

He expressed his great satisfaction at this club having been originated, and hoped the next meeting would prove as numerously attended as this one. Begged for the assistance of all who could come, as it needed support, and was attended with no expense to those who attended, all the trifling expenses connected with it being paid by the Agricultural Society.

The next meeting was then named for Thursday the 5th of January, at Donaldson's Hotel, at 6 o'clock, P.M. Subject for discussion—The cultivation of crops.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Chairman, who returned thanks, and the meeting separated.

Communications.

A CHALLENGE.

WILMOT, Dec. 15, 1853.

To the Editor of the *Agriculturist*.

DEAR SIR,—I observe from the report of the Guelph Farmers' Club, that Durham cattle and Leicester sheep, are the most profitable stock for the Canadian farmer; and as I am one of the many who demur to this, I challenge any one of the Club, having the animals, to a trial, as under: Two acres of pasture to be fenced off for each party, half way between Wilmot and Guelph, and I will send two Devon cows and two Down ewes, with their lambs; against two Durham cows and two Leicester ewes, with their lambs; from the 15th of May, to the 15th of October.—The Devon cows to produce the most butter, and the Down sheep the greater increase of weight.—The sheep to be weighed at the commencement and termination of the trial. The produce of the cows to be given to the parties in charge of the stock.

An answer to me direct, or through the *Agriculturist*, shall have immediate attention.

Yours respectfully,
DANIEL TYE.

ON THE MANAGEMENT OF SHEEP.

To the Editor of the *Agriculturist*:

DEAR SIR,—Having read in the December number of the *Agriculturist*, the report of the discussion by the Guelph Farmers' Club, on "Sheep Husbandry," I observe that some remarks were made as to the best remedy for ticks on sheep.

Mr. Parkinson recommends immersion in a dilution of Arsenic, but thinks if sheep were bad with ticks in the beginning of winter, it would, perhaps, be better to let them alone. Mr. Harland mentions a strong decoction of tobacco, and also mercurial ointment, as having been used.

I beg to state that I have used the first remedy mentioned by Mr. Harland, viz.: a decoction of tobacco,—frequently, and with complete success, and that I have found it could be used on any fine day in the beginning or early part of winter, without the slightest bad effect upon the sheep. I should prefer this remedy to the use of arsenic,

or any other strong poison, as being a much less dangerous application.

My mode of applying the remedy, is to take 1lb. of common coarse tobacco to—as near as I can recollect—about every 10 or 15 sheep in the flock; chop or break up the tobacco in small pieces, and then boil or simmer it well in about one rail of water for each pound of tobacco, till the latter has imparted all its poisonous, or narcotic qualities, to the liquid; then drain the whole through a sieve or cloth to separate the leaves.—When nearly cool apply it to the sheep in this way: Having secured them in a pen or shed, take any small vessel with a spout, about the size of an ordinary quill, and having an assistant to catch and hold the sheep, one at a time,—pass the wool lengthways all along the back, and pour in the liquid, from one end to the other of the seam. Repeat the operation in two or three places along each side of the sheep or lamb—so that the whole skin may receive a slight moistening from the liquid. A small quantity of the liquid will be sufficient if properly applied, and as I said before, I have found the remedy completely successful, and not attended with any ill effects, even in winter, if the operation is performed on a bright fine day.

In reference to Mr. Card's remarks in recommending a cross between the Leicesters and Southdowns, as producing heavier lambs at an early age than pure Leicesters, and his statement that two lambs of the former sort, at four and a half months old, averaged 13 lbs. to the quarter; I beg to state that in the autumn of 1851, I killed several lambs about five months old, averaging 16lbs. to the quarter. I thought them exceedingly good lambs, but did not consider the weight anything very extraordinary. The lambs were not exactly pure bred Leicesters, but were bred by improving upon a good stock of common sheep for a good many years, by the use of good Leicester Rams.

Leaving the above remarks at your service, I am,
Yours truly,

H. T.

Toronto, Dec. 20th, 1853.

CHEESE, &c.

DEAR SIR,—I have pleasure in acknowledging your's of the 3rd inst. I will endeavor to comply with your request, although my experience has been but limited; still the results you are welcome to. In my communication, I desire to be brief, and you may make such remarks, strictures, &c., as you may see fit.

The process of cheese making, as practised by me, is this: The rennet is applied, it being brought to 90° Fahrenheit. As soon as coagulated, it is dipped into a linen strainer of rather a coarse texture, in a cheese basket, to drain during the night; in the morning the milk is strained into a dairy kettle upon an arched stove, and as soon as coagulated,—by the mixture of rennet as before,—the night's curd is added to it; a brisk fire is applied to the kettle, raising the mass to the temperature of 100° Fahrenheit, (being careful to stir it well to prevent burning).