

### Liability of Seedsmen.

The recent seed case decision in the New York Court of Common Pleas, an account of which appeared in the December number of the CANADA FARMER, has set American seedsmen on their dignity. At a meeting convened by them, and held at the Astor House, on the 6th of January, the following resolution was adopted and signed by all present, many of them being leading dealers:

"While we exercise the greatest care to have all seeds pure and reliable, it is hereby mutually agreed between ourselves and the purchaser of this package, that we do not warrant the same, and are not in any sense liable or responsible for the seeds sold by us, or for any loss or damage arising from any failure thereof in any respect."

It was agreed that this should be printed on their bill-heads and circulars, or a notice similar to it. This may be all very well for the seedsmen, but what about the farmers who suffer? How are they to be protected? Every qualified seedsmen must admit that mistakes, like that occurring in the case cited, are the result either of fraud or gross carelessness on the part of some one. If of fraud, surely no punishment can be too severe for it; and indeed it is difficult to see why that punishment should be greatly modified in the case of the other, or any, alternative, which may wrench from the farmer the fruits of a whole year's labor and anxiety; and which may throw his farm so completely out of its rotation of cropping, that years may elapse before it can be restored to its wonted equilibrium. While saying this much, however, we must not forget that there is also another side to the question, and that is that farmers should take all care to give their seeds a fair chance and ample justice, as we doubt not but many fail to germinate through inattention to these points; and, in such cases, it would be most unjust to seek reparation from the vendor.

### The Seed Trade—Some Wild Statements.

EDITOR CANADA FARMER:—We often hear of the ignorance displayed by people in Britain about this country and climate, and having at one time of my life had occasion to visit "the old sod" a great number of times, I have been astonished that so little is known of a country separated only by a few days' travel. I had hoped under the enlightened sway of our present Governor General, who has tried to bring us more into notice than heretofore, that we were becoming better understood, and that, as an agricultural country, we were recognized as not far behind the Baltic and Black seas as a wheat producing region. Any intelligent man would argue from this fact that other cereals, fruits and flowers could also be cultivated with success where the staple commodity for bread flourishes. Such, however, is not the case. I send you an abstract of a letter received from Carters, High Holborn, London, E. C., who style themselves "royal seedsmen."

"Two-thirds of the seeds required in Canada and the United States are supplied by us, and it is a well-known fact (as the customs returns will show) that we are the largest exporters of seeds from England for the United States and Canada—and we have no doubt you are aware that very nearly the whole of the seeds used in that country are imported from this country every year—as they are unable to save seeds, with the exception of a few peas."

(Signed)

JAMES CARTER & CO

Comment on such ignorance is unnecessary.

Ottawa, 4th February, 1876.

P. E. BUCKE.

### Horse Corn Planter.

EDITOR CANADA FARMER:—In looking over some of the back numbers of my CANADA FARMER, I see in the April number of 1875 you reply to some enquiring correspondent that there is no corn planter by horse power manufactured in the Dominion, that you know of.

Some years ago, I made the same enquiry among my neighboring farmers, and received a similar answer. But now I have planted two crops with one of my own construction, which I consider a great improvement on the common method of marking out, and planting by hand, and covering with the hoe.

It is drawn by two horses. It marks, plants, and covers three rows at a time. It drops from three to six grains (according to size) every three and a half feet; it marks the place where to drive in returning, so that the rows are all a regular distance apart.

I, with a boy to drive, can plant, with ease, one acre an hour. Last season I planted, before 11 o'clock, with

it, what used to cost ten dollars with hired help by the common method. I am this winter making some improvements on it which, if satisfactory, will effect quite a saving of time, labor and money.

Louth, St. Catharines.

### Shorthorn Sales.

The following sales in the "Burnside Herd" of Shorthorns, the property of Mr. John M. Bell, of Atha, came off since our last issue. Thirty-five head were disposed of, realizing an average price of \$240 each—as follows:—

Melody, Mr. Hodge, York Mills	\$130
Daisy, J. Cannon, Markham	115
Violet, E. Sanderson, Buttonville	100
Amabella, H. Hodge, York Mills	125
Mattie, Wm. Shears, Bloomington	145
Mollie, T. Chubb, Pickering	105
Duchess, S. Beattie, Toronto	210
Princess Royal, J. Hope, Markham	500
Rosedale of Atha, S. Hesseck, Kettleby	310
Miss Booth, F. J. Smith, Newtonbrook	225
Red Rose, F. J. Hope, Markham	650
Louisa Jean, T. Holliday, Dumbarton	225
Wallflower, T. Holliday, Dumbarton	160
Queen of Atha, J. Hope	155
Necklace 6th, and calf, G. Miller, Markham	800
Kate Miller, W. Miller, Jr., Atha	650
Miss Bell, S. Beattie, Toronto	500
Princess Louise, J. Lourie, Scarborough	250
Lady Fragrant, S. Beattie, Toronto	170
Rosebud, and calf, B. Gibson, Whitby	300
Countess of Burnside, and calf, E. Sanderson, Buttonville	270
Victoria, J. Heron	130
Crimson, J. Carr, Whitby	200
Truancy Sally, B. Gibson, Wauchope	180
Vivella B 6th, W. Whitby	200
Rose Queen, W. Miller, Jr., Atha	125
Rosy Morn, Wm. Shears, Brock	95
May Bell 2nd, G. Miller, Markham	170
Mary Prim, W. Miller, Jr.	155
One grade heifer, G. Pearson	150

### Bulls.

Welcome Duke, J. Anderson, St. Mary's	200
Prince of Atha, T. Stephenson, Brougham	75
Violet Duke, W. Cuttery, Markham	110
Queen's Own, W. Carr, Whitby	150
Novelty, S. Beattie, Toronto	100

### Stock Notes.

MR A WHITMAN, North Leominster, Mass., has sold from his Short-horn herd, thirty-three cows and heifers, with the imputed bull Beau of Oxford 2nd, to Ayles & McClintock, Millersburg, Ky., for \$26,000.

A NEW FOOD.—Dr. Voelker says.—A new description of cake is now made from the starchy and glutinous refuse of the Indian corn flour, but it cannot be recommended for young growing animals.

MR. C. M. LANSING, Niagara, Canada, has sold to Geo. W. Miller, Grantham, Ontario, the Gwynne Short-horn bull Consul, 2155, by Baron of Geneva, 7535, dam Governess.

5TH DUKE OF HILLHURST.—The *Live Stock Journal* learns that the Tennessee Company who purchased and own the 5th Duke of Hillhurst, have refused an offer of \$15,000 for him. Mr. Mark S. Cockrill, writing us, says the 5th Duke is growing finely, and is a grand calf.

SALE OF ENDOR.—Col. Wm. T. Withers, Fairlawn Stock Farm, Lexington, Ky., has sold to a gentleman of Canada, the thoroughbred ch. m. Endor, foaled 1869, by Samuels' Bonnie Laddie, out of Mary C', for \$350. Endor is in foal to Almont.—*Live-Stock Record*.

MR D RYFSON Silver Spring Farm, Markham, Canada, has sold the Short-horn bull Duke of Brocton to Dr Wm Kenney, Paris, Ky. He was got by 4th Duke of Geneva, 7931, out of Duchess of Richmond, and bred by Messrs. Wolcott & Campbell.

PRECOCIOUS BREEDERS.—Mr. Wm. Brown, of Monroe, Wisconsin, writing to Bailey's *Shorthorn Reporter*, gives a remarkable instance of precocious breeding. His Butterfly 3rd was served when four months of age and produced a white bull when one year and five days old.

THE CALVES, from improved Short-horns (says an English exchange) generally are small when born. The following is, therefore, a remarkable occurrence. A very fine 3 year-old heifer of a pure tribe, has just been lost from the force necessary to take away her bull-calf. It weighed, when born, 123 lbs.

THE BREEDING OF SHETLAND PONIES.—"Only yesterday," writes a correspondent, "I met a Shetland friend who told me that an Irish nobleman to whom he had let the Island of Ness, for the purpose of breeding ponies, had begun well. He cleared the island of a good half-bred flock of sheep, and stocked it with ponies, and has just sold his 'crop' for £20."

MR. J. D. W. FRENCH, North Andover, Mass., on the part of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association, sends to the *Country Gentleman* the following transfers of Ayrshire stock;

McMartin's Lassie 2nd, 2863, McMartin's Lassie 3rd, 2869, White Face, 3295, Jennet 4th, 2552, Julia 3rd, 1301, Machine Lass 4th, 2010, Duchy 2nd, 2282, Olive 7th, 2443, and Set Head 2nd, 3189, A. P. Ball, Government of New Brunswick.

DUTCH HERD-BOOK.—It is reported that a herd-book of cattle will appear shortly at Utrecht or Amsterdam.

FINE HERD OF CATTLE.—Says the *St. John Telegraph*: A fine lot of 30 head of beef cattle arrived by the Western freight train from the upper Provinces last week. Among them was a bull of extraordinary size. The cattle were consigned to Mr. M. O'Keefe and Mr. P. O'Neil, and were brought over from Carleton.

THE TROTTER HORSE St. Julien, said to be the fastest trotter of his age on the turf, has been sold to Mr. Humphrey, Judge Fullarton's owner, for parties in California, for \$20,000. St. Julien is by Volunteer, dam Claymore. He went on the turf last season, green, and trotted five races, winning all of them, making a record of 2-22½. He was sold two years ago for \$300.

SHORT-HORN HERD BOOK.—The Herd Book for 1876 will show a goodly increase in the number of animals registered. The bulls number 3,490, against 3,000 in last volume, and probably 300 will be added in the supplement to bulls. Supposing the cows to retain their old proportion, the increase in number of registrations will be 15 per cent. at least. This with the ten per cent. increase in price per head, during 1875, makes an encouraging showing for this stock.

SALE OF SHORT-HORNS AT SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—A number of the most noted breeders of Short-horned cattle met at the Leland recently to arrange for a grand union sale of fine cattle at Springfield in May. There were among others Messrs. Kissinger, Spears, Pickrell and Nicholls, all well-known in the business. The exact day is not definitely agreed upon, but if the arrangements are perfected as now proposed the united display of fine cattle will be magnificent, and the sale will be an event of national importance.—*St. Louis Republican*.

SHORT-HORN SALES IN 1875.—While the 65 sales of high-bred Short-horns held in Great Britain in 1875 yielded a total of £228,08 16s. 6d, the 57 sales in America amounted to £204,790 6s. 10d. Each of the American sales amounted, upon an average, to £3593 as against £3509 for each of the English sales; but the advantage does not in reality remain with American breeders, for though eight fewer sales were held there, the number of animals disposed of was within ten of those sold at home. The 2589 Short-horns sold in America averaged £79 each, and the 2599 sold in Great Britain £87 each.—*N. B. Agriculturist*.

SALE OF MR. WOODWARD'S SHORT-HORNS.—The sale of Mr. William Woodward's Short-horns last month was attended by a company which numbered about 200. Mr. Thornton was auctioneer. The catalogue contained the names of seventy animals—fifty-nine cows and heifers and eleven bulls. Considering that the cattle were in poor condition owing to foot-and-mouth disease, and that wretched weather prevailed, fair prices were realized. The highest figure, 100 guineas, was given for Seraphim 2nd, sire, Mr. Woodward's Drummer, the dam descended from the Seraphinas. The Earl of Coventry was one of the principal buyers, eight lots falling to his bids. The average for fifty-nine cows and heifers was £34 15s.; and for eleven bulls £25 15s. 5d.; the total proceeds being £,2336 5s.

### IMPORTATION OF BOOTH SHORT-HORNS FROM AMERICA.

—Five promising heifers of Booth blood have been purchased from the breeder, the Hon. M. H. Cochrane, Compton, Canada, by Mr. A. H. Browne, of Doxford Hall, Northumberland. The animals arrived safely at their English home the other week, and cost, it is reported, 3,500 guineas. They consist of a roan heifer rising three years old, by Booth's Lieutenant-General (31600), from Mr. Torr's Flower tribe; roan heifer, nearly two years old, by Royal Commander (29857), from Mr. Torr's Bright royal family, which brought such prices at the late Aylesby sale; roan heifer, one year old, by Royal Commander, from the Cilleby Hecuba tribe; red heifer, one year old, by Royal Commander, from Mr. Booth's celebrated Vesper family; white heifer, one year old, by Royal Commander, from the Killerby Georgie tribe.—*North British Agriculturist*.

THE LATE GREAT SALE OF Short-horns in Australia, the Mount Derrimat herd, 47 head for £27,000, the largest average on record for a herd sold privately, is thus summed up. The herd just sold consisted of five distinct lines, related, of course, in the nearer generations, through the sires, but differing in origin. They may be classed as Roses, Rosas, Matildas, April Flowers and Summertons. Exclusive of the ten newly dropped calves, which belong to some or all of these lines, the 36 females are to be divided in the following numbers:—

- 21 Summertons or Roan Summertons,
- 7 Matildas,
- 3 Roses or Rosas,
- 4 April Flowers,
- 1 Rosa or Rose of Australia.

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The thirty-seventh animal is Oxford Cherry Duke (32016), whose lineage traces down from Col. Cradock's Old Cherry by Pirate and her great grand-daughter, Brandy Cherry, the foundation dam of the Cherry Duchesses.