

Communications.

To the Editor of the British American Cultivator.

SIR:—In offering you my congratulations on your establishing in this Province, an Agricultural Periodical, I can assure you I am sincere in the expression of my wishes that your undertaking may not only prove useful to those classes of the community but be profitable to yourselves.

The Agricultural papers appear to be in a very flourishing condition on the other side of the St. Lawrence, and judging from a letter which appears in the Albany Cultivator of the present month, I should say that the breeders of stock in the United States have profited by its influence in a degree that is truly astonishing. The letter to which I refer was written by A. B. Allen, Esq. of Buffalo, one of the best practical farmers and most scientific breeders, and one of the most disinterested and unassuming men in the United States, consequently he may be fully relied upon.

Who amongst us poor benighted natives of Great Britain would have supposed it possible that after all the labour and enormous expense which our countrymen have expended upon the improvement of their Stock of every description that they could have been so very soon outstripped by the breeders of the United States; yet such is certainly the case, for Mr. A. B. Allen stakes his reputation as a breeder and his judgment as a man upon the fact that he has got some of the very best animals in the world!!—He also states that there is only one herd of Short Horns in England that could improve those of the United States, and it gives him pain to see Durham's of ordinary quality imported into their country, for they are already so abundant in America that they can be purchased for half the price that they would cost in England, asserting that New York, Ohio and Kentucky alone might show successfully against all England—and this he says is his deliberate judgment! Mr. A. has made the discovery that it is one of the easiest things imaginable to manufacture the Ayrshire breed of cattle out of materials which they already possess in the United States.

What a great pity it is that some of our Scottish friends should have been in such haste in procuring specimens of that pretty breed of cattle! Had they waited until the return of Mr. Allen from his nearly three months stay in Europe they might have availed themselves of his important discovery, and saved all the expense of importation from Scotland, and nearly the first cost of the animal besides.

The most important part of Mr. A's letter is still behind—he states, "For Horses England ought to come to us—she has nothing that can compare with our famous trotters, and our Pennsylvania Dutch Waggon Horses are far preferable to her boasted great cart horses. Our climate and soil especially in the primitive regions is much superior to that of England. To produce this noble animal in perfection we have only to pay a little more attention to this department of stock to soon become large exporters." I am and I think most of my countrymen ought to be very grateful to Mr. A. for this important information; had I not received it from such an indisputable authority I should in my superlative ignorance have yet believed that no land in the world could be more suitable for feeding horses than the salt marshes of England.

There is not a more firm believer in the advantages that may be derived from an Agricultural Press than myself, and I have been a reader of Agricultural papers from my

youth up to the present time; but I certainly had no conception that it was capable in the short time in which it has been established in the United States of working such wonders as the gentlemen from whom I have quoted has described. Only think, the United States at the present moment possesses the very best animals in the world, and will be in a condition shortly to make a profit by largely exporting horses to Europe!!

The breeders of the United States have been placed in this truly enviable position by the untiring exertions of the conductors of the Agricultural Press. The inhabitants of that country are proverbially sharp fellows, and apt to learn; I fear you will find it very difficult to bring us up to their standard. I pray you not to be discouraged, but write boldly—if you wish to succeed you must go straight ahead, a five barred gate or a stone wall must be nothing to you—these are not the days to stop at trifles or doubt what may at first sight appear to be great obstacles.

By the way of illustrating this matter; I would not have presumed to doubt one single statement (wonderful as some of them appear to me) had it not been for the circumstance of the large pig. The owner of the sire of some of those Mr. Allen purchased told him that it might be made to weigh easily seventeen hundred pounds. Mr. Allen doubted his judgment, and states that he would not weigh more than thirteen hundred pounds. Now judges will differ in opinion; but to vary so much in the weight of a pig is extraordinary. A third person may pass judgement and he may deduct four hundred pounds from Mr. Allen's estimate, and a fourth person may deduct two hundred pounds more; those three deducts amounting to one thousand pounds, which is certainly no trifle to take from the weight of a pig; but as they still allow him to weigh seven hundred pounds I think the owner has no reason to be dissatisfied. In conclusion, I wish you every success with your publication, you may rely upon my steady support, and any influence I may possess to induce others to become subscribers.

Guelph, 20th Nov., 1811.

To the Editor of the British American Cultivator

Guelph, 27th Nov., 1811.

Sir:—As the conductor of an Agricultural Paper you will I presume make a point of attending (either personally or by your agents) the exhibitions of the Agricultural Societies, for the purpose of making your reports thereon, but as it can be scarcely expected that you have been able during your short career to perfect your arrangements for that purpose, you will probably not refuse the following from

Your obedient servant,

JOHN HARLAND,

Secretary W. D. A. S.

For the British American Cultivator.

The Agricultural Society of the newly created district of Wellington held their first public exhibition of stock at Guelph on the 13th October, and as it was anticipated that some animals of rare excellence would be shewn it created great interest. The Society were much indebted to the politeness of the Rev. Mr. Wodstal for allowing them the use of his yard, in which proper arrangements were made for the accommodation of the Stock. Three gentlemen from the neighbouring District of Gore kindly officiated as judges on the occasion, and by the general satisfaction which they gave proved themselves fully adequate to the performance of the arduous duty which were imposed upon them. The stock began to arrive at an early

hour in the morning, but not too early to escape the criticisms of a large concourse of the good people of the town, who had assembled, for the purpose of passing their judgment upon each animal previous to its entering the yard. There were but three Stallion Horses exhibited, but the show of Mares was large and the majority of them were fine animals. The fine herd of short horned cattle brought forward by Mr. Howett was justly admired; the judges particularly eulogized a four years old Heifer and two Bull Calves. A Devonshire Cow the property of Mr. Jackson was a great favorite with the multitude, and she is undoubtedly a fine specimen of her kind. The young cattle (both Bulls and Heifers) fully demonstrated the great benefit which breeders may derive from putting their Canadian Cows to short horned Bulls. The working oxen were highly creditable to their owners both as regarded quality and condition.—A pair of oxen exhibited by Mr. Peters were extraordinary fat. The exhibition of sheep was large. The Lecesters produced by Mr. Jackson were very fine, as also were the South Downs produced by Messrs. Howitt, Hewat and Budd.—The Grade Leicester were beautiful animals, those exhibited by W. Thompson, Esq. were particularly so, in fact there was not a bad sheep on the ground. The pigs consisted principally of the Yorkshire and Berkshire breeds, and were all good ones; but the boar and sow of the Yorkshire breed exhibited by the Messrs. Harland were extraordinary animals and decidedly superior to any of their competitors. A list of the premiums is given below.

For the best Stallion for agricultural purposes, Mr. Parkinson's Young Muzzleppa,	£2 10
For the best Mare for agricultural purposes, Mr. Jackson's Lucy,	2 10
Second best Mare, Mr. W. Quarry's Durling,	1 5
The best Filly Foal, Mr. S. Owen's, by Prince Albert,	1 0
Imported Bull, Mr. Howitt's Comet,	2 10
Imported Cow, Mr. Howitt's Strawberry,	2 10
Bull not being thorough bred, Mr. Armstrong's Brick, by Adonis,	2 0
Cow not being thorough bred, Mr. Parkinson's Fill Paul,	1 10
Two years old Heifer not thorough bred, Mr. Ambrose's Lovely by Adonis,	1 0
One year old Heifer not thorough bred, Mr. Howitt's Miss Dyson,	1 0
Yoke of Oxen, Mr. Hilton's £2 10, Mr. Parkers' £1,	3 10
Leicester Ram, Mr. Broadfoot's (bred by Mr. Jackson),	2 0
Pair of Imported Leicester Ewes, Mr. Jackson's,	1 10
Imported South Down Ram, Mr. Howitt's,	2 0
Pair of Imported South Down Ewes, Mr. Howitt's,	1 10
Three Cows not thorough bred, Mr. Thompson's,	1
Imported Boar, Messrs. J & C. A. Harland's, Yorkshire Boar, Wamba,	2 0
Imported Sow, Messrs. J. & E. A. Harland's, Yorkshire Sow, Purity,	1 10
Sow not thorough bred, Mr. J. Horning's Susan,	0 10

For raising the greatest number of Lambs in proportion to his stock of Ewes, Mr. Wm. Elliott received £ 2 10, he having raised nineteen Lambs from fourteen Ewes.