

EDITORIAL.

I'd rather lay out here among the trees,
With the singin' birds an' the bum'l bees,
A-knowin' that I can do as I please,
Than to live what folks call a life of ease,
Up thar in the city.
Fer I really don't 'xactly understan'
Where the comfort is fer any man
In walkin' hot bricks an' usin' a fan,
An' enjoyin' himself as he says he can,
Up thar in the city.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

The Permanent Live Stock Exclusion Bill on June 23rd passed the British House of Commons by a vote of 232 to 75.

One rainy-day job that usually has to be done just before harvest will not demand attention this year in many parts of Canada, and that is cleaning out of the mows the old chaff and straw left over from last year's supply. Most barns were entirely bare of straw long before the time for turning to grass arrived.

The old binder that worked ever so well at the close of last harvest should not be started again this season without an overhauling. There are likely some loose canvas-slats and blunted or twisted guards that need attention. Some of the old knife-sections, too, are ground away back and notched, and should be displaced by new ones. Tighten up the nuts that have worn loose.

As we all know, it is not the quantity of food a man eats that does him good, but the amount he digests. The same may be said of labor. It is not the man who does the most hard work, but the man whose work is most wisely directed, that succeeds. Intelligence must direct the efforts of those who succeed. In other words, intelligent purpose must be embodied in our labor. The man who simply grows what another farmer does, and in the same way, without taking into consideration his tastes, capabilities, the soil or the market, deserves to, as he invariably will, meet with discouragement and disappointment.

Knight of the Vale.

The subject of the front page illustration in this issue ranks as one of the very best Carriage stallions that ever left England. He is Knight of the Vale (1799), the property of Knittel Bros., Boissevain, Manitoba. He is registered in Volume V. of the Yorkshire Coach Horse Society of Great Britain and Ireland, also in the American Cleveland Bay Stud Book (999), Volume III. He was bred by Wm. Codling, Eskdaleside, Sleights, Yorkshire, England, and was foaled in 1889. He changed hands once in England, and was imported to Manitoba by Messrs. J. D. McGregor & Co., Brandon, who afterwards sold him to his present owners.

Knight of the Vale has always stood well among his fellows, as in his native land he built himself a great show ring reputation by winning, in 1892, second at the great Yorkshire Show, and third at the Royal, at Warwick, in the best company in England. Since coming to America he has enjoyed a continuation of victories, as the following list shows:—

He won, in 1893, first prize and silver medal at Boissevain spring stallion show; first prize at Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, for stallion four years old and over; sweepstake silver medal for all ages; also special by FARMER'S ADVOCATE (\$25 marble clock) for best stallion, including Thoroughbreds, Hackneys, and Carriage horses. In 1894, first prize and diploma at Boissevain spring stallion show; first prize at Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, for best stallion four years old and over; also \$50 gold medal special given by W. B. Scarth for best stallion, including Thoroughbreds, Hackneys, Standard-breds, and Carriage horses; and diploma at Turtle Mountain agricultural show at Killarney, Man. In 1895, first prize at Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, for best stallion four years old and over.

He is a beautiful bay with black points, stands 16 hands 2 inches high, and weighs about 1,600 pounds. With all his size, he is possessed of extraordinary quality throughout, while his action is elegant, forceful, and airy. His breeding is extremely fashionable, being sired by County King 110, and out of a mare by Wonderful 533, while he has in his pedigree the names of many of the best Cleveland Bays, such as Statesman, Cleveland Lad, and Skyrocket, and of Thoroughbreds, the names of Necromancer, Bass Rock, and Darley Arabian.

Were he dead, or other than a stock getter, all the above would mean very little, so far as his worth would be concerned; but when he has proved himself to be, and is now, a sure getter of extraordinary colts, his pedigree, quality, and winnings mean something of very great import. To say that all his colts resemble their sire very much is not too strong a statement. They are almost invariably

bay in color from whatever colored mares. Many of them have appeared in keenly-contested show rings and walked off with the best awards. The Carriage colt from him that took first as a yearling at the last Winnipeg Industrial now weighs 1,200 pounds, at about two years old. Another eleven months old colt, weighed a few weeks ago, tipped the beam at 810 pounds. Such horses as these will not have to be given away nor sold at an unprofitable price.

A Banker on the Condition of Canadian Agriculture.

We have noticed no more significant sign of the times lately than the fact that more than one-half of the address of General Manager B. E. Walker, of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, at the recent annual meeting, related to the agricultural interests of the country. He devoted a few observations also to the lumber trade, referred to the prosperous condition of England, and dealt with the disastrous silver agitation and other matters affecting trade in the United States. The following sentence, however, indicates the burden of his address:—

"In a year in which, throughout almost the whole distributing branches of trade (in Canada), the merchants in dry goods, groceries, hardware, and other branches have oftener sustained losses than made profits, it is well to keep steadily before us the fact that our prosperity rests upon agriculture, and that unless that is right other things in the trade are not likely to be right."

It means much when business men of the standing of Mr. Walker come to discern that the superstructure of Canadian prosperity rests upon the condition of the farming community, and the realization of it has assuredly come home to these great monetary institutions with unmistakable force during the past year or so. Mr. Walker alludes to the increasing volume of agricultural productions, which so largely find their market in Great Britain and Europe, and to the steady and serious decline in prices. Looking toward the future, he says there may be temporary advances in prices, owing to temporary decreases in supply, but apart from this the fight will go on, and we must meet the new conditions be they what they may. He thinks farmers may yet be called upon to exercise a closer economy than they have ever known, and through improved methods to lessen the cost of producing grain, feeding cattle, making cheese, fruit growing, etc., as they have not supposed possible. Now, from an acquaintance with the farmers of Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, extending over a period of thirty years, we think their industry and intelligence will compare favorably with those of any other class, and Mr. Walker could very readily conclude that they would successfully meet the competition of the rest of the world in some departments without a doubt. We have no hesitation in saying, however, that the intimation to farmers in regard to economy might with greater force be applied in other quarters. Allusion is made to what the Government is "doing for the farmer." That well-meant and helpful measures have been taken we are pleased to note. At the same time one does not need to be a very close student of public affairs to observe that there is (barring, perhaps, the agricultural department) a much readier disposition to spend than to husband public moneys or to carry on public affairs generally according to economical, common-sense business principles, which have been lamentably absent from some of the departments of government. One of the most direct and effective ways of helping the farmer would be to lighten his burden of taxation, for it is little relief to the farmer to have a small amount put into one pocket for his produce if more is needlessly taken out of the other for carrying on public business. He cannot help seeing that the more substantial benefit is going to the contractor and the officeholder. We quite concur with Mr. Walker when he points out that some of the spending on behalf of agriculture will probably bring quicker and more lasting benefits to the country than many of the bonuses to manufacturers and aids to trade granted by the Government.

The Horse Trade with Britain.

Several references have been made in this journal to the important Hackney purchasing commission executed this spring for a wealthy American by Mr. Alex. Galbraith, of Janesville, Wis., whose long and active association with horse interests is well known. While in Great Britain he took special pains to observe the outlook for Canadian and U. S. bred horses, the result of which we lay before our readers in another column. Last year the shipments of Canadian horses to Great Britain ran up to over 13,000, so that it is most important to study the kinds that will pay us best to produce.

The Sugar Beet Industry.

Fresh inquiry as to the possibilities of sugar beet cultivation in Canada has been stimulated by the data published recently in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE upon the subject. One reader writes:—

"About what quantity of beets are usually raised per acre? Could you give me any idea as to the cost of production and what the factories pay the farmer for them per ton?"

At the Dominion Experimental Farm, Ottawa, last year four varieties of sugar beets were tested in one-quarter acre plots, yielding at the rate of: Vilmorin's Improved, 9 tons 1,810 lbs.; French White, 10 tons 1,170 lbs.; German White, 9 tons 1,406 lbs.; Klein Wanzlebener, 12 tons 810 lbs.; or an average of 10 tons 1,279 lbs.

At the Ontario Experimental Farm, Guelph, where sugar beets are grown to a limited extent for feeding purposes, among the nine sorts tested for four years past White Silesian heads the list with a yield of 17.97 tons per acre, the lowest being Improved Imperial, 10.58 tons. The first named were, however, slightly surpassed in yield by three other varieties. It was also successfully grown in tests throughout the Province.

We notice that in Nebraska, where considerable attention has been paid to the cultivation of the sugar beet, Prof. Nicholson, an eminent specialist on that subject, reports that 15 tons, with a sugar content of 13½ per cent., was a fair average during one year for the whole State. A comparative test at the State Experimental Station, of four of the best known varieties, extending over several years, places them in the following order:—

Variety.	Yield per acre in tons.	Per cent. sugar in beets.	Per cent. purity of juice.
Klein Wanzlebener.	14.2	13.6	79.9
Vilmorin	14.5	13.2	79.3
Lemaire	13.8	12.6	79.9
Desprey	13.2	11.9	78.8

Prof. Nicholson writes us that the farmers now receive \$5 per ton for all beets that reach the grade of twelve per cent. sugar, with a purity of eighty per cent. The cost of production varies from \$30 to \$40 per acre, not including manure, though we notice in one case where the latter was counted (\$12), together with rent of land (\$5), the cost ran up as high as \$56 per acre. A report of fifty-three farms puts the average expenses at \$37.25 per acre. The following statement is given of the cost per acre and cash return to Utah farmers:—

Fall plowing, twelve inches deep	\$ 3 00
Pulverizing in spring	1 00
Rolling	30
Planting	40
Seed—twelve pounds, at 18c.	2 16
Hoeing and thinning, first time	8 50
Hoeing, second time	3 00
Furrowing out for irrigating, twice, at 75c.	1 50
Irrigating, twice, at 50c.	1 00
Cultivating after irrigating, twice, at 75c.	1 50
Plowing beets out	1 50
Pulling beets after plow	3 00
Topping twelve tons, at 45c.	5 40
Hauling twelve tons, at 60c.	7 20
Total expenses	\$39 46
Yield—twelve tons per acre, at \$5	60 00
Net profit per acre	\$20 54

Beet refuse, or "pulp," is also highly esteemed by those who have used it in cattle feeding. As a food for dairy cows it is particularly recommended, being very rich in nitrogenous matter.

In our last issue the progress of beet sugar culture and the method of cultivation were described. Two years ago Prof. Nicholson ventured the prediction that in many cases in the West beet culture would supplant corn and wheat planting, though to secure the more profitable returns intensive farming would be necessary. Events seem to bear out the forecast. It is announced that the great American sugar king, Claus Spreckles, has already bought thousands of acres of California wheat and barley lands, which are being sown with beets. New York capitalists are backing him with \$10,000,000 capital for the erection of factories, and he is reported to be off on an inspection tour to Germany, and also to France, where the sugar beet industry has flourished since its inauguration by the first Napoleon.

Events at the O. A. C.

The week ending Saturday, the 20th of June, was an exceptionally busy one at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. On Tuesday there was a farmers' excursion numbering 1,100 from East and Center Simcoe; on Wednesday, 600 from East Middlesex; on Thursday, 1,150 from Welland and 350 from Durham County; and on Friday, over 1,500 from West Simcoe. Excursions, from one to three per day, were announced for every day to the end of June, excepting election day (the 23rd) and the last day of the month, which is set apart for the closing exercises of the College, in which the Hon. John Dryden, President Loudon, University of Toronto; and Principal Caven, Knox College, were announced to take part.