

of the greatest benefit to the city in which it was held.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England holds annual fairs at different points, and they are recognized as the most interesting and valuable of her public enterprises. The St. Louis Fair in this country is largely patronized. On one day last year over 100,000 people were in attendance. The Fair is held annually. The American Agricultural Association is now waiting to ascertain which city will do the most for the encouragement of a fair. Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Chicago and New York are each of them desirous of having it held within their limits. Thus far, Baltimore has offered the best inducements. New York is suggested because of its connections with the Old World. At this point the representatives of all nations would witness it. There is an opportunity for the establishment of a permanent fair here. Wherever it is held, \$100,000 in premiums will be offered, thus insuring the largest and best agricultural and stock exhibition ever held. The Committee on Exhibitions, of which ex-Gov. George A. Crawford of Kansas, who was instrumental in the superior representation of Kansas and Colorado at the Centennial, is Chairman, is ready for immediate action. The other members are Capt. Burnett Landreth, who was Chief of the Agricultural Department at the Centennial; Hon. Thos. A. Galt of Illinois, a leading manufacturer of agricultural implements, ex-Gov. Smythe of New Hampshire, Col. Edward Richardson of Mississippi, the largest cotton planter in the United States, and Col. Robert Beverly, one of the largest stock men and representative agriculturists of Virginia.

An auxiliary committee will be formed of the representatives of the different industries concerned, and of the place in which the fair may be held.

**THE ECHO FARM COMPANY, LITCHFIELD, CONN., OCT., 1881.**—The business of Echo Farm having increased to such an extent as to require more time and attention than Mr. F. Ratchford Starr could give to it, it has been put into a Joint Stock Company, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. *Directors.*—Robert W. Kelly, *President.* F. Ratchford Starr, A. I. Morse; Frank W. Eastman, *Secretary.* Correspondents will please address The Echo Farm Company, Litchfield, Conn.

*Prizes won by Echo Farm Jerseys.*—From many parts of this country, north, south, east, and west, Mr. Starr has, from time to time, received letters informing him that animals sold by him, sired by the Centennial Bull "Litchfield," or the almost equally famous bull "John Rex,"

had won first prizes. The following is an extract from a letter received a few days since by Mr. Starr from Mr. J. B. Wade, Atlanta, Georgia:

"At the International Exposition, Atlanta, November 3rd, I won some valuable premiums. John Rex 6th was at the head of the herd awarded the highest premium \$250. For the best bull one and two years old, \$25, and for the sweepstakes, where I had to compete against all the bulls on the ground, some of them over five years old (although John is only twenty months old) he won \$50. This last I appreciated more than any premium he won, not only from the fact that he beat the field, but having already been awarded two first premiums some judges would under such circumstances be inclined to divide honours.

John was entered for every list wherein he was eligible, and won wherever he was entered. He is an exceedingly handsome animal."

John Rex 6th, No. 4579, was sold by Mr. Starr to Judge John L. Hopkins, of Atlanta, and by him sold to Mr. Wade. Mr. John D. Wing, President of the American Jersey Cattle Club, is now the owner of John Rex, having purchased him at Mr. Starr's auction sale at Hartford, last summer.

#### CATTLE FEEDING.—A FULL REPORT OF LECTURE BY PROF. BROWN.

(From the Markham Economist.)

A most interesting and well attended meeting of the Farmers' Club was held at the Franklin House, Markham, Ontario, on Tuesday, the 6th December. Notwithstanding the wretched state of the roads, the large and commodious suite of rooms were filled to their utmost capacity.

Mr. Tran, in a few appropriate remarks, introduced Prof. Brown, Principal of the Agricultural Farm, Guelph, who said:

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

To be invited to talk "cattle" in these days is one of the highest honors a man can receive. It is a subject away above all other animal biography, and second only to man's higher aims. I think he is a poor subject who cannot fall in love with a prime steer and a fattened wether, and necessarily, the men who build such farms of food should command the world's highest respect. It would be easy to take up hours on this subject, and easier for me to use no paper, but the standing of the farmers of this quarter having been told me in time, I have, in due respect to them and myself, committed some thoughts in regular order.

I shall, first of all, rapidly sketch some points of practical importance, and upon which I trust to have some discussion, leaving my proof figures for subsequent handling.

#### BEEF IN THE STALL.

As a province we are growers of grain, roots and fodder, and therefore should be stall growers of beef. It is very desirable to

know whether, in every respect, we are keeping up to the times in this valuable line of our profession. In every possible advantage being taken of well digested experience as relates to practical details, and of general principles. Do we freely estimate the big day of small things, when so much handling of individual animals can easily turn the column for a debit or a credit? It is not an unknown thing to the most of us that it is the "hanging out" for the half cent. per lb. that makes the difference between the affluent and the needy farmer, and all the difference also between what we give, when we give, how we give, and how long we give food—in the stall. To put the "cart before the horse" in this story, I wish, first of all, to make the distinct announcement to you and the province that, if a cost value,—not even a market value, which on an average of things is just double the other,—is placed upon any kind of food, usually given in the stall, to fattening cattle, so as to obtain rapid production, there is no profit whatever from the extra weight got by the use of that food. It is a very simple matter of calculation to take a store cattle beast, two and one half years old in October, when it weighs say 1400 lbs., give it for the six following months whatever you like so as to bring it out about 1700 lbs., and the result will always be to profit, as between the cost of the food and the additional weight.

Another phase of the question of beefing is, I think, very weak throughout the province, and it is one that does not accord with one of our distinct national characteristics—the being fast, or smart, or premature. It is very curious to study how much, in some things, new countries are old schools, and conservative, and slow, as if they found it hard to wrench themselves entirely from the parent stock. It is not necessary to step out of the stall to discover this: How many of us believe there is more profit in getting rid of our fattening cattle before three years old than after three years old? Comparatively few, and yet it stands as a distinct fact in our practice. A two-year old, properly handled all along, will always return more money for its time and weight than a three-year old can possibly do. The reason why every man does not follow this early disposal, is simply because there is more care required in breeding; more attention required in keeping up the calf-flesh, and the existence of a false idea that extra weight, under any circumstances, pays best. Yet again, by fattening in the stall many use the argument that as it is unnatural to confine and tie-up, we should counteract as much of this as possible by giving food in the most natural form, that is hay and straw uncut and roots unpulped. I cannot agree with this; I certainly agree that, to the breeding animal, it is best to offer unprepared food, but as all our work in *pre-maturing* for beef is of the most unnatural kind consistent with long life and health, it is better, and more profitable in many ways, to make the high pressure of the most thorough kind. Of course, in this connection, it is obvious that the handling of a small number of animals cannot be so profitable as that which gives full employment to so much machinery and manual labor.

#### EXTRAVAGANT STALL FEEDING.

Once more: I am of opinion that the most of our stall cattle managers are extravagant in their feeding, for the one promi-