less trouble to himself, if he placed his advertisement in the proper columns and paid for it as other breeders do instead of taking up valuable space in free advertisements of his pigs. Good stock, like good wine, needs no bush; and here a breeder who persistently adopted such a practice would be set down as a "windbag," a character which does not meet with much approval and gives rise to the suspicion that it must take a lot of blowing to sell his stock. — *Verb. sat sap.*

Professor George E. Morrow thinks artificial coloring detrimental to butter. Colonel Curtis says: "Time will develop chemical changes in the color, which is a foreign substance: and all foreign substances injure butter sooner or later." And Mr. Nicholson, of "The Jersey Bulletin," adds: "For the same reason it may injure the flavor of butter from the beginning, as it surely will in the end. As for good butter-color, man cannot make it. His make is rather bad, worse or worst."



MR. HENRY WADE.

preserved by the fact of being in his herd. It is needless to say that this is not the case, and there are several herds of pure Yorkshires which are beyond all question improved, being quite a different animal to the old Yorkshire, which are quite as good as those contained in Mr. Spencer's herd, and which register in the same swine herd book cheek by jowl with Mr. Spencer's pigs.

In his last letter he gives his opinion that whether the Improved Large Yorkshire is come to stay in Canada depends on Canadian importers and breeders, and as to this there is no doubt he is to a great extent right, and after disputing a statement made by Mr. Green, to which I will refer later on, he ungenerously compares the results of a sale of pigs by auction with his own private sales, as if that were any criterion, when we all know that as a rule prices realized at auction sales are hardly ever as satisfactory as