

### The Late James Graham.

It is our painful duty to inform our readers of the decease of a very highly respected and much honored farmer and stock breeder, Mr. James Graham, Springwater Farm, Scugog Island, Ont., who was born in the County of Antrim, Ireland, in 1826, and emigrated to Canada when 20 years of age. Soon afterwards he married Ann, daughter of Mr. William Mundell. He soon settled in Reech Township, where he lived till 1875, when he bought and moved upon the 800-acre Springwater Farm. For several years he was Reeve of Reech, and a member of the County Council. After removing to Scugog, he was for a number of years elected Reeve of that municipality. The deceased always took a prominent part in agricultural societies and the like, and at the time of his death was President of the Scugog Agricultural Society. He was one of the most extensive stock breeders of Ontario, his specialties being Cotswold sheep and Shorthorn cattle. He is not unknown to the readers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, as for several years he was an occasional contributor of highly practical and much appreciated articles. The family consists of Thomas, Orr, James, William, Mrs. J. C. Browne, Port Perry, and Mrs. S. A. Mighton, Woodstock, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

### Obituary.

On May 2nd, at Bapton Manor, Wiltshire, Eng., Mr. Joseph Deane Willis, the elder, died in his 72nd year. A great Shorthorn breeder in his day, he also kept a fine flock of Hampshire sheep on the downs. A noteworthy event in his cattle-breeding history was the purchase of the whole of the Sittyton heifers when the Cruickshank herd was broken up. Without expensive buildings or crack herdsmen, his cattle were brought out from the old thatched barns to the show-ring with a bloom and an even finish that was seldom excelled. His son and successor possesses the same good sense, judgment and skill as a breeder as distinguished the father.

On the same day that Mr. Willis passed away, died also Mr. James Beattie, a well-known character in the vicinity of Dumfries and Carlisle. Galloways and Leicesters were once his hobby, and afterwards Shorthorns, he being partial to Booth blood, hiring bulls from Warlaby. Even at 90 years he would toddle about the yards, stick in hand, but admitting "I canna get about as I used to." It was he who urged his nephew, Simon Beattie, "to trade, laddie, across the ocean," and he began shipments to Canada with some of Syme and Marshall's cattle. Says the British Live Stock Journal:—"For many years shipments were made, which began at last to revolutionize the light-fleshed cattle of Canada. Mr. Simon Beattie eventually became agent to the Hon. M. H. Cochrane, whose extraordinary purchases five-and-twenty years ago gave such a fillip to breeding in Canada and the States, as well as to this country, and the excellent Canadian and American stores now supplying our home market may be said to be the outcome of the good advice given and taken in this little bleak nook on our seashores."

### The "Advocate" Steadily Improving—New Subscribers Pleased.

Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I sent you three names for the ADVOCATE some time ago. You sent me a card, asking me which prize I would take. I never received a prize from any paper, and never thought of one from the ADVOCATE. I have not got any of the papers with the prize list, as I use most of my papers for introducing the ADVOCATE, as a copy is the best aid in canvassing. If I have enough names for the watch, send it; but if not, let me know and I'll try for the right number. The new subscribers I sent are well pleased with the paper. Your paper is doing a grand work, and is improving every year. Our house would be lonesome without it.

Yours truly, JOHN ANDERSON.

Crossland, May 25, 1895.

### Provincial Dairy Show—To be Held at the Town of Gananoque.

At a meeting of the Dairy Show Committee of the Agriculture and Arts Association, held at Gananoque, on Saturday, the 18th instant, the following members were present:—Jonathan Sissons, Barrie, President; W. J. Westington, Plainville; B. Mallory, Frankford; D. P. McKinnon, South Finch; Joshua Legge, Gananoque, and H. Wade, Toronto, Secretary. They met there on invitation of the Town Council, Board of Trade, and County Agricultural Society of that town. It was decided to hold a three-day's exhibition on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of October. Large prizes will be given to the dairy breeds of cattle, for cheese, butter, and dairy appliances in operation. Nothing will be spared to make it a great success. This will be the first purely dairy exhibition ever held in Ontario. Premiums for milch cows will be decided by the oil test. Fully \$3,000 will be offered in premiums.

## STOCK.

### The Breeding and Management of Swine.

BY J. C. SNELL.

(Continued from page 196.)

There are a few principal points to be considered in breeding hogs which apply, in a general way, to all classes of stock. One of these—and perhaps the most important—is to secure a strong constitution: without this the best results cannot be attained in breeding or in feeding. This means a wide chest and a large girth, giving room for the vital parts—the heart and lungs—to have free and easy play. This calls for a good spring of ribs and good depth of fore-ribs, good depth of body, giving capacity for working up food; and these give a guarantee of health, of the ability to resist disease, and to overcome disease when attacked.

The inexperienced breeder is apt to attach undue importance to fancy points and non-essentials, such as color, markings, and a pretty face, and to neglect the weightier matters of constitution, symmetry, and feeding qualities. A good head on a hog is desirable, and the head is often an index to the general character of the animal; but when we speak of a good head for a hog, we do not want that of a pug dog. A very short head and heavy jaw generally go with a small class of hogs, with the tendency to produce an excess of fat meat and a minimum of lean meat. Such a hog is apt to go wrong in his breathing apparatus, to become wheezy, and is generally short lived and unprofitable. A long, narrow face, on the other hand, indicates a hard, slow feeder, a restless, discontented disposition, and an unprofitable animal for the farmer to keep. The best type of head is a happy medium—not too long and not too short—a free, open countenance with an intelligent expression, and wide between the eyes and ears. A strong back and loin is always in order, and hams are worth more than heads, so that more attention should be given to the improvement and development of the more valuable parts.

The condition and quality of bone, of feet and legs, in hogs has had too little attention in this country, both in breeding and management. The appearance and usefulness of an otherwise faultless hog are often spoiled by a bad set of legs and feet. It used to be thought that a horse was the only animal on the farm whose feet and legs needed special attention; but the careful breeder of hogs knows that weakness in these points is often an indication of weakness of constitution, and is a serious objection.

Strong but not coarse bone should be sought after, with straight legs and standing straight up on the toes—points that must have weight in the selection of the ideal hog for breeding purposes. This, of course, also depends largely upon the treatment. Confinement upon plank floors is too common in this country, and only exercise upon the ground will keep the feet and legs in the best condition.

With regard to the management of pigs, I would say it depends much upon what the object is. If it be to produce the greatest weight in the shortest time and at the least cost, to secure early maturity, and to market at six to eight months old, it will be necessary to push the pigs from the day of their birth, giving due attention to necessary exercise, and avoiding over-crowding with too rich food, especially in the first few weeks of their life.

If the pigs are to be kept for breeding purposes they will require different treatment. They should have abundant exercise, a chance to run upon a field of grass, or, at least, a large yard, where they can develop muscle and a strong constitution.

Breeding-sows while in pig should not be confined in close quarters, but should be made to take exercise. A host of young pigs are lost in this country every spring—and it is a heavy financial loss to the farmers—from this cause. The sows are, as a rule, too well fed, and lie in their beds too much; the pigs come weak and flabby, and thousands of them—whole litters, in many cases—are born too weak to reach their mother's milk, and come into the world only to gasp and die.

It is a worthy ambition to have a complete pig-gery—roomy and warm and comfortable, and a breeder of pedigreed stock can hardly do without it; but I am fully persuaded that for the best results in breeding, the fancy piggyery should be used mainly for a show-room, and that the pigs should not be kept in it long unless provision is made for their getting out upon the ground frequently, if possible at their own will. For breeding-sows and growing pigs nothing is better than an open pen, or a pen with an open door, and the privilege of running in the barnyard or a large yard or small field.

I think that, as a rule, in this country sows are put to breeding at too young an age, which tends to check their growth, and if continued from generation to generation, tends to degeneration in size, and in strength of constitution. For the best results I think a sow should not have her first litter before she is sixteen or eighteen months old, certainly not before she is a year old.

Fortunately, in this country we have very little trouble from disease in our hogs, and with judicious management we are practically free from disease, which is a strong point in our favor in this line of our business. Attention to cleanliness, to dry sleeping-quarters, and abundant exercise and fresh air, are the requisites to success, and these things are not expensive or difficult to secure.

### The Report of the British Tuberculosis Commission.

After four years and eight months from the time of its appointment, the British Royal Commission on tuberculosis has issued its report. Its duty was "to enquire and report what is the effect, if any, of food derived from tuberculous animals on human health, and if prejudicial, what are the circumstances and conditions with regard to tuberculosis in the animal which produce that effect on man." They have obtained ample evidence that food derived from tuberculous animals can produce tuberculosis in healthy animals, but in the absence of direct experiments, they can only infer that man will so acquire the disease when the food contains active tuberculous matter and is consumed by man in a raw or insufficiently cooked state. The disease is found most frequently in cattle (full grown), and in swine, and with greater frequency in "town cow-houses" than in cattle bred for the express purpose of slaughter. Tuberculous matter is seldom found in the meat substance of the carcass, but principally in the organs, membranes and glands, and if found in the former, is commonly due to contamination of the surface of the meat with other diseased parts. The same matter is found in the milk of cows when the udder has become invaded by tuberculous disease, and seldom, or never, when the udder is not diseased. Provided every part that is the seat of the tuberculous matter be avoided and destroyed, and provided care be taken to save from contamination by such matter the actual meat substance of a tuberculous animal, a great deal of meat from animals affected by tuberculosis may be eaten without risk to the consumer. Tuberculous matter in milk is exceptionally active in its operation upon animals fed either with the milk or dairy produce derived from it. No doubt the largest part of the tuberculosis which man obtains through his food is by means of milk containing tuberculous matter. In most cases tuberculous disease can be detected in the udders of milch cows. The ordinary processes of cooking applied to meat contaminated on the surface are probably sufficient to destroy its harmful quality, but would not render wholesome, meat containing tuberculous matter in its deeper parts. The preference for drinking milk raw is attended by dangers, on account of possible contamination by pathogenic organisms. The boiling of milk, even for a moment, would probably be sufficient to remove the dangerous quality of tuberculous milk. Principal McFadyen, of the Royal Veterinary College, to whom certain specific references were made by the Commission, sums up regarding tuberculin thus: "I have no hesitation in saying that, taking full account of its imperfections, tuberculin is the most valuable means of diagnosis in tuberculosis that we possess." The report does not go much further than that. The Commissioners say they understand that since the time of Mr. McFadyen's experiments, the method of using tuberculin as a test has been much improved, and that it is now regarded as affording more trustworthy indications for diagnosis. It must, in view of this cautious estimate, be regarded as very doubtful whether any government, on the basis of this finding, would feel warranted in making the tuberculin test the basis of a contract between the farmer and the butcher.

The enquiry of the Commission did not extend to any possible legislative or administrative procedure for reducing the amount of tuberculous material in animal food supplied to man.

### Selecting Breeding Pigs.

In selecting pigs for breeding purposes, whether male or female, it is important to choose them from among large litters that have been well suckled. Youatt, in his valuable work on sheep, written many years ago, says: "No fact can be more clearly established than an hereditary tendency to fecundity." This, although a well-known fact, is very much lost sight of—not only by farmers generally, but by breeders,—and while certain breeds of swine are noted for their prolificness, other breeds could probably be made equally prolific if closer attention were paid to this well-established law of nature by those who handle them.

The milking qualities of the sow (which, by the way, are just as hereditary as in the dairy breeds of cattle) are also a very important point frequently overlooked; for no matter how large litters a sow may produce, it is of no benefit unless she can suckle them well. The udder should extend well up to the fore legs, and there must be enough paps to nurse a large litter. The question of whether the pig is to return a profit or a loss is largely decided during the few weeks that he draws his sustenance from the maternal founts. In this connection an exchange says: "Many dairy cows of strong milking inheritance, and that have been properly fed up to the milking period, are spoiled by bungling milkers. There is no danger of spoiling a brood sow. The pig, before he is an hour old, has mastered the science of milking, and has acquired greater proficiency than the most skilful dairyman. That organized appetite which we call the young pig is thorough master of all the instructions ever given on the subject of milking. He milks quickly, thoroughly, and gently, except when his rights are disputed."

When you have a brood sow that is prolific, a heavy milker, and a good, gentle mother, don't make pork of her and put some untried young sow in her place, just because she is getting big and would make a lot of pork.