

we put our boys out to the land as farmers—what then are the chances for them?—In the Dyke land districts, good enough!—I visited Josiah Wood's farm (M. P. for Westmorland) lately. He has a large tract of salt marsh—this gives him manure, with this he raises a large breadth of turnips, those are fed whole to the cattle, the salt hay is fed uncut—thus the expense of attendance is very small, the food eaten is easily raised, and of small commercial value—the salt marsh furnishes the hay year after without requiring any enrichment, all the manure can be used for turnips on the upland; with such advantages farming is easily and profitably carried out with a little grain towards spring the cattle will gain 200 lb. each, live weight in winter, and thus a twelve hundred weight ox bought at \$3.00 per hundred live weight will sell in the spring at \$6.50 per hundred:—\$36—he will sell for \$77—a very fair profit of over \$40 for salt hay, turnips and a little meal. And this is only an illustration of good business capacity taking advantage of the chances offered. . . . We give our fellow Canadians of Ontario the credit of being the most hardheaded and pushing in the Dominion, and they undoubtedly do go-ahead. The provincial government in 1874, established a school of agriculture which in 1880 blossomed out into the Ontario and Agricultural College and Experimental Farm. It will probably astonish my hearers to be told that the farm without any dyked lands, and with apparently about half its area either in stumps, and stony, or else covered with thistles, was bought for \$75,000, and up to the end of 1880 the total cost of the farm, improved and stocked had been over \$198,000. The course of instruction afforded really goes far to educate a lad. Quebec, New Brunswick and P. E. Island, have each established a stock farm, but I am not aware that experiments are undertaken at any of these, nor is, I believe, instruction afforded. Again I ask, "What shall I do with my son?" If I wish to make him a farmer, how is he to earn the principles of his profession in Nova Scotia. He can read, but without guidance his reading will be very desultory. He can experiment, but more than probably he will travel over the road that has been frequently travelled before. Life is very short, a young man cannot well begin experimenting on his own account until he is of age; his energies will weary of this, or his mind will be occupied with other matters, family, social, political at the age say of fifty—hence his life for this purpose extend over thirty years, but it takes a full year to test any experiment in crop raising and from exceptional conditions, it may be necessary to try the same experiment

two or three times before venturing to work it out on a large scale. Thirty years, thirty experiments, contracted as I remark by possible necessary repetition—is it fair to the young man himself, is it fair to the community that he should, however capable, be left to struggle single-handed in such a matter? Is it not the duty of the whole community to shoulder such experiments? and be careful that capable men with the necessary knowledge and of trained powers of observation should undertake such experimental work. The improvement of stock is very important, but improved stocks can be purchased—knowledge and experience can only be acquired in the old-fashioned way, hard work. I believe that it would pay our province well to establish just such a school as the Ontario college at Guelph, even if we spent as much on it—it would afford the most effective answer to the question, 'What shall we do with our sons? Give them a thorough theoretical and practical training as farmers. We should hear less of the supposed necessity that exists for young men to leave our province and go to the United States to earn a living—they would learn that not merely a living, but a competence would be comfortably earned in our own province, and that, although we grumble at our climate, our land will give us as good returns as any in the known world, and our nearness to market gives us advantages possessed by few communities whose land is so readily obtainable and so productive. With half our population living directly by agriculture, and furnishing cheap food for the other half, who can thus enter into competition with other communities in manufacturing industry. It seems unreasonable that only \$12,000 should be expended by the province on agricultural objects. \$6,000 goes as dole in aid to agricultural societies, and \$4,000 to the very desirable object of exhibitions; the control of this expenditure eats up the rest and nothing whatever goes either in experimental work or in agricultural education; objects which I should be inclined to place before any other. I would not attempt to cross the Atlantic in a whaler if I could get a passage in an Allan steamer, but if it was of supreme importance to get across and I could obtain no other chance I should take the whaler. So if we cannot get the Guelph College perhaps we can devise some scheme that may come within our means, and at which the theory could be taught, the methods recommended put in practice and experiments worked out, and the results published for the general benefit and instruction of the cultivators of the soil. We have institutions of learning amongst us, with lecture rooms and appliances—we have professors of natural sciences

attached to these institutions, and in more than one case I believe there is land attached where the practical work might be carried on and the experiments conducted under proper supervision. The professor who undertook the theoretical instruction might reasonably receive a supplement to his salary—from the public funds;—he undertaking to conduct experiments and publish the reports giving full details. The farm superintendent would afford the practical instruction and should likewise receive part of his remuneration from public sources, although his skillful management of the farm should obtain a larger yield than under ordinary management. A heavy outlay would necessarily be required at first for model farm buildings, and friends of the institution, who desire to give it a special technical character, would probably assist in the erection of these. I do not propound this as a perfect scheme—it is merely an expedient to stop a gap, and meets a difficulty until some better machinery can be supplied. Undoubtedly an independent organization would be more satisfactory, but under existing circumstances I see no probability of compassing it.

The resources of this Province, both agricultural and other, are too great for it to remain a Sleepy Hollow much longer. General Fielding's highly trained emigrants, and graduates from Guelph and Colleges organized like it, will pour in and possess the land, and our lads, with a fair general education, but no special technical knowledge will be at a serious disadvantage, and we shall see them crowded out of the land they have the best right to possess. I earnestly press on the men of Nova Scotia, especially the agriculturists, the necessity of standing shoulder to shoulder, and making the matter of agricultural education and experimental farm work their platform; to my mind it dwarfs all other questions that we have before us—the future well being and progress of the province depends on some action to this end being taken—so that the opportunity for practical agricultural education will furnish the reply to the question our fathers are mentally putting to themselves here, as well as in old England—"What shall I do with my son?"

**HERD MANAGEMENT.**—Mr. Housman, in the *Live Stock Journal*, has raised a somewhat curious point. Breeders of Hereford cattle are far more willing to go on using an old bull—which has proved himself a good stock-getter—than are Shorthorn men. This criticism seems to us to involve a serviceable warning. It is a fact that Shorthorn bulls, above 3 years old, do rarely make anything like their real value; and it is another fact