

when, let us say, the political economist of the year 1900 will compare and build upon past history. I cannot take the blame for any omissions, and I have no doubt some exist

I shall handle the whole subject under the following heads :

A.—The Herds of Ontario.

I.—Breeds :

1. Their localities and numbers.
2. Their origin and present standing.

II.—The characteristics of Breeds.

B.—The Flocks of Ontario.

I.—Breeds : localities, numbers, origin and present standing.

II.—The characteristics of Breeds.

III.—Herds and Flocks unrepresented at Kingston.

C.—Present Position of Ontario, in regard to thoroughbred Cattle and Sheep.

A.—THE HERDS OF ONTARIO.

A Herd, by the practice of most Agricultural Societies, consists of one male and five females. My first pleasant duty is to congratulate the Province on the average number of animals in her herds ; there are as many as 350 herds of pure bred cattle of all classes in all her area, and the average number in each herd is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  cows or cow kind, and exactly three bulls. The first idea here may be a disappointing one as regards the number of herds—only 350 in such a Province as Ontario, with all her age comparatively, her wealth and enterprise. True, we say, and very creditable also, because other countries—according to age and wealth—cannot equal such an exhibit. England, with all her age and gold, is said to possess but 500 breeders of thoroughbred cattle, but no doubt the average number per herd there must be much larger than here. I am prepared to show that were all our farmers up to time in the live stock interest and took advantage of the sources of purity at their own doors, there is material enough to make Ontario what she is not at present—a grower of flesh as much as she ought to be, as well as a grower of grain. The very fact of numbers per herd is evidence of centralization, of non-distribution, and of grain-growing more than beef, I consider ten pure-bred females a very large average over seven different breeds of cattle ; it means that some have fifty and more, and in this item I do not take advantage of the unusual Bow Park circumstance. Our breeders, therefore, are evidently such in *profession*, more than possessing, only one bull and one cow to keep up, their own thorough-breds solely for their own use. In one sense they are ahead of their day : they are practically waiting until their neighbours feel their places their duty, as well as their self-interest. Ontario, then, has no cause to blush for meagre herds or in numbers per herd.