

Potatoes, 19,933,366 bushels, or 119 bushels per acre.  
 Mangel-Wurzels, 20,898,387 bushels, or 391 per acre.  
 Carrots, 3,674,035 bushels, or 309 per acre.  
 Turnips, 57,878,390 bushels, or 377 per acre.  
 Corn for husking (in the ear), 21,673,234 bushels, or 65.0 per acre.  
 Corn for silo and fodder (green), 1,697,755 tons, or 9.82 per acre.  
 Hay and clover, 3,498,705 tons, or 1.40 per acre.  
 Apples, 19,126,439 bushels, or 3.02 bushels per tree.  
 Tobacco, 2,241,562 lbs., or 1,016 lbs. per acre.  
 None of the crops vary much from the August estimate of yield, except beans, which has fallen off over one-fifth.  
 Of the root crops potatoes is the only one going over the average.

## The Dominion Live Stock Commissioner

By G. deW. Green.

Ontario county has been the birthplace of many Canadians who have won their way to distinction and honor in various professions, but, with the exception of our excellent Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, Hon. Mr. Dryden, there is not one of her sons who deserves greater credit for his labors on behalf of agriculture in general, and live stock breeding in particular, than the man whom the Hon. Sydney Fisher has been pleased to honor by appointing him to the important post of Live Stock Commissioner for the Dominion.



F. W. HODSON,

the subject of this sketch, first saw the light in October, 1856, on the farm of his father, situated in the township of West Whitby, a district noted for abundance of good stock. His was the good fortune to be the son of a very intelligent and refined mother, to whose careful training in his youthful days he owes much of his success in life.

When old enough he was sent to the nearest public school, where he pursued his studies until he reached his thirteenth year. Then, like many another boy, he was summoned, prematurely, to remain at home and take his share of farm work. Unlike most boys, however, under the same circumstances, he not only accepted the situation without a murmur, but, as is characteristic of him, threw

himself into the work with such enthusiasm that he accomplished as much as could have been expected from a first-class mature farm hand, and soon mastered all the various details of farming.

But, all this time, the desire to complete his education was strong in his mind. Accordingly, at the age of eighteen, he was allowed to attend the Brooklin graded school, where he soon became known as a persevering scholar. He afterwards attended the Whitby Collegiate Institute, where his career was equally noteworthy. The course here being completed, Mr. Hodson, with his innate love of agriculture and live stock, returned to the farm, and ably assisted his father in his work. In fact, it was due to his skill and well-directed energy, in a large measure, that his father became known as one of the most prominent breeders of Cotswold sheep in the Dominion.

### ENTERS ON HIS JOURNALISTIC CAREER.

Early in 1880 the late Wm. Weld, proprietor of the *Farmers' Advocate*, while in quest of an associate editor for his paper, was informed of Mr. Hodson's suitability for the post, and promptly engaged him to act in that capacity. There he remained for one year, at the expiration of which time he was given control of the editorial department. But, alas! though "the spirit was willing the flesh was weak." The confinement of an office proved too much for one so much of whose life had hitherto been spent on a farm, and, at the expiration of two years, he, much to the regret of Mr. Weld, resigned his position.

On returning to the farm, he assumed full control of it. He acquired a small herd of Shorthorns and a flock of pure-bred sheep. By adopting business and systematic methods of farming and breeding, he soon got the farm on a paying basis, and acquired a high reputation as a successful farmer.

In 1887 he was again offered a position on the staff of the *Farmers' Advocate*, and, his health being greatly improved by his five years' sojourn on the farm, he accepted the offer. He at once threw himself into the work with his usual energy and enthusiasm, and the result was seen in the enlarged circulation and increased volume of business done by the paper. The establishment of the Manitoba edition of the *Farmers' Advocate*, and many other improvements, were carried out under his advice during the seven years that elapsed before ill-health compelled him once more to lay down the editorial pen, on which occasion a kindly worded resolution of appreciation of his services and regret at his being compelled to sever his connection with the company was passed at a meeting of the directors.

### ORGANIZING THE LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATIONS.

But Mr. Hodson's active brain was not content with mere editorial work. His far-seeing eye foresaw the important benefits to be derived by breeders from co-operation, and in 1889, in connection with a number of prominent breeders, he organized the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association. Encouraged by the success attending this initial effort, he induced the swine breeders to follow suit the next year, he himself acting as secretary of both associations. From these small beginnings have resulted the two powerful organizations, which to-day have a total membership of 450. Next, Mr. Hodson turned his attention to the Cattle Breeders' Association, which was then in an unsatisfactory condition. Being appointed secretary of this association also, he soon put things on a different footing, and to-day this association wields a powerful influence for good in all parts of the Dominion.

Among the many notable benefits to farmers and breeders brought about by these live stock organizations there is one that stands out pre-eminent. Years ago Mr. Hodson pointed out the benefits that would accrue to live stock breeders if the railroad companies would carry pure-bred stock at half rates, but the chances of getting the companies to agree to this seemed to most persons as very slim. He has, however, stuck resolutely to his