

Additional Correspondence.

SIR,—I have a cellar under my driving house, and I find that moisture in it by reason of steam from the roots (occasionally) is injurious to the ceiling and timbers overhead, and will have a tendency to rot them, if not prevented in some way; and as I cannot keep it cool enough at all times without exposing it to some frost, I therefore wish to know if I could apply anything to the ceiling and timbers that would stick to them and preserve them from rotting. If you can inform me, through the ADVOCATE, of a remedy, it would be thankfully received by me.

D.K.

Wilfrid, Ont.

[Give the woodwork a good washing with petroleum.]

SIR,—I will give you a short account of the crops in this section. Spring wheat has been a failure to a considerable extent, averaging from five to fourteen bushels per acre. Fall wheat was very good, but not much sown. The Clawson variety appears to have done best, averaging from thirty-five to fifty bushels per acre. We have no Hessian fly here yet. Peas and oats were not as good as last year. Barley very little sown and badly discolored. The fruit crop was excellent: apples, an immense crop; plums, very good; turnips are below the average; potatoes, almost an entire failure.

W. G.

Sydenham, Dec. 23rd, 1878.

SIR,—My calves are troubled with lice. What is the best way to destroy them.

SUBSCRIBER, Perth.

[Some use dry dust, and rub it away; others use tobacco; whilst others use arnica mixtures. A recent plan has been found efficient. Card and clean the calves with a card and a rough brush dipped in kerosene oil, having the oil well shaken out of the brush. But prevention is best. Feed well, and give occasionally a teaspoonful of sulphur to the calves should any be discovered.]

Jottings Around Markham.

As we pass from the village above named to the east we soon arrive at Mr. Rolph's farm. Mr. R. is the principal breeder of Jersey cattle in Canada. He recently sold his herd to Mr. Bradshaw, of Whitevale, and has lately returned from Connecticut with another herd. In appearance they do not fill the eye like shorthorns, but they are said to fill the pail better. Almost within view from his place can be seen Mr. David Ressor's fine farm and residence, which is quite an ornament to this section of country. The grounds are beautifully planted between the house and road, the house being on a rising elevation, a short distance from the road, giving a passer-by a treat. Mr. R. has purchased some 800 or 900 sheep, which he is now fattening, either to sell shippers or ship direct to European markets. This business he intends giving a thorough trial. We notice here a number of Shetland ponies, which he imports largely, and uses altogether for his summer driving. Mr. R. talks of starting a large sheep farm in Manitoba.

Our famed Shorthorn breeders of this and Pickering township, the Messrs. Millers and others, we find lying on their oars, very quietly awaiting the turn of the tide for demand and prices to spring up.

The millers are not patronized as largely as usual for chop feed, as the oft-repeated words, "hard times," has affected this line of business materially, as well as many others.

The Cotswold sheep have been selling about as well as usual. The Americans require them largely to cross with their sheep, to increase the size and generally improve them for mutton and wool.

VIATOR.

Markham P. O., December, 1878.

The leading inhabitants of New Hamburg and Wellesley met a few days ago and decided to establish a beet root sugar manufactory in the former place, and \$26,000 were subscribed for that purpose. Messrs. Samuel and Fred. Merner, and J. G. Reimer were appointed to interview the Ontario Government with reference to the securing of a grant of money. A firm in Boston, it is stated, has offered the sum of \$50,000 to assist in establishing this manufactory.

Stock Notes.

The following officers and directors of the Huron Live Stock Association were appointed at a recent meeting of that corporation:—Wharton Hodgins, Exeter, President; M. Y. McLean, Seaford, Secretary and Treasurer; Directors—John Forth, Wawanosh; John Mason, H. Snell, T. Moon, and John Cumming, Hullett; James Oke, Exeter; L. Hunter, S. Hunter, Usborne; M. McTaggart and E. Holmes, Clinton; Hugh Love, sr., Hay; James Biggins and William Dixon, Stanley; Thomas J. Bell, Londesborough; Charles Mason and George M. Chesney, Tacksmith; Thomas Evans, St. Mary's; David McNaught, Seaford; A. Med. Allan, Goderich; W. L. Ferguson and Wm. Young, Colborne; John Beacom, Goderich Township. Your attention is drawn to the annual sale of the above Association at Exeter, on Wednesday, 12th of February next. See advertisement.

BIG PRICE FOR CATTLE.—The shorthorn sales of the season just past are summarized according to the English papers. The figures show that in 1878, 2,811 head changed hands at public auction in Great Britain. The total price realized was \$805,210, and the average per head \$286. The highest price obtained for a single animal was \$13,500. The average for the year is \$15 per head higher than the average reached in 1877, and \$35 higher than the average of 1876. The number of animals sold shows an increase of 356 over last year. These figures show conclusively that the depression existing among the breeders of the United States does not extend to those of Great Britain, in which latter country, as well as in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, and elsewhere, prices of really desirable tribes of shorthorns continue to rise.

The prize animal of the Cattle Show at London, England, held last month, was a Shorthorn heifer, the property of Mr. Stratton, who, besides winning many other valuable prizes, thus takes the £100 champion plate given by the Agricultural Hall Company to the owner of the best animal in the exhibition. Directly the award was made the rather high price of £150 was placed on the animal. No Canadian cattle were exhibited in the show itself, but four oxen in capital condition were stalled outside the main building, the property of Messrs. Reeves & Frankland, of Toronto, Ont., arrived too late for competition. Considering the voyage they had had, they were wonderfully well, and appeared very useful animals.

Another shipment of live stock, comprising 1,500 sheep and 1,200 head of cattle, all in prime condition, will leave Toronto, Ont., for Liverpool in a day or so. The cattle are chiefly Shorthorn breeds, and the sheep are of the Leicester and Cotswold breeds. A Toronto exporting company is at present entering into negotiations with the British Government for supplying the army corps stationed at Gibraltar and Cyprus with beef and mutton after next spring.

The "Cambria Prince" sailed from London for Melbourne, on the 7th of Dec., and took out the first portion of the valuable collection of fashionable Bates Shorthorns which Mr. Wm. McCulloch has made in this country during the past sale season, and which amounts to over forty altogether.

Wm. Morton, of Rose Lea Farm, Greenwood, Manitoba, recently imported eight Clydesdale mares and two stallions, all prize-taking stock at the Ontario Exhibition, and some blooded stock. One yearling stallion cost over \$500. This importation is quite an acquisition to the stock of that Province.

A Scottish paper states that a Canadian farmer near Montreal, desiring to visit his native home, took out with him 100 sheep as an experiment, on which he netted about \$100, or enough to pay the expenses of the journey. Next year he means to go again with a lot of cattle.

Messrs. Snyder Bros., of Berlin, have imported a Norman filly. We believe this is the first importation of this sex into Canada. More will follow the example set by our German stock-raisers. It may be a pattern for other stockmen, and perhaps for our Government.

John H. Holden, Belleville, Ont., has sold to the Michigan Military Academy, at Orchard Lake, Mich., seven Ayshire cows and bull Roderick Dhu.

Canada will in all probability soon have a formidable rival in the breeding of high class stock in her fellow-colony Australia. Mr. W. McCulloch, from Melbourne, has attended most of the principal sales of pedigree cattle during the last season, and has got a splendid lot of cattle together, each animal he purchased being of a first-class pedigree, form, and constitution.

The experiment is to be made of running three or four steamers between Liverpool and Montreal, to carry only perishable goods—Canadian meat, poultry, eggs, fish, and other such produce—and it is stated that three iron steamers have been bought for a new steamship line to engage in the St. Lawrence grain and cattle trade next season.

The *Michigan Farmer* calls attention to a Shorthorn bull, pure white, bred by Mr. Hamley, of Detroit, on his farm near the town of Goderich, Ont. His exact age, when weighed on the 30th of November, was 19 months and 13 days. It will be seen that in his average gain, as well as in his weight, he has a handsome percentage.

CLYDESDALE HERD BOOK.—The Earl of Dunmore has been recently organizing a Clydesdale Association for the further development of that class of horses, as they are gradually increasing in favor.

Mr. Richard Gibson, of Ilderton, London township, has purchased 7th Lord of Oxford from Mr. Campbell. He is by the 2nd Duke of Oneida (sold for \$12,000), out of 2nd Maid of Oxford (sold for \$6,000, N. Y. Mills sale).

The Wisconsin Dairymen's Association will hold their seventh annual meeting in Kenosha, Wis., on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 22nd and 23rd. Valuable prizes are offered to competitors, and addresses will be delivered on subjects important to all interested in dairying.

The Live Stock Export Trade.

A special train left Montreal last week for Liverpool, loaded with 1,000 head of cattle and 3,000 head of sheep, shipped by the Toronto Exporting Company. The leading exporters state that they have orders ahead for double the number of choice animals at present obtainable. During the past six months there have been only two losses by shipments of cattle to Great Britain—the first of \$30,000 (which was covered by insurance), caused by the steamer running ashore in a fog; and the second of \$6,000, on which there was no insurance, the company sustaining the loss caused by that great hurricane of November. As there are about 250,000 head of cattle and 500,000 sheep now stall-feeding for spring shipment, it is the intention of the exporting companies in Toronto to freight one ship per day with cattle and sheep at Montreal and Quebec for the next opening of navigation. We learn on good authority that the receipts from shipments of cattle and sheep from this port are likely to aggregate about \$15,000,000 during the first six months of 1879.—*Monetary Times*.

The Patrons of Husbandry.

The Dominion Grange held their fifth annual meeting in Albert Hall, Toronto, Dec. 17th. The W. M., S. W. Hill, presided. An address to the Marquis of Lorne was adopted, and ordered to be forwarded at once. We are pleased to see that St. Andrews' and several other societies have forwarded addresses of congratulation.

BLOCKED ROADS.—There are great complaints in many localities of the impassable state of the roads. Would it not be well for wide-awake countrymen to enact laws, where not now in force, to have fences thrown down during the winter where drifts occur, and to take care that such a law was carried into effect. By this means traffic would not be suspended. The drifts are sure to take place where the fences are standing.

Reports of crops are received from two subscribers, for which receive our thanks. Had they been sent on two or three months' earlier we should have been pleased to publish them. They are now too late to be of interest.

There is continued excitement over mining for phosphates in Frontenac and Addington. Many deposits have been found, which provides profitable occupation to many hands. This product is now selling from \$8 to \$9 per ton.