

EDITORIAL.

A Motto for 1896.

Our Scottish correspondent, with a trenchant pen, reviews in this issue of the *ADVOCATE* the present situation of agriculture in the Old Land. The only hope of the British farmer, he concludes, is to produce the best, for the foreigner, he admits, can beat him on his own ground in the "medium qualities." In the latter domain the competition is tremendous, cutting away his hope of profit. The idea of protecting the British farmer by a "tax on corn" he regards as an "idle dream," though the live stock embargo has a protective element in it. Is there no lesson for us, as farmers on this side of the Atlantic, as producers, in his advice? Are we to join the great "general average," or to take rank with "the best?" What shall be our purpose and aim for 1896. In every department of agriculture throughout this broad Dominion, let our motto be THE BEST! We commend to the earnest attention of our readers everywhere the thoughtful and sagacious counsel contributed elsewhere by the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, in his cheering Christmas greeting to farmers and breeders.

For our own part, we can select no better motto, and in attaining this high standard, we request a continuance of the generous support of all our patrons in the future. To our subscribers, advertisers, and able contributing staff, who have aided us so well in promoting the usefulness and success of the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE*, we return our best thanks and extend our best wishes for 1896.

Christmas Greetings to the Agriculturists of Canada.

BY THE HON. JOHN DRYDEN.

Coming to the close of 1895 and looking backward, I have only expressions of gratification at the achievements of Canadian farmers. The farmers of Canada are not without numerous obstacles and discouragements in the prosecution of their calling, yet in the midst of all these I am proud to say that they are still holding the advanced position they have gained in the preparation of some of their products, and slowly but surely advancing in reference to others.

Canadian agriculture is yet in its youth, and yet some of its products have become notorious the world over. Who has not heard of "Manitoba hard" wheat?—excelled by none for quality in any market. Canadian cheese has found the highest place in the English market, and still holds it against all comers. Canadian butter shows continued indication of improved quality, and, consequently, increasing price on the English market. Canadian mutton is still advertised by the butchers of New York City as the best on the market. Our sheep won the first place in competition with the United States at the great show in New York a few weeks ago; our horses and our poultry always meet with similar success when presented under similar circumstances. Our Canadian apples are gaining attention in England, and already command the very highest prices. These are all encouraging things, and ought to stimulate loyalty for our country and give us hope for the future. Undoubtedly our climate and our soil are of such a character as to give us an important advantage. What our farmers need is to give constant attention to the latest methods, to seize information when presented from any quarter, and to keep before them the very highest ideals in every line of production. Canada can excel in agricultural products, therefore I would that the sentiment of every farmer should be, Canada must excel.

To reach an enviable position in this regard we must depend upon individual effort. Farmers do not work in a body, as an army, but separately, individually, and alone. May I point out, as they are thus working, that in the future of agriculture more than in the past it will be "the survival of the fittest," which is only another way of saying that the best and the best only is wanted. The time has already come when it does not pay to produce *culls* in anything; let us therefore as one man strive for the highest ideals. In order to reach the highest place four things are necessary; first, *Knowledge*, or how to do it; second, *Skill*—ability to do it; third, *Enthusiasm* in our calling; fourth, *Determination* to do our best towards accomplishing our purpose.

If prices are low the only remedy within reach will be at the lowest cost to increase the quantity and improve the quality. No country in the world has better appliances—educational and otherwise—than are at present in use in this country. If each individual farmer will but take advantage of these, then Canada will not be behind in her agricultural products in the industrial race of the nations.

I believe in a future for the Canadian farmer, and, in sending them my Christmas greetings, I desire them to know that my efforts shall be continued in the direction of throwing light upon their path and making their situation as pleasant as possible.

Toronto, Ont., December 10th.

"Five Young Champions."

The animals composing the group portrayed in our frontispiece, the property of Mr. H. D. Smith, Ingleside Farm, Compton, Que., were winners of the special young herd prize offered by the American Hereford Association at the Montreal Exposition of 1895. The bull in the foreground is the medal bull "Amos of Ingleside" (58488), sire Wildy 15th (40918), dam Amy 3rd (43430) by Anxiety 4th (2947), making a combination of Lord Wilton and Anxiety blood that is hard to equal. But besides these fashionable blood lines, "Amos of Ingleside" possesses an individuality that has gained for him a world-wide reputation. He is a bull that combines scale and quality to an almost perfect degree. As a show bull his record is unbeaten, having won everything before him as a calf in 1894, and this year he has repeated his success by not only winning the first prize as yearling at Sherbrooke, Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa Fairs, but also secured the sweepstake for bull of any age at each of the above fairs. When shown at Toronto this fall he was in the pink of condition and a perfect model of a Hereford bull. His weight was 1,600 lbs.—outweighing the first prize Shorthorn yearling bull by an even 100 lbs. The four heifers in our illustration were all bred at Ingleside Farm, and are an excellent illustration of the high standard that the Ingleside Herefords have attained. The three yearlings are all nicely developed heifers, showing lots of quality and character. The fall fairs clearly demonstrated that there was not much to pick and choose between these three heifers, as at Sherbrooke the first prize was awarded to "Sylvan 2nd of Ingleside" (sire "Pinkham of Ingleside," dam "Cherry 25th" by "Anxiety 4th"). She is the heifer just above the bull in our illustration. At Toronto, the first prize was awarded to "Lady Ingleside" (sire "Pinkham of Ingleside," dam "Lady Tushingham 3rd"), and to show that "Lady Ingleside" is a good one, when it came to the female-any-age class it was a toss-up between her and her mother for the medal; but past honors and years had to be respected; and the medal was awarded to the latter. Again, at the Montreal Fair the order of things was once more changed, and "Sylvan 3rd of Ingleside" (sire "Pinkham of Ingleside," dam "Spot 3rd" by "Anxiety 4th"), the heifer in the lower right-hand corner of our illustration, was here placed above her two stable companions, while afterward, at Ottawa, "Sylvan 2nd" was again placed to the front. The heifer calf in the background is "Jessie of Ingleside" (sire "Young Ingleside," dam "Jessie" by "Magistrate"), a very promising youngster, and first in her class at the leading fairs.

The Ingleside Herefords have steadily worked their way to the front, having this year won both the first and second herd prizes at the above mentioned fairs, and judging from the present appearance of the herd, they have got there to stay. Amongst the promising young bulls for the yearling class next fall are "Amos 2nd of Ingleside," half-brother to the medal bull, and "Lord Ingleside 2nd," out of "Lady Tushingham 3rd," the medal cow.

The Ontario Fat Stock Show.

The twelfth annual "Smithfield" of Canada was held at Guelph, on December 10th, 11th and 12th, under the joint auspices of the Agriculture and Arts, the Sheep and Swine Breeders', the Western Dairymen's Associations, and the Guelph Fat Stock Club. It was held, as for the last few years, in the commodious Victoria Rink, to which has been built, since last year, an extensive addition, in order to accommodate the annually increasing entries and visitors. The Dairy Show, which is in its first year, exceeded the expectations of many, but was no larger than it should have been. The handsome sweepstake trophy given by the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* for the best dairy cow, any pure breed, was captured by Calamity Jane, a Holstein-Friesian, owned by A. & G. Rice, Currie's, Ont. She gave nearly 70 lbs. milk in a day, of good quality. In addition to the Fat Stock and Dairy Show, the Guelph Poultry and Pet Stock Association cast in their lot, and held, in the same spacious structure, perhaps the largest local poultry show ever held in Canada. Although the weather was quite cold and stormy, a much larger amount of gate receipts was taken than in any previous year. The following table shows the number of animals entered, compared with the last two years:—

	1893.	1894.	1895.
Beef cattle.....	51	52	62
Dairy cows.....	—	—	11
Sheep.....	160	288	108
Swine.....	117	169	194
Poultry.....	—	—	1,027

It will be seen that the variation in the number of entries of this and last year has, in some cases, been considerable. The increase in beef cattle

entries added materially to the interest of the show. The quality of all the stock was of a very high order; such a thing as an inferior animal could scarcely be found. While the falling off in sheep and swine is to be regretted, the show cannot be said to have lost anything in quality, as in many instances the winners here were the winners against the best flocks in the United States at New York two weeks previous. Among absent sheep were all Cotswolds and Oxfords, except a few grades of the latter breed.

Successful meetings of the Dominion Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations were separately held, at which officers and auditors and delegates to Fair Board were elected, and expert judges for the various breeds were nominated.

On the evening of Dec. 10th was held in the City Hall a monster meeting under the joint auspices of the associations making up the Fair Board, at which the Hon. John Dryden presided, and opened with a practical and pleasing address. After an address of welcome by Mr. James Innis, M.P. of Guelph, and a reply by Mr. Andrew Patullo, Woodstock, President of Western Dairymen's Association, in his usual pleasing manner, the Dominion Dairy Commissioner, Prof. Jas. W. Robertson, delivered an address on the "Requirements of the British market, with a special reference to our exports of cattle, sheep, swine, and products thereto." The meeting was concluded by a practical demonstration of the economical cooking of meats, by Miss B. Livingston, Superintendent of the Ottawa School of Cookery. Before the audience a tough knuckle of beef was converted into most delicious soup, and the cooking of stews, roasts, etc., was illustrated and clearly explained.

We will report the various Association meetings, and also the Show, fully in our next issue.

The Late Prof. George Lawson.

Professor George Lawson, Ph. D., LL. D., F. I. S., F. R. S. C., for many years Secretary of Agriculture for Nova Scotia, and who died at Halifax on Nov. 11th, was born at Newport, Fifehire, Scotland, Oct. 12, 1827. He was educated at a private school, and after several years of private study and law reading, entered the University of Edinburgh, devoting his attention specially to the natural and physical sciences. For a time he was curator of the herbarium and assistant professor of botany. In 1858 Dr. Lawson accepted the appointment of professor of chemistry and natural history in Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. He left Queen's College in 1863 and accepted the professorship of chemistry and mineralogy in Dalhousie College, Halifax. Soon after his arrival there a board of agriculture was formed by the Provincial Government and he was appointed Secretary, which duties he continued to discharge until 1885 when the board was abolished and its duties assumed directly by the Provincial Government. His services were retained under the new arrangement as Secretary of Agriculture for the Province.

In 1857 Dr. Lawson took the degree of Ph. D. at the University of Gleslen. In 1863 the University of McGill College, Montreal, conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL. D. He was a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and at one time president of the same; fellow of the Botanical and Royal Physical Societies of Edinburgh, and the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland; honorary member of the Edinburgh Geological and Scottish Arboricultural Societies; corresponding member of the Royal Horticultural Society of London, and of the Society of Natural Sciences at Edinburgh; also member of the following: British Association for Advancement of Science, American Association for Advancement of Science, Royal Scottish Society of Arts, Nova Scotia Institute of Natural Science, Nova Scotia Historical Society, Ottawa Naturalist Club, etc., and associate of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers.

Dr. Lawson's contributions to scientific literature have been published chiefly in the *Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh*. They are also to be found in the *Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada* and the *Nova Scotia Institute of Science*. He was a contributor to *Chambers' Edinburgh Journal*, and other periodicals. His literary labors were very great. Independent of articles in reviews, he published 111 papers on botanical and agricultural subjects, all distinctively scientific. The *Transactions of the Nova Scotia Institute of Science* contain 21 papers by him.

Besides all this, Dr. Lawson compiled a large amount of matter of local agricultural interest to the Province of Nova Scotia.

Is the Silo a Success?

We have just received, but not in time for this issue, from one of the foremost farmers in Canada, probably the most remarkable testimony yet published, based on actual experience regarding the silo and corn ensilage. It will appear in our January 1st number. Watch for it.

A Christmas Present.

A year's subscription to the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* would be an excellent Christmas or New Year's gift to one or more friends. If you have a son or young friend just starting farming, present him with a year's paid-up subscription to the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE*, and you will have done him a life-long service.