

We may improve the stock we now have by better feed. We let our cattle degenerate in the winter. An animal should be gaining from its birth until slaughtered. An animal will make more beef and return more profit, if it is kept thriving for 18 months, than if fed as most of our cattle are and kept for years. Breed has a great deal to do with making stock profitable. The Short-horns are now generally admitted to be the most profitable stock for the grazier on rich pastures lands. There are other breeds that have great merits. Short-horns are now to be procured at such prices that any neighborhood can easily command one. We have seen pure bred bull calves sell at \$15 and \$20 each. Should any of our readers in distant localities desire a cheap one, if they were to make their wants known they would probably find a response. Thus, all may improve their stock that desire to do so. Of course, the choicest animals will command higher prices, according to age and merit. There are always some enterprising persons that will aim to have the best. It is a good thing that a strong rivalry exists in the possession of the best Durhams. England, Canada, the United States and Australia may well feel proud of the spirit of emulation that exists in this struggle for supremacy. The enormous prices that the choicest Short-horns have brought have so completely bewildered and astonished the plain farmer, that he can scarcely believe the prices have been really paid. Twenty, thirty and forty thousand dollars for a single animal. Yet such prices may be paid, and profit result from it, under particular circumstances. There are but very few in Canada that can afford to aim at being owner of the best herd. There always will be a demand for the best. Their descendants tend to improve other stock.

Those that have commenced to improve their stock have found the advantage and profit of so doing, and are desiring further improvement. The farmers in Canada are as progressive as any in the world; there may be some more wealthy. There is a vast part of Canada where a pure bred bull has never yet been introduced; they are only very sparsely introduced into the States; even in many parts of England they are only heard of, not seen by the peasantry.

When we were in France we were quite as much astonished to see the small, inferior-looking cattle, as anything we noticed. What farmer there could think of improving stock, in that country, where ten acres is a large farm, and the majority under five. We presume the whole world must eventually look to the English herds as a parent stock for their improvement and meat. Probably that improvement will be taken up by the different Governments, as the peasantry are entirely too poor and have too small farms to afford to import animals. You may depend if there were any better bred animals in the world, Englishmen would have found them out and introduced them long ere this. We would not advise our readers to plunge into the breeding of Short-horns too hurriedly, but when you are sure you can afford to keep a Durham cow get one and not before. Or you might join with your neighbors and purchase a young bull. Then keep your cattle growing from November till May, and you will be able to realize more than double the price for your beef than you now receive.

Canadian beef in England brings 12c. to 18c. English beef brings 25c. per pound. Let us make English beef, or beef as good as they can there. We can do it. Our grass, grain and climate are as suitable. Let us improve our stock, and feed better. We can make quite as good beef as they can in England. Upwards of ten thousand quarters have been shipped weekly from Canada and the States. This will be greatly increased.

The Farmers' Produce Market.

An attempt is to be made to establish a market in this city to facilitate the business between the farmers and the consumers or merchants. The object in view is to establish a produce exchange somewhat similar to the English plan, namely, to have a room where farmers and buyers can meet at a stated time once a week, samples of produce exhibited and sales effected, the produce to be delivered at any time or place agreed upon. This will save the farmers the expense of bringing produce to market and taking it home again when prices do not suit, and save the necessity of standing on the market.

Farmers from any part of the country can bring samples. The best buyers will be in attendance, and telegraphs of the foreign markets will be open. We believe this will be found of advantage to both the buyer and seller, and will be patronized by all well-wishers to our general prosperity.

Should this attempt prove successful, and we believe it will, as many good farmers and business men are desirous of its success and will devote their energies to establish it, other cities and towns in the Dominion will no doubt adopt the same plan. It is to commence operations at once by establishing the

LONDON CHEESE AND BUTTER MARKET.

A large and influential meeting was held in the City Hall on the 19th of May, many prominent dairymen and leading citizens being present. The necessity and advantages of such a market were fully discussed, and a unanimous expression of approval manifested. The desirability of making this the centre of trade was shown from the advantages of the many railroads that centre here and the near facilities for navigation, the great convenience afforded to the ablest of dairymen to attend this market and return on the same day.

It was not the intention of this meeting to interfere in any way with the Dairymen's Conventions of Belleville or Ingersoll, nor with the Cheese Fair to be held at Strathroy, but to make this a main or central market for the transaction of business on an improved plan. Rules and regulations and by-laws were to be prepared.

The following is a list of officers elected:—

President—Mr. John Wheaton.

Vice-President—Mr. W. Field.

Secretary—Mr. Geo. F. Jewell.

Directors—Messrs. A. G. Deadman, Delaware; Jas. Evans, West Nissouri; Henry Wall, Westminster; Samuel Hunt, North-street Factory; Wm. Webb, Springbrook; Jas. Gilmour, Niles-town; W. H. Stevenson, Iona; Jas. Ross, Bothwell; B. Wood, Bryanston Corners; W. M. Kershaw, Botany; W. B. Heath, city; J. S. Pearce, city, and Alderman Jones, Chairman of Market Committee.

A committee was appointed to draft by-laws and submit same to a general meeting to be held in the same place, on Saturday, 26th, at 3 p.m.; and it was resolved that the first cheese fair shall be held in the City Hall on the following Saturday, June 2, at 2 o'clock p. m.

British Farmers Alarmed.

The great reduction in the price of beef is beginning to be thought a serious affair among the land-owners and the tenantry. Most probably a better class of emigrants will come to our country—farmers with capital; we have plenty of room for such. The proprietors of the *Scotchman* (a first-class paper) have sent a reporter to this continent to enquire into the capabilities of this country in supplying beef to Europeans. He will visit Canada. We know well that our capabilities in that way are almost limitless; we could in a few years send annually enough beef to cover the whole of the island with a thick beef-steak.

The Canadian Entomological Society.

But few of our readers are aware of the great work that has been done and is still being done by this Society. The Society is composed of a few educated gentlemen whose ambition is to excel in knowledge and to learn the habits of all our insects. These gentlemen collect them from all parts of our Dominion; they study their habits and ascertain their utility or the injury they inflict; they also ascertain the best means for destroying those that are injurious. No one can imagine the destruction committed by them. In the United States it is estimated that the damage done by them amounts to

TWO HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

The United States Government has recently made a grant of fifteen thousand dollars for gentlemen to investigate more searchingly into Entomology in that country, with a view to decrease this loss.

We attended the last meeting of our Canadian Society. We found one member busy operating and examining a lot of small insects; another was comparing and examining a large chrysalis; others were discussing various subjects pertaining to this study. The room is a small one, or at least not a quarter large enough for them to keep their cases of insects in view; they are obliged to have them in drawers with glass tops, and draw them out as required for examination; yet this fine collection, consisting of 10,000 specimens, is the largest and best on this continent.

This is the only society that publishes a monthly journal of its researches, called the *Entomologist*. This journal is purely a scientific publication; there is hardly a farmer in Canada who would read a single number of it if it was presented to him, and would only partially understand it if he did read it, although printed in our own language. It has only 300 subscribers, many of whom are in the States and some in foreign countries; most of them contribute any knowledge in regard to insects that their researches can furnish. Some of them watch these insects with magnifying glasses by night and day, from the depositing of the egg one year till it becomes a chrysalis, a grub, a moth, and lays eggs again.

If we wish for any information in this line, we go to the learned and gentlemanly editor of this journal, Mr. W. Saunders; he is always most happy to give information to all. We wished to know the best means to destroy the caterpillars that are so numerous this year; the reply was that the leaves on which insects, and the twigs on which the eggs are found, should have been destroyed in the fall. At the present time we must gather them by hand and destroy them. Secondly, we inquired what were the prospects for cabbages this year; reply—the butterflies that produce the cabbage worm are very numerous this spring.

The cabbage crop will be in great danger of destruction; parasites may destroy some. By placing two shingles in the form of a roof in several places through a patch, many of the worms will be found under the shingles, and may then be destroyed.

From this Society we receive most valuable information about the Hessian fly, the midge, weevil, chinch bug, codling moth, curculio, &c., &c.; it tells us the best means of battling with our enemies.

This Society continually impresses on the public the necessity of preserving our birds.

This highly useful Society receives but \$300 per annum, per subscription to their journal, and \$750 from our Government, and have to publish a monthly paper from that. They labor for our good.