

The Corn-stalk Disease.

In our April issue, page 115, we gave an account and sounded a note of warning concerning the fatal corn-stalk disease, which is becoming a scourge in the United States, and is already threatening the Western Peninsular of Ontario. Farmers throughout the Dominion should read the above mentioned article with great care, and scrupulously follow out its teachings, using every precaution and preventive. The following is a letter we received since our last issue from a qualified veterinary surgeon:—

THEDFORD, April 7, 1890.

Dear Sir,—In your ADVOCATE of April, I noticed an article on the corn-stalk disease, and I hope it will be read by every farmer in the country. This disease has already appeared in this country (Lambton, E. R., Bosanquet Township), as I have seen four cases of it this spring. The cattle were fed on stalks grown from American corn, and the disease presented symptoms almost the same as anthrax. None of the animals affected lived over twelve hours. The *post mortem* differed in some of the organs of the body from what we find in anthrax. The gentleman who grew the corn told me it was the poorest crop of corn he ever grew: was withered and stunted in growth, and a good deal of it blew over and out of the ground. Having these cases in mind, and after reading your article, I am convinced that these animals died of the corn-stalk disease.

Yours truly,
J. H. POWELL, V. S.

Immediately on receipt of this letter we forwarded a copy of it, together with a marked copy of the April number of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, to the Hon. Chas. Drury, Toronto, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, and the same to the Hon. John Carling, Ottawa, Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion.

Francis M. Wade.

It is with mixed feeling of pleasure and regret that we announce the departure of Frank M. Wade, lately chief clerk in the office of his father, Henry Wade, Secretary of the Agriculture and Arts Association of Ontario, to Chicago, where he has been appointed to a situation of trust in the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, under Mr. J. H. Pickerell, the well-known Secretary of that Institution. This is the pleasant part of the announcement, as the corporation is a wealthy one. The regretful part is that he has had to leave his own country to benefit himself, where he has made himself so popular by his pleasant, courteous manner, and obliging disposition. During the seven years that he has been in his father's office, he has met with all the principal Shorthorn and horse breeders of the province, and they, to a unit, express themselves as being very sorry that he has chosen to leave, and they all wish him success in his new undertaking. He passed through the very busy time of the changing of the standard of the Shorthorn Herd Books, and the re-printing of the new volumes, which was an experience that will never be forgotten by the staff of the office, and which experience will be of great benefit to him in his new situation.

Exhibitors at the Provincial Exhibition for the last seven years well remember him: first as keeper of the fruit books, where he then became acquainted with all the fruit men; afterwards he attended to the stock books, and made himself popular with all the stock men. He was born on his father's farm, near Port Hope, where he put in about seventeen years, which partially accounts for his appreciation of the farmers and their appreciation of him. He was also a great favorite amongst the yachtmen of Toronto, he being a capital amateur yachtman and a member of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club. A well-attended dinner was given him at the Victoria

Club on his departure. While regretting his departure from the land of his birth, we wish Mr. Wade every success. We feel sure his genial, manly manner, and marked business ability, will assure him this.

Maritime Correspondence.

The winter though very mild has been favorable for getting work done in New Brunswick and P. E. Island, but in Nova Scotia there has been a scarcity of snow, which has interfered with the work of the lumbermen. The cut, however, of lumber in all the Provinces will be very large, and will help many farmers to tide successfully over the bad harvest of 1889. The farmers' meeting, as separated by the Grange, the Provincial Farmers' Association of New Brunswick, and the Dairyman's Association of Nova Scotia, were not so well attended as last year. At each of these meetings Col. Blair, who is in charge of the Government Experiment Farm, gave a very interesting address, showing the work that is being done at the Station. The object lessons taught at the Farm are likely to be of great advantage to farmers.

Professor Robertson, Dairy Commissioner for Canada, whose appointment was chronicled in the March number of the ADVOCATE, has been making a hurried lecturing tour through Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He spoke at Halifax, New Glasgow, Sackville and Fredericton, two lectures in each place. To say that he was well liked does not half convey the impression he made upon the people. Everybody was delighted, and if he should come this way again he will have larger audiences. The duties to be imposed on fresh and salt meats is very satisfactory to the farmers generally. It seems to have put new heart into them. Things have been looking very discouraging all winter. With hay at \$6 per ton, and not much demand at that, and the market flooded with Chicago beef, it began to be a serious question with many where the money was to come from to meet the most pressing claims. The one thing on the beef question that disturbs a certain number is the fear that Ontario will be as hard to compete with as Chicago, and that the duty will only have the effect of putting the money in the hands of Ontario and Manitoba farmers rather than those of the United States. Even if that proves to be the case, it will be satisfactory to know the money is spent in our own rather than a foreign country.

The New Brunswick Government has decided to dismantle their stock farm and go out of the stock raising business. They find it costs more to raise the animals than they will bring in the market. The stock was all advertised to be sold on the 24th of April. The question might be asked, if a Government with means to have everything conducted in the most scientific manner cannot make it profitable to raise pure bred stock, how can it be expected that farmers can make it pay.

A Committee of the House of Assembly, now in session, have just recommended also that the horses purchased a few years ago by the Government, and leased each spring for the season, be sold outright, all but Harry Wilkes, a trotting horse. A very wise recommendation, as it costs the Government about four times as much to keep these animals as it would a private individual, and the risk seems paltry, judging from the percentage of loss.

St. John is making great preparations for the proposed exhibition that is to be held there in September. It is hoped to make it the largest affair of the kind ever held in the Maritime Provinces; and it hopes that the Upper Provinces will send down a good number of visitors.

Stock.

Chatty Letter from the States.

[From our Chicago Correspondent.]

There is a better feeling in the fine stock market. Thoroughbred bulls one to two years old are selling for about \$100. There is no boom, and there is not likely to be, but the general condition of the market for pure-bred cattle is decidedly on the mend. The President has ordered all of the cattle out of the Indian Territory by October 1st, and there is some fear that the enforced exodus may cause some uneasiness in the cattle trade. A large share of the Indian cattle will be of good beef quality, and many others will be only fit for canning. The live cattle exporters are shipping more cattle from Chicago than ever before. They have lately been forwarding 300 to 550 car loads per week, or 5,000 to 9,000 head. They have lately been costing \$4.10 to \$5.00 for steers, and \$3.30 to \$4.00 for bulls.

It is understood that cattle room on all regular vessels leaving United States ports has been contracted for the next five months. This indicates a good deal of faith in the export trade. E. B. Morgan, Joseph Gould and W. McLean are among the Canadian cattle buyers operating at Chicago.

The receipts of hogs are increasing, but prices hold up pretty well, and it is not expected that receipts can more than equal the demand before next fall. Hog feeding, with prices at \$4.25 to \$4.50 at Chicago, is very profitable, with corn worth thirteen to twenty cents a bushel.

The available supply of choice corn-fed cattle in the States at present is not large; a heavy proportion of stock now coming forward being unfinished, but reports from many large feeding centres indicate a larger number of cattle being summer fed for fall markets than for some years. There is an improvement in the demand for young store stock. The tendency, however, is more to buy store stock to fatten for market than to buy store cattle and bulls for breeding. Distillery-fed 1,400-lb. steers sold to exporters at \$4.40. Corn-fed Texas cattle 950 to 1,200 lbs. \$3.00 to \$3.80.

The horse market is improving rapidly. The latest prices are:—

Description	Poor to Fair	Good to Choice
Draught horses	\$1.25 @ 160	\$1.70 @ 250
Streeters	90 @ 110	115 @ 135
Drivers	100 @ 120	130 @ 200
General use	90 @ 130	140 @ 175
Carriage teams	275 @ 350	400 @ 500
Saddlers	120 @ 170	200 @ 300
Plugs and rangers	25 @ 50	60 @ 70

Fancy 100 to 110-lb. lambs sold at \$7.00 to \$7.25. Choice 110 to 130-lb. corn fed Western sheep sold at \$5.75 to \$6.05. A lot of 161-lb. native sheep sold at \$6.50. Corn-fed Texas sheep, 80 to 95 lbs., sold at \$5.00 to \$5.65. A lot of 566 screening-fed 56 lb. Wyoming lambs sold at \$5.40. Sheep are considerably higher than anybody expected at this season.

Frank Upjohn, Welcombe Farm, Lake Francis, Man., asks us to state cost of registration in the Dominion Shorthorn Herd Book. The price of registration to members is 50 cents, non-members \$1; membership fee \$5; annual subscription \$4. According to section 3, article IV, of the constitution, each member receives a copy of the herd book and such other publications as the Association may issue during the year, either free of charge or for such reduced price as the Executive Committee may find necessary.