

F. W. Hodson :

DEAR SIR,—Filly shipped by J. M. Gardhouse arrived here all right. I don't think it got very well attended to from Portage; if it had not been for another fellow bringing horses from Birtle she would have arrived in not so good shape. It cost more to come from Portage than it did from Ontario to Portage. The Government should try to do something with the branch lines. I am satisfied with the way she (filly) was brought through on the whole.

I am, yours truly,

G. H. BRADBROOK.

N.B.—The Associations took charge of the filly from Ontario to Portage la Prairie, at which point she was re-shipped to Yorkton, via the M. & N. W. Railway. Our responsibility ends upon seeing stock properly re-shipped. We are in no way responsible for treatment received by stock on branch lines of railway in Manitoba.—F. W. HODSON.

Department of Agriculture.  
Canada.

Minister's Office, Ottawa, May 17, 1899.

DEAR MR. HODSON,—The sheep arrived all in good order, and I like them very much. With best regards and thanks for your work and bother,

I am, yours very truly,

SYDNEY FISHER.

F. W. Hodson, Esq., Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

Department of Agriculture and Mines, St. John's, Newfoundland.

F. W. Hodson, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont. :

The Shorthorn bull, the consignment of sheep and the entire horse bought and shipped by you for this Government are very satisfactory in every particular. I must again thank you for your precaution in purchasing.

Please purchase three rams (one of each sort) some time during the summer. I will take them any time after July.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,

THOS. C. DUDER,

Minister of Agriculture and Mines.

Buyers sometimes state that they have had stock delivered at some point in the West for a less amount of transportation than the Associations can agree to transport same for. This may be quite true. A breeder comes to Ontario and buys, perhaps, twelve or thirteen head and orders a car.

He has room for four or five more head, and to take out a full car-load will not cost him one cent more than if the car is only two thirds full. If he can arrange to take other stock besides his own he is quite willing and anxious to do so at a very low rate, as anything he receives in this way is a clear gain to him. The Association cars are not shipped until a full car-load is available and each animal is then charged an equitable proportion according to the space occupied, the charges simply being high enough to cover the cost incurred. Nothing whatever is made out of these shipments by anyone; they are entirely for the benefit of parties having small shipments. If shippers or buyers can have stock delivered at any cheaper rates, no one is more glad to have them do so than the officers of the Dominion Live Stock Associations; but if they cannot arrange to have the stock delivered at a less rate the Associations are quite willing to deliver them at the rates given as per schedule set forth in the pamphlet which we are now reviewing.

The arrangements between the railway companies and the Dominion Live Stock Associations are such that any-

one, whether a member of the Associations or not, enjoys the full privilege of the cheap rates. This has been insisted upon by the secretary and officers of the Associations. The desire has been to benefit the country at large as well as the members. All anyone is required to do is to produce the pedigree of the animal or animals desired to be shipped at the shipping point and ask that they be sent at the rates given the Association, yet we believe that all who enjoy the benefit of the cheap rates should join the Associations and thereby assist in continuing the good work which has been of so much value to the Dominion.

The work of these Associations is entirely carried on by the voluntary subscriptions of the members. The membership fee to the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association is \$1 per year; the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association \$1 per year, and the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association \$2 per year. A member of any one of these Associations is at liberty to advertise twelve times each year in THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE, published weekly, the stock he or she has for sale. That is, a member of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association may send a list of the stock he has for sale to the secretary, who will insert it in the next issue of THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE containing stock for sale. He will also be entitled to a free copy of the GAZETTE during the year in which he is a member, and a free copy of each publication issued

by the Association. The members of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association besides these privileges receives a free copy of the *Swine Record*, an invaluable publication to breeders of purebred swine.

### Growth of the Association.

The growth of these Associations has been very gratifying. About eight years ago the membership numbered 15; to-day it is nearly 600, and includes most of the prominent breeders of purebred live stock in Ontario. The work undertaken and accomplished by the officers has been of the greatest value to the farmers and breeders throughout the country.

Besides obtaining the cheap railroad rates here described, they were instrumental in assisting the Dominion and Ontario Departments of Agriculture in obtaining a reduction in the Quarantine Regulations between the United States and Canada, which, according to that eminent authority, Mr. R. Ironsides, of the firm of Gordon & Ironsides, has added \$10 per head to the value of the horned cattle now in the Dominion.

Up to the end of 1891 the Ontario Provincial Fat Stock Show was conducted by the Agriculture and Arts Association, and such local associations to choose to contribute. In 1892 the Dominion Live Stock Associations took a controlling interest, and have since virtually controlled this important exhibition. The result has been most gratifying, as the following statistics exemplify. In 1891 there were 81 entries in all classes. \$120 was received as entry fees; \$86 as gate receipts. Total gate and entry receipts in 1891 were \$188, and \$325 were paid in premiums; a pretty poor showing for an Ontario provincial show. 1892 was the first year in which the Dominion Live Stock Associations were in any way interested in the show, and from that time onward there was a marked growth each year, until in 1898, the sixth year under the new management, there were nearly 800 entries. \$562 were received as entry fees. The gate receipts were nearly \$550. Total gate and entry receipts for 1898 were over \$1,100. Total amount paid in prizes over \$4,500. In addition to the growth of the show new and valuable features have been added, among which are the annual dairy show, a block test in the sheep and swine classes, and illustrated lectures delivered by noted experts during the time of the exhibition.

Another very important feature is the annual election of delegates by each of these associations, viz., the Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, to the boards of the great fair associations. Before the establishment of the live stock associations the fair associations were controlled chiefly by citizens. Now in all departments in which farmers are in-