

throughout Canada owe a duty to the public, to do all in their power, by the judicious application of the public funds committed to their charge, to advance the improvement of Agriculture, by giving instruction and encouragement where they know it to be most required. Narrow minded men may conceive that if their own skill, capital, and favourable circumstances, enable them to receive an abundant and profitable produce, it is of little consequence to them what other farmers may be able to do. These feelings, however, should have no influence on the members of Agricultural societies, as the office they take upon them implies an engagement on their part, though not expressed in words, that they will apply all the means in their power to produce the general good intended by the Legislature, in voting money for the encouragement of Agriculture. If Agricultural societies were exclusively supported by voluntary subscription as in the British Isles, the matter would be quite different, as in that case societies might do what they thought proper with what was their own. We wish we were able to convince every man in Canada, who holds office of any description, that it will be for the good of all that the amount and value of our productions should be increased as much as it is possible, and that every inhabitant in the country would be a gainer by this augmented production.

AN IRISH FARM-YARD AND ITS APPURTENANCES.

Anxious to see something of what was to be seen in the farm-yard, I was out in the morning at 7 o'clock, but Mr. Rorko and his sons were there before me, and had finished their rounds by day-light. To describe his farm-yard is a task I undertake with pleasure, although I feel incompetent to do it anything like justice:—

It stands immediately in the rear of his house, and shaded from view, though within a few steps, by a judiciously planted shrubbery of forest and evergreen trees, it is entirely closed in, together with the hay and grain yards, all of which cover about four Irish acres of ground. There are two large gates of entrance, the one from the back part of the farm, the other from the front portion of it. At one end stands a large brick building, the mill-house, where the oats and grain and other food for his stock is ground and crushed. Here is a turnip or general root-slicer, and also a straw-cutter, together with the best and most complete thrashing machine I ever saw; when the grain is fed to it in front, you have no more trouble about it; it is thrashed winnowed, the straw shaken out into a large straw shed adjoining, where a man packs it away, and the clean grain is raised by elevators into the upper loft, and deposited there for safe keeping. The whole machinery is moved by water. In the rear of the building is the grain-stack-yard, so arranged that most of it can be thrown from the stack under the shed, to within reach of the man that feeds the thrasher.

On two sides of the square, stands brick sheds with slated roofs, containing 350 milch cows, the milch of which is sent into Dublin twice a day to three hospitals (one of them the "Foundling Hospital," that takes more than half

of the whole,) which Mr. R. has supplied by contract for many years. Those cows are never let out, having a fresh supply of water constantly before them, within reach, and are fed in the summer with fresh cut Italian Ryegrass, (of which Mr. R. speaks in the most favorable terms) with clover, vetches, and fresh cut common grass, alternately, and in their turn. In winter he feeds them with turnips, potatoes and mangel-wurtzel, all steamed, and also gives them some chopped straw and hay steamed, with the liquor it was steamed in and some bruised oats and barley meal, and some linseed meal cake occasionally mixed with it. You may judge from this management, the condition of the cows, and the quantity of milch they give.

Those cows are curried and brushed once a day, and the whole of the passages washed out twice every day with water and broom; the temperature is kept below 65° and over 50° during the winter. One man is allowed for every ten cows, to feed, milk, clean and attend to them, and there is no time that you cannot with comfort sit down in the shed so neatly as they kept. The feeding is done four times a day by clock work. A large clock is placed in the front of one of the buildings, within view from every part of the yard, and can be heard strike, of a mild day, at the most distant part of the farm.

Another square was occupied by sheds of a similar kind, and contained 200 heifers four years old that were fattening for the Dublin Smithfield market. Some of those were fit for market then, and we judged them to weigh on an average, seven hundred weight, or 784 lbs. each, the hundred weight being 112 lbs; by which they compute the weight here, I find. Those heifers were fed principally on hay and turnips, as much as they would eat three times a day, with an occasional change of a feed of potatoes and some linseed meal cake as they approached being finished off. No water was given them, nor did they need it, which surprised me: they were well curried twice a day, and passages cleaned and washed as the cow sheds; but each man had fifteen heifers to feed and attend to.

On another square, the milk-house standing at one end, are the work-horse stables and harness rooms, of equal finish, and as complete as the other buildings. In the centre of this square, surrounded by a three foot wall, is a large space, hollowed out in the middle, for the dung, of which waggon loads are made every day. About the middle of each building is a large cistern to receive the urine of the animals, which is pumped out and carted on to the land in carts precisely similar to those with which the streets in cities are watered.

In the centre of each building is a feeding room, in rear of which are root sheds, as well as extensive potatoe pits within the outer rick-yard wall; and in the rear of each square is built an immense rick of hay, containing, as they estimated, some forty tons each, from which, with a hayknife, is cut off fresh each day the quantity for consumption on that day.—In each shed is a cattle-tube, to be used in case that any one of the stock should get choked by any of the roots on which they are feeding. It is a most useful instrument, quite elastic, and can be used without danger by any man, and gives immediate relief by pushing before it into the stomach, any obstruction that might have remained in the throat; no farmer, or at least neighbourhood, should be without one of them.

A watchman is up every night in the year, constantly going from shed to shed, to guard against fire, and give relief to any animal that might require it during the night as well as to call the men at 2 o'clock for milking.—*Correspondent of the Cultivator.*

SHELTER FOR SHEEP.—It seems desirable to furnish suitable shelter for the flock with conveniences for foddering, especially in stormy weather. Ex-Gov. King has a shed for sheep on his own farm in Kingfield, which by some is thought to be just the thing for the purpose. He has two large barns standing one on the north and the other on the west side of his yard, and sheltering it from the cold northerly winds. His shed is in the middle of his sheep yard, and extends from the barn on the west, parallel with the one on the north, and is, perhaps, eight feet long, ten or twelve wide, and ten in height. The roof is