

AGRICULTURE.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

RUFUS RUSTIC—NOTES BY THE WAY.

If there is a remote region or unexplored corner of this globe that has not been tramped upon by a Scotchman, it should be discovered, and mapped as a geographical novelty.

North, south, east, and west, acknowledge his presence. From the tropic to the poles. Climatic influence, and the opposing forces of nature, have nothing to offer as obstacles to his progress; he is cosmopolitan in its broadest sense.

He comes from a land, cold, bleak, and juicy,—a land of mountains, villages, hills and dalea,—of lochs, lakes and salmon streams. Wherever Sandy puts in an appearance, he leaves his mark; wherever he waltzes in and puts his foot down solid, the indelible point remains for generations after.

From the land of cakes, another oxodus, of a different type, has, for some time, been in progress, equally persistent, a type of mammal's, strongly prepotent and impressive, giving the progeny ancestral characteristics.

Old Scotia has the honor of giving to the world the best *streak* of dairy stock known to christendom, the Ayrshire breed. While other countries were making rapid progress with these celebrated animals, Nova Scotia farmers were deliberately "waiting for the moving of the waters." It is only of late years that prize-takers have scored a record.

In the Provincial show of 1885, another breed of neat cattle was in the ring, the "Aberdeen Angus," for which the world is indebted to Messrs. Watson and M. Combie, two Scotch celebrities. These cattle are famed for their excellent quality of beef. They are hardy, docile, and hornless, hence, in a great degree, harmless. They obtain their name from the county they inhabit, none taking a higher economical rank than the Scotch "doddies." These black cattle are not here as an experiment, their reputation as a special, superior breed, is fully established. They have been winners, time and again, at all the great shows—English and Foreign—in competition with the most celebrated animals of other breeds. They are here to remain and make *their mark*, whatever the unlettered may say in disparagement.

From the Ayrshires, I drifted to the Dons. A little little man was furbishing them up with diligent and minute attention. They are a very old and distinct race, having a record of their own more complete than the modern improved breeds. Physiologically, they are well formed, color permanent, bright red, without white or other spots, neck long, deer-like. For activity, strength, and hardiness, this breed has no equal in the Province; the quality of the meat good as the best, farmers, whose object is to rear cattle for the yoke and milk combined, will find them well adapted to their means of keep. The specimens on exhibition do credit to the skill and judgment of their owner as models of the best of Devons. While in the act of fondling the juveniles of the herd, I recognized aunt Sarah's voice, and made known my presence at once.

"Oh, Rufus," she said, "I am so glad to have found you. Where is Ann Jane. I saw Ezra Sharp as I entered the hall. He was lecturing some boys on the impropriety of taking what did not belong to them. That if they attempted that game on him again, he would give them 'fits.' I enquired if Miss Charters was in the building, and he informed me in his sailor way of speaking, 'the last he had seen of her she was scudding before the wind, hull down, with you in tow.'"

"It certainly does blow here in a very unbecoming manner. Give me your arm, I wish to have a look at the Ayrshires, to ascertain if the animals here are finer than my own. We will then move in search of the truant."

"Why don't the captain exhibit some of his stock," I enquired

"His animals, you know, are not registered, and would class with the common herds of the country. He thinks the prize list is arranged chiefly to accommodate pedigree animals, and that the small farmers are out in the cold, and would not be successful in such a contest. I am not acquainted with the rules governing these exhibitions,—they may be right, and they may be wrong. I know it is wrong to do certain things. To perpetuate acts that conflict with a law of right; and I should much regret a proposal to match any of my milkers, for a pot of butter, against the best cow in this show. If I should consent to an arrangement of the kind, it would be rather a test in the science of morality, than for the pot of butter, although, Rufus, I think I should prefer a good-sized pot."

"What is your opinion, aunt, of these Ayreshires."

"I think they are more symmetrical than mine, and that they are a credit to the owners, but I think they are not as deep milkers. These animals have a pedigree which gives them a special privilege in the 'ring.' I should like to see their milk record. Mine, as you know, are natives, and have for some years been carefully bred and cared for. If it were a milk-and-butter test, their pedigree would fail them. The captain's views are, that farmers, such of them who are able, should make an effort to improve the native stock, and mould a strain adapted to the dissimilar sections of the Province. That much money is wasted on imported animals which are commonly not appreciated,—that they have not cheapened the meat, or helped us, as yet, to any more butter or cheese,—that our people are active enough from home,—that our fruit is highly spoken of abroad,—and why not; he says, get up a breed of Nova Scotia animals of all kinds, and meet the foreigner on his own ground."

Mexico has a land system under which about 50,000 proprietors own most of the soil occupied by 10,000,000 people. The great haciendas are hard to break up, and constitutes a barrier to progress which may serve as a warning to the people of the West, where the cattle barons and foreign syndicates are getting control of enormous tracts.

E. J. POWER, PAINTER & GLAZIER, 44 SACKVILLE ST., HALIFAX, N. S.

Hall Decorations, Graining, Paper-Hanging,
Whitewashing and Colouring.

CHARGES MODERATE.

TO FARMERS. LOBSTER GUANO.

This concentrated, powerful and valuable fertilizer is now shipped, unscrewed, at \$25, and fine screened, \$30 per ton of 2000 lbs., ex barrels or bags f. o. b. from wharf at Cape Canso. Orders for next season are booked from this date at Halifax, No. 67 Hollis Street. One ton of this Guano spread broadcast on a field with a sowing drill or otherwise, is equal in effect to fifty tons of common lobster waste as now used, but has no pernicious emanation nor unpleasant odor. It being a fine, dry and soluble powder, its action and assimilation are immediate.

For further particulars apply to above address or P.O. Box 33.

A. McDOUGALL & SON, IMPORTERS, WHOLESALE GROCERS WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS, No. 234 HOLLIS STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.

Agents in Nova Scotia and P. E. Island for
Messrs. LUCKIN, BELLOR & CO. COGNAC.
A. McDOUGALL. C. B. McDOUGALL.

TEAS.

248 half chests, Ex NEWCASTLE CITY
108 half chests, Ex YORK CITY
450 half chests, Ex ELYSIA
100 half chests, Ex GOIMENBURG CITY
210 half chests, Ex AUSTRALIA
638 half chests, Ex CALEDONIA
320 half chests, Ex WETTERBY
20 Packages, Ex BRITISH QUEEN

2694

3266

5360

Special orders from importers for direct
shipment from London, thirty two hun-
dred and sixty-six.

J. E. MORSE & CO.,

Tea Importers,
77 Upper Water Street,
Halifax, N. S.

ACADIA POWDER CO., (LIMITED).

—MANUFACTURE—

Blasting & Sporting Powders

Of the Best Quality.

—ALSO—

Red and Black Dynamite,

Quality unequalled.

Sold by all Dealers.

C. J. WYLD, Sec.
70 Bedford Row.

NEW ACADIAN HOTEL, GRANVILLE ST., HALIFAX, N. S., W. E. POPPLETON, Proprietor.

Rate per Day, \$1.50.

PERMANENT BOARDERS ACCOMMODATED.

First-Class Sample Room in connection

N. B.—ELECTRIC BELLS on
every Floor.

GRIFFIN & KELLIE, Granite and Marble Works. 244 BARRINGTON ST., HALIFAX, N. S.

Artistic Work, Tasteful Designs

We make a Specialty of the new Blue Marble.

Designs Sent on Application.

B. A. SMITH 33 to 37 George St. WHOLESALE DRY GOODS.

STOCK now Complete in every
Department.

SPECIAL LINES OF NEW

Fancy Goods.

Large Stock well worthy the attention of
Close Buyers.

Christmas, 1885. LONDON HOUSE.

WE ARE SHOWING THIS SEASON A
Splendid Variety of Useful Goods.

COMPRISING IN PART—

Ladies' and Gents' Lined Kid Mitts and Gloves,
Scotch Knit Gloves,
Silk Umbrellas,
Cardigan Jackets,
Silk Handkerchiefs, Ties, &c.
Gents' White and Colored Cashmere Mufflers,
Ladies' English and American Gossamers,
Fur Tippets (a large assortment)
Real Dogskin Jackets,
Fur Lined Circulars.
A large assortment of Wool Squares, B. Shawls,
Promenade Scarfs, 100s, Toquelets, Face
masks, &c.
Shawls, Mantles, Mantle Cloths, Dress Goods,
Silks, Satins, Velvets, Velvetens and Plush.
Also—A nice variety of FANCY GOODS

Before purchasing your Presents please give us
call.

WM. MOODY & CO. 168 and 170 Granville St., Halifax.

CAPE BRETON HOUSE 163 Lower Water Street, HALIFAX, N. S.

Constantly on hand, a selected Stock, comprising
Family FLOUR, Fine, Superfine and Extra
Meal, Oatmeal, Pork, Beef, Beans, Peas, &c.
Barley, Soap, Tobacco, Teas, Molasses, Sugar,
etc., for Family and Ship's Use.

Also—A choice stock of

AIRES, WINES, and LIQUORS

Orders Promptly filled. City Goods delivered
Free of Charge. JOHN LAHEY, Proprietor.