

changed to an export trade. In sympathy with other products, cheese has commanded good figures all the season. In August and September prices were 9½c. to 11c. On the setting in of cool weather, an advance of 3c. was experienced, leaving the market still in favour of the seller.

WOOL.

We have a cheering report to give of this article, now rapidly assuming an important place among the products of Canada. Sheep-husbandry, stimulated chiefly by the high price of wool, has increased largely, and the highly satisfactory results which have followed will, we hope, encourage farmers to still further exertion in that direction. The quality of the crop is yearly improving. Canada wool has always, and does now command the highest price in the American market. The great bulk of the Canadian wool—nearly all of that pulled in the early part of the season—finds a market in the United States, and last year very high prices were realized in consequence of the scarcity of cotton, and the great demand for coarse cloths for military purposes. The demand from our neighbours for wool to manufacture woollens and army clothing has, since the war began, been considerable. This demand, coupled with that for our own rapidly increasing home manufactures, had the tendency to increase the number of sheep in the country, and making its culture and growth an item of great importance to agriculturists. At the close of the American war, it was thought that prices would decline; owing, however, to an increased amount of worsted machinery going into operation in the Eastern States, and there being comparatively little combing wool grown in the United States, our market suffered no material decline, but continued throughout the season to be largely resorted to by American buyers. It is supposed that wool will not decline to the old level of prices for some years to come, on account of the high price of cotton, notwithstanding the probability, if not certainty, that a prohibitory tariff will exclude this article from the American market. Prices opened at from 33c to 35c in the latter end of May, and advanced to 42½c to 43½ in the latter part of June, and although several American orders were withdrawn, prices kept remarkably steady throughout the season. In the fall the market was left bare of fleece wool, and manufacturers of Canada tweeds were forced to a great extent, to supply themselves with pulled wools, a new feature in the trade. We hope manufacturers will find it to their advantage to use more of these wools in the future. We would urge upon farmers the great necessity of keeping their wools free from burrs, and having it properly washed before shearing. Buyers now use more discrimination in their purchases, and the best handled wool may be expected to bring the best price.

The gradual and satisfactory progress of the wool trade will be seen from the following figures, which show the total exports of wool from this port for the last seven years, within which time the trade has grown from almost nothing to its present very considerable proportions:—

Total exports of		
Wool in	lbs.	Value.
1859.....	7,101	\$1,372
1860.....	32,472	8,867
1861.....	152,354	36,480
1862.....	129,833	41,458
1863.....	205,846	76,596
1864.....	165,618	68,959
1865.....	about 300,000	138,000

The total quantity of wool purchased at this point during the present season is computed at 350,000 lbs., which, at the high average price of 40½c per lb., represents the large sum of \$157,500, paid into the pockets of our farmers for this branch of agricultural industry alone.

Chicago "Union Stock Yards."

SEVERAL of our American exchanges have detailed accounts of a mammoth undertaking recently carried out by Western stock men, for the accommodation of the vast herds of cattle, that congregate at Chicago for shipment eastward. The *Prairie Farmer* contains an engraving and description of the buildings and pens. We give an abridged and condensed outline of the gigantic enterprise. A company was incorporated for the purpose, with a capital of one million dollars; a location, comprising 345 acres, five miles southward from the city Court House, was purchased and thoroughly underdrained—nearly thirty miles of drains and sewers being required, 500 yards and pens, from 20 by 35, to 85 by 112 feet, were built, all of them, as we understand, with plank floors, some covered, and many provided with gates, so that several can be opened into one. These pens are laid

off into streets and alleys, and include four principal divisions—the first division, A, belonging to the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad, and the Illinois Central; division B is assigned to the four eastern roads, the Michigan Southern, Michigan Central, Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne, and the Chicago and Great Eastern; division C accommodates the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, and the Chicago and St. Louis; division D will be used by the Chicago and North-western Railroad. Suitable buildings for hay and corn are erected, and very capacious tanks for water, which is conveyed by pipes, aggregating over six miles in length, to every pen and yard. A hotel, moreover, is building, which will cost, when completed and furnished, about \$300,000. A short distance from the hotel is the exchange building and bank. In this building are the bank office of the Secretary of the company, the exchange room of the brokers, and a refreshment room. On the second floor are telegraph offices. Cottages, stores, and work houses will be erected on the grounds, for the convenience of the employees. The cost of the yards is said to have already been over \$1,000,000, and considerably more will be required to complete it. About 15,000,000 feet of lumber have been used in planking and piers.

Such is a meagre account of what will doubtless be found a most valuable addition to the transportation facilities of the great and growing emporium of the far West.

U. C. Fruit Growers' Association.

We publish elsewhere the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of this body, together with the President's address, in which the objects of the Association are very fully set forth. It is to be regretted that a larger number of persons are not enrolled among its members, and in the habit of attending its meetings. During the few years of its existence, the Association has, in a quiet way, accomplished much for the farmers and gardeners of Canada, by the enquiries it has made and the information it has gathered, respecting the possibilities of fruit culture throughout the country, by the list of fruits adapted to these latitudes, which it has made up;—and by the stimulus its discussions have imparted to the professional and amateur orchardists who have attended its gatherings. It is capable of achieving far greater results, were it more extensively patronized. The enlargement of its membership, would both put it in possession of means to attempt various useful projects, and bring a greater number of fruit growers under the influence of its healthful stimulus. Our American neighbours maintain such organizations with great liberality and spirit; experience having proved their value and utility. We hope more of those who feel interested in the development of the resources of Canada as a fruit country, will join the Association, and lend their help in forwarding its useful aims. Parties desiring to become members, will address the Secretary Treasurer, D. W. Beadle, Esq., St. Catharines, enclosing one dollar.

Literary Notices.

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.—We opened the January number of this able monthly with more than usual curiosity and interest, it being the first issue since its absorption of the *Genesee Farmer*, and the addition of Mr. Joseph Harris to its already effective editorial staff. The first page is adorned with a fine engraving of Mr. Bonner's noted "Auburn Horse," for which his proprietor gave the sum of \$13,000—a modest price truly for a gelding. The usual "Hints about Work," on the farm, and in the garden and green-house follow; after which we have the Apiary, some business notices, and "Our Basket," which is crowded full of useful articles. Five pages of valuable miscellany come next, and then we have No 25 of the "Walks and Talks on the Farm," which the readers of the late *Genesee Farmer* found so interesting and instructive, and which are henceforth to be continued in the *Agriculturist*. No. 25 is not, in our opinion, quite up to the mark made by its predecessors, but this is hardly surprising. It begins with a regretful reference to the passing away of the *Genesee Farmer*, and a confession of a "little nervousness" in writing for a hundred thousand sub-

scribers. Mr. Harris will be "himself again" soon, and write with his usual versatility and spirit. As it is, the "Walks and Talks" make two of the best pages in this number. We cannot even give a list of the titles of the remaining articles. Suffice it to say that the paper is well filled, and that the illustrations of which there are more than the usual quantity, are very excellent. A whole page engraving, entitled "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," is a beautiful work of art, and well worthy of being framed. This prince of the agricultural monthlies is published by Orange Judd & Co., 41 Park Row, New York, at \$1 50 per annum, American money. In clubs of 20 or more, \$1.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL DIAL.—This little paper, devoted to the religious welfare of children, well merits a passing word of commendation and encouragement. It is free from sectarian bias, and is filled from month to month with very choice reading, original and selected, not only suited to "the young folks at home," but well worthy the attention of the older folks. Canadians ought to be patriotic enough to sustain their own juvenile periodicals in preference to such as come from other countries. Several home-produced children's papers are in existence, some having a denominational cast, and others, like the *Dial*, of unsectarian character. The *Dial* is the cheapest among them all, being only fifteen cents a year for single copies. Eleven copies to one address are furnished for \$1 50; 22 copies for \$3, and so on. Orders for this excellent little paper should be addressed to Mr. A. Christie, Box 468, P O Toronto.

ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS FOR 1866.—We have received from Mr. F. E. Grafton, Bookseller, Montreal, a sample copy of this valuable little work, and to all who are acquainted with former issues of it, nothing more need be said, than that it well maintains its previous reputation. Upwards of 100 pages of reading matter, illustrated by 130 engravings, all referring to matters of farm economy and rural pursuits, are here offered for the small sum of twenty-five cents.

Agricultural Intelligence.

Officers of Agricultural Societies for 1866.

We herewith append lists of the officers of such of our Agricultural Societies, for the current year, as have come to hand. We hope to be able to give more in our next issue.

NORTH RIDING OF OXFORD.—President, Hon. Geo. Alexander; First Vice do., John Barwick, Esq.; Second Vice do., John Dunlop, Esq.; Secretary and Treasurer, W. Grey, Esq.; Honorary Veterinary Surgeon, D. McEachern, Esq.; Directors, Messrs. A. Tew, Capt. Cowan, E. Huggins, H. Parker, John Craig, H. Welford, and Mr. Lockhart.

BLENDHEIM AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—President, Stephen Hall, Esq.; Vice-President, Capt. Cowan; Sec. & Treas., Geo. F. Williamson. Directors, Wm. Mason, Thos. Spiers, Wm. Alexander, A. Tew, D. Wakefield, Thos. Nichols, John Hall, and Alex. Pattullo.

NORWICH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—A. B. Moore, President; William Colcoe, Vice-President; Wm. S. Scarff, Secretary and Treasurer; Directors, I. B. Barker, Wm. Treffry, S. J. Woodrow, I. Massey, H. Vanvaalkenburg, Mordecai Reynolds, H. McLees, Wm. Austin and Adam Stover.

HALDIMAND (West Branch).—President, Alex. W. Thompson, Esq.; Vice-President, Isaac Geddes, Esq.; Secretary, A. A. Davis, Esq. Directors,—Seneca, Andrew Turnbull, Nathaniel H. Wickett, George Jeffrey, and Thomas Messenger, Esqs. Oneida,—Walter Anderson, Thomas Martindale, James Ferguson, and Andrew Murray, Esqs. North Cayuga,—William Wilde, Esq.

SMITH, HARVEY, NORTH DORNO, AND NORTH MONAGHAN.—Michael Sanderson, President; Emanuel Mann, Vice do.; James Mann, Treasurer; Wm. James Smyth, Secretary. Directors, the Rev. V. Clementi, B. A. Geo. Paul, Isaac Garbutt, Gerald Fitzgerald, M. S. Dean, Thomas Mann, Wm. Gill, Samuel McKibbin, and Lewis Davies.

EAST MIDDLESSEX.—President, Mr. J. Johnson; Secretary, Mr. J. W. Lester; First Vice-President, Mr.