

CHICAGO BEEF.

A representative of the *AGRICULTURIST* recently called upon Josiah Wood, Esq., M. P., of Westmoreland County, N. B., one of the most extensive beef raisers in our provinces, in regard to the effect Chicago beef would have on our local production.

Mr. Wood said: "I consider the whole affair spasmodic. Our beef-raisers were at first somewhat frightened, but I think are beginning to see that Chicago cannot continue that thing long. It has always been a question as to whether the beef was shipped at a profit. I have heard men say they considered it was introduced into the provinces at a loss in order to give it notoriety, and that it would go up in price gradually until it sold at a profit. My opinion is that it has already sold at a profit, in spite of distance, duty and freight. The Western cattle are prairie fed and at little cost. They are out all winter, and are not fed at an expensive rate like Eastern animals. There is an abundance of cattle in the West, and the market is easily glutted, and it was, when the first shipment was made to St. John. At that time beef was selling in Chicago at 2 to 2½ cents per pound, the duty was one and the freight ½ cent per pound, and it retailed at native beef prices or about 6 or 8 cents."

"Yes," said Mr. Wood in response to a question, "I have heard it said that there is danger of importing disease with the meat into this country, but not more than with other articles of importation. I presume, however, that St. John can boast of an inspector. The law lays down certain measures of precaution which must be obeyed. I think that beef will yet be cheaper than at present. Modern means of transport have a pronounced tendency to equalize prices the world over. The question has often been discussed what breed of cattle is most adapted for beef raising in this country. In my opinion the Durham is the most suitable. I speak from experience, having bred several breeds."

THEY NEVER STRIKE.

There is a class of laborers who never strike and seldom complain. They get up at five o'clock in the morning and never go back to bed until ten or eleven o'clock at night. They work without ceasing the whole of that time, and receive no other emolument than food and the plainest clothing. They understand

something of every branch of economy and labor, from finance to cooking. Though harassed by a hundred responsibilities, though driven and worried, though reproached and looked down upon, they never revolt; and they cannot organize for their own protection. Not even sickness releases them from their posts. No sacrifice is deemed too great for them to make, and no incompetency in any branch of their work is excused. No essays or books or poems are written in tribute to their steadfastness. They die in the harness, and are supplanted as quickly as may be. These are the house-keeping wives of some laboring men.—EXCHANGE.

POULTRY.

Like other departments on the farm poultry to be profitable in any degree must receive attention, and if properly managed will give as large returns for the care expended as the larger animals. They will almost in any case, if reasonably well cared for, yield a profit by supplying the eggs and poultry required for home consumption.

For the general farmer who wants a few hens and has not much time to attend to them the Plymouth Rocks, Brahmas, Leghorns and Black Spanish are the varieties that will prove most satisfactory where eggs and marketable poultry are desired, and with the probable exception of the latter breed, which we find are poor mothers, these will prove to be the best general purpose fowls in existence. There are other breeds equally meritorious in some respects.

To the ordinary farmer, the term hen-house is connected with an elaborate structure costing more than he thinks will ever be returned and no attempt is made to fit up comfortable quarters for the fowls. One of the best houses we have seen was built in the end of a barn mow, with a southern exposure, giving plenty of sun in winter, while the hay in the rear gave protection to the other sides. Should the house be built outside it had better be in the lean-to style, with the high side toward the south, and having several windows to admit of the sun shining on the floor in winter, and double boarded with building paper between. With this style of house we obtain warm quarters in winter, when eggs bring the highest and when feeding is the heaviest item.

WE will be pleased if the stock breeders and horsemen will use our columns when a birth, death or sale occurs in their stables.

HONORS IN AGRICULTURE.

We learn with pleasure, that at the recent examinations in the Department of Agriculture, of the University of Toronto, six candidates passed the examination for the degree of B. S. A.—Bachelor of the Science of Agriculture. The course of instruction for this degree is of a highly practical and useful nature. The candidate must hold a diploma from the Ontario Agricultural College, to obtain which a thorough course in practical and scientific agriculture, and all the branches bearing upon it must be taken and extending over two years. The final examination at the conclusion of the third year includes all the various branches of Chemistry, Botany, Entomology, Agriculture, Geology, Dairying, and Mechanical Drawing.

The *AGRICULTURIST* heartily congratulates the successful gentlemen: Messrs. G. Harcourt, J. R. Hulton, A. Lehmann, J. H. Morgan, T. G. Raynor, and R. M. Soule, upon the honors they have attained.

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN PRIZES.

The Holstein-Friesian Association of America offer the following premiums for 1889: 1st. For the Holstein-Friesian cow making the best one day butter record at any State Fair, or at the Exposition to be held at Buffalo, N. Y.; Detroit, Mich.; Toronto, Can.; or at the New England or Bay State Fairs. 1st premium, \$100 and gold medal of the Holstein-Friesian Association, valued at \$50. 2nd premium, \$50. 2nd. For the Holstein-Friesian cow making the best one day milk record at any of the forementioned fairs. 1st premium, \$100 and gold medal of the Association, valued at \$50. 2nd premium, \$50. 3rd. For the Holstein-Friesian cow winning the first premium for butter, in competition open to other breeds at any of the above fairs, a premium of \$50. 4th. For the Holstein-Friesian cow winning the 1st premium for milk in competition open to other breeds at any of the forementioned expositions, a premium of \$50. There are others offered, but they are confined to certain States. All premiums must be awarded by the management of the fair, and a certificate of award, signed by the president or secretary, will be required before payment of any premium will be made.

KEEP the running machinery well oiled. A few cents expended in oil will be many times returned by lessening the power required to perform the work, and by saving wear of the bearing parts.