

once broke through the ice while crossing the river. The temperature was considerably below the freezing point. A couple of good blankets wrapped about him enabled him to ride six miles with comparative comfort (and no unpleasant after-effects), without which there would have developed much muscular soreness, the explanation of the same having already been given.—*L. E. Barton, in Western Horseman.*

CORRESPONDENCE

A Withdrawal

To the Editor of FARMING:

I wish to withdraw that portion of my letter in FARMING March 13th in which it reads thus: "I have reason to believe that Mr. G. W. Miller wrote the report of the Ontario Show for the *Canadian Poultry Review* as published in the February issue." I have found that the information I received was incorrect in that particular, and therefore I wish to make the correction through the same medium as I used on that occasion. Thanking you for your many favors.

WM. COLLINS.

Peterboro', March 22nd, 1900.

Locating the Provincial Winter Show

To the Editor of FARMING:

Your's came duly to hand some time ago, requesting me to write as to the location of the Provincial Fat Stock and Dairy Show. I may say that I agree with the other writers and believe it will be the better way to have it located permanently at some place where it will accomplish the greatest amount of good.

First of all, as an educator. Prof. Day has already shown very clearly that the farmers of the Dominion, who are going to the expense of educating their sons at the O. A. C., should have every possible encouragement, and also the ex-students who meet annually at the Experimental Union from all parts of the country, should be thought of in locating this important annual event. The coming together of so many educated farmers, who are at the practical work, (rubbing together as iron sharpeneth iron) who will go away each year bright to accomplish more of the same kind of work that is winning for Ontario a very important position in the agricultural world, is of great importance. If Ontario is going to hold her own in stock-raising there is no time to waste, for there are hustlers in other places who are promising to make us move, or leave us behind in the race. There is a fresh lot of those interested young men coming in each year to the College, from all parts of the Dominion, and their rights in this location should, and will, we have no doubt, have due consideration.

Perhaps the next most important question is a convenient, paying locality for buyers of exhibition stock. At first when the show was moved to Brantford this objection was raised, and the writer was one who thought it was just a little spleen, to hamper the Brantford Show, but I may say I have now been fully convinced in a very practical way that it is very important, and I am satisfied that every other cattle exhibitor who attended the two shows at Brantford, and the last one at London, will agree with what I say in this respect. I am satisfied that if continued any length of time exhibitors would feel it an unsafe business. The location should be backed up substantially by feeders of good cattle suitable for the Christmas trade, so that butchers can come and get one or two fancy cattle, and get the balance of a load of good, ordinary stock and make their trip pay. Both exhibitors and buyers should be considered, as our president, Mr. Richard Gibson, who put it very strongly stated that he did not think we got any too much for our trouble.

A short while ago our worthy County Councillor, Mr. McIntosh, told the writer about the veteran feeders of many years ago holding a meeting to organize the Fat Stock Club, and how enthusiastic they were. Old Mr. Parkinson said then: "We will make it the Smithfield of Canada." And now, when it is proved beyond a doubt that his words have come true, and the county from its farthest point will do its part, and the citizens are also ready to do theirs, have not the sons and grandsons of those men whose minds conceived the idea, and whose time and means were used to bring it to what we saw at the last December Show, at Guelph, any rights? Can anyone with *British blood* in their veins say that the sons of the County of Wellington have not the sole right to this inheritance?

JAMES BOWMAN.

Guelph, Ont., March 15, 1900.

Tree Planting and Road Improvement

To the Editor of FARMING:

The articles on "Trees and Their Relation to Road Improvement," had come to my notice before I received your letter with reference to them, and your request for my views on the subject was not unwelcome. The matter, although a very important one, has not received the attention it deserves. The promoters of the good roads movement have, doubtless, found the main question one of sufficient difficulty to demand all their attention as yet. It is certainly of much consequence that the rural districts shall be rendered as beautiful as possible, but, from every standpoint, the building and maintaining of good roads as an invaluable factor in the great transportation system of the province, must take precedence.

The judicious planting of trees by the roadside is by no means to be condemned; indeed as a means of providing agreeable shade, of beautifying the landscape, as well as being of benefit in certain cases to the road, it is distinctly to be recommended. But it is necessary to place particular emphasis on the word judicious.

The effect of trees on the road varies with the kind and number of trees, the distance from the road, and the character of the soil. Shade is of benefit to the roads of very sandy districts, or localities of other light, porous soil; while in the case of heavy clays, retentive of moisture, a dense shade is apt to be injurious. There should be no misconception as to the meaning of this. Good drainage is the secret of successful roadmaking, but drainage carries away only the excess water. A certain amount of "moisture"—not wet nor dampness—is necessary to every road, but this is not to be interpreted as conflicting in any way with the demand for good drainage.

In sandy districts the roads are the better of considerable shade during the hot summer months. In clay districts on the other hand, care must be taken that the shade is not sufficient to keep the road damp as is sometimes the case. Nor should it be so great as to prevent the road drying quickly in the spring.

These matters should receive due consideration when selecting the kinds of trees, and in deciding upon the method of planting them. For all purposes, there is no better tree than the white or American elm. No tree excels it in beauty, it grows with fair rapidity, and does not cast a dense shade. Where trees are desired on the roadside in a clay country, it is therefore satisfactory, but is equally so on a sandy soil. The maple, on the other hand, while a beautiful tree, casts a dense shade, and where growing close to the road, particularly on clay soil, causes injury. In a sandy district there cannot, of course, be the same exception taken to it. These, the maple and white elm, are the two trees which find most favor.

In addition, the oak in its various varieties, the chestnut, the beech, walnut, butternut, shellbark hickory, basswood, locust, tulip-tree, birch, poplar and sycamore are all de-