

## STOCK IMPORTATIONS.

We learn with pleasure that Mr. Stone, of Guelph, so well known as an enterprising and successful importer and breeder, has imported from England in the month of December last, a lot of twenty pure Cotswold Sheep. They are considered by many to be the best lot, upon the whole, of any of his previous importations. Although at Mr. Stone's sale in September last, the times appeared anything but encouraging as regarded the importation of stock, yet in October and November he had a good demand, and determined upon an importation to increase his flock and introduce fresh blood—so that farmers, if they wish it, will be able to supply themselves next year with valuable stock, without any great risk or expense. Should Mr. Stone receive a reasonable amount of support during the present year to justify it, he has resolved upon further importations; and he is determined to place his herds and flocks, as regards purity of blood, symmetry, quality and constitution, in the highest rank in Canada, and second to none in America. We heartily wish Mr. Stone every success in his praiseworthy and patriotic enterprise.

## COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The Annual Meetings of County Agricultural Societies, under the Act 20 Vic., cap. 32, must be held during the third week in January, which will be, of course, from the 15th to 21st instant inclusive. The nomination of members of the Board of Agriculture to supply the place of those retiring by rotation takes place at these meetings. The members whose term of election expires this year, are Messrs. E. W. Thomson, Toronto; R. L. Denison, Toronto; H. Ruttan, Cobourg; Hon. Geo. Alexander, Woodstock. Their retirement, however, does not render them ineligible for re-election. It is at these meetings also that the Reports of proceedings for the past year must be brought up and adopted. The attention of officers and

directors of societies is requested to an advertisement which appears in another column on this subject.

**PRIZES FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS.**—We do not wish our friends to lose sight of the point that all subscriptions to the *Agriculturist* cease with the end of the year, and the paper for the new year is not sent to any one till ordered, except a few copies to officials, &c. We therefore request attention again to the terms of subscription for the current year. It may require a very large list to obtain one of the largest money prizes or bonuses, or a comparatively small one may suffice; we cannot tell at present; but each person sending subscriptions, will be on the safe side, and will promote the spread of agricultural intelligence in his section, by sending as full a list as possible.

## Correspondence.

## AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, AND THE CLERGY.

DEAR SIR,—And so you have found one who doubts the propriety of the clergy giving attention to such things as farming and gardening. Please stand aside, Mr. Editor, and let me deal with your adversary. You sir, who say, that to such things we should be debarred from giving any consideration, you demand a sufficient reason for our doing so. Such sufficient reason is close at hand. Here is one:—The great Dr. Johnson once said—and were you questioning him would doubtless again say, “Sir, I once knew an excellent country clergyman, bring up a family of twelve admirable daughters upon apple-dumplings.” There, sir, is not that good authority?—is not that good reason enough? No. Then remember, I pray you, that the *garden* has been the scene of the most wondrous events which the annals of earth—and probably those of heaven—have ever recorded. Was it not in a garden the first man drew his first breath?—Was it not there that the fairest earthly gift god ever gave to man, came into his possession? Was it not upon herb, and flower, and fruit that man's eyes first rested when they opened upon a new-born world? Were not these the first to greet his welcome and offer for his refreshment the soft shade of