

**Our Frontispiece.**

It is with pleasure that we present on our first page a portrait of a group of prize-winners from the "Ontario Central Herd" of Imported Chester White and Duroc-Jersey swine, owned and bred by Messrs. Wm. Butler & Son, of Dereham Centre, Ont. Our artist deserves great credit for the life-like way in which he has portrayed these animals; nor has he flattered them in the least. They were in exhibition condition when the photographs were taken. Dereham Centre, in the township of that name (Oxford Co.), lies between the towns of Ingersoll and Tilsonburg, thereby giving good connection with the leading railways. Their farm, adjoining the village, comprises over two hundred acres of extra good land. The whole section is well adapted for dairying, which is extensively carried on, and closely associated with dairying is swine breeding. A large dairy barn, in the form of a T, with "the new addition," which is in progress of construction, is 126x42 and 150x40, with underground stables to accommodate seventy-five head of cattle, besides room for horses and calves. Mr. Butler advocates clover ensilage, and has several acres of Lucerne clover sown for that purpose, also for soiling, so as to stable the cows in hot, dry weather, when flies are bad. The buildings are well equipped with machinery—a good engine, running plate and roller mill, corn-sheller, threshing machine, cutting-boxes, and for other work. The writer also saw some nice young Ayrshire and Guernsey cattle, the latter being the favorites, owing to Messrs. Butler & Son being engaged in butter dairying. Their creamery, 50x20 feet, contains everything necessary for the production of a first-class article. The machinery in use was a 6-horse power boiler, 4-horse power engine, which runs the De Laval separator, churn, and butter-worker. The skim milk is carried immediately from the creamery through iron pipes to the pig pens. The pens are 36x40, concrete walls, upper story being for straw and meal. The south side of lower story has double glass windows, making it very comfortable for early litters. Steam is supplied from the large boiler for cooking feed and heating water. Water is supplied to all the buildings by pipes from large windmill tank.

Messrs. Butler have been breeding the Ohio Improved Chester Whites for the past eight years, importing the best to be obtained; also carefully selecting until they have now a large herd of good standard quality.

During the past two years they have also been breeding the Duroc-Jerseys. Before commencing breeding the latter, they bought some grades for fattening, and being impressed with their easy feeding qualities, rapid gaining, and quietness, they decided to breed them as thoroughbreds. They made several selections from Canadian breeders, obtaining a good herd. A pair was purchased from Mr. Bennet's prize-winning stock at Chicago; also several other selections since the exhibition last fall, and at the present time they have a very fine herd, all in good condition, especially the fat pigs. They won at the Toronto Industrial the sweepstakes for best herd; second on boar and sow under six months; second for sow under one year; first for boar under year; first for aged sow.

Referring now to our illustration: Ontario's Beauty (115) was bred by Messrs. Butler & Son, the sire and dam—Prince Alexander 3rd and Lady Tillman—being both imported. She is represented in the left lower corner, and she is a sow of immense size (weight, 720 lbs., when shown as a yearling last fall)—straight, very long, broad, well-rounded back; deep, broad and square hams, smooth shoulder, deep sides, small head, and drooping ears, making up a sow difficult indeed to surpass in the show ring. That famous breeder, Mr. S. H. Todd, judge at the Toronto Industrial, said that she was the best sow he knew of in America of the breed. Not only is she a show sow, but also a breeder, having farrowed two litters of twenty-three pigs, and raising them all. She stood as straight on her feet as the day she was born. The following were her winnings during the past year at Toronto Industrial:—First for sow under two years old; first for sow and four of produce, and first in sweepstake class for best boar and two sows; first in aged class at London; first in aged classe at Ottawa, and first for diploma at Ottawa, thus competing six times successfully for red tickets. She has not received a blue one. Dereham Belle, No. (536), was imported by them, and bred by F. A. Branch, Medina, O. She is full sister to the yearling sow which won first and sweepstakes in Chicago; also sired by a boar which won first in Ohio and Illinois State Fairs. She is a sow of extra quality, her only fault being that she is not quite lengthy enough. She won first in the class under one year in Toronto, also sweepstakes. Rustler 115, the large pig in the right background of our illustration, was imported, being bred by Willis Whitney, Winona. He was eleven months old when shown last fall, and weighed 550 lbs. He won first for boar under one year at Toronto, London, and Ottawa; also shown in sweepstake class, beating the aged sweepstake boar of the previous year. He has every indication of making a useful sire, and is the stamp which will produce stock now in demand by pork-packers. The young boar is one of Ontario's Beauty's last litter, farrowed March 7th, 1894, shown in the class under six months, winning first at Toronto, London, and Ottawa. He was sired by an imported boar, bred by S. H. Todd. Luck of

space prevents allusion to other meritorious members of this herd. This herd, as already indicated, was very successful at the shows last fall, and it was their first year out. They competed for ten firsts in Chester White class, winning eight of them. Last fall they disposed of everything they had for sale, and for that reason were compelled to discontinue their advertisement at that time. They sent stock to all parts of the Dominion; also some to the U. S.; and their fall pigs are in extra good condition. They have about one hundred fine spring pigs. The prospects are that this herd will make as good a record the coming season as it did in 1894.

**United States Regulations re Importing Stock.**

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, under a date of February 7th, issued fresh regulations (which embody several heretofore existing) for the inspection and quarantine of cattle, sheep, and other ruminants, and swine imported into that country. The Atlantic ports named are Boston, New York, and Baltimore, and on the United States-Canadian boundary line the customs ports in the collection districts of Aroostook, Bangor, Me.; Vermont, Vt.; Buffalo Creek, Niagara and Oswegatchie, N. Y.; Detroit and Port Huron, Mich.; Minnesota, Minn.; Puget Sound, Washington, San Diego on the Pacific Coast, and several points on the Mexican border. All cattle, sheep, and other ruminants imported into the United States from any port of the world shall be accompanied by a certificate from the local authority of the district where they have been for the year preceding shipment, stating that no pleuro-pneumonia, foot and mouth disease, or rinder-pest has existed there for the past year, and a similar certificate for swine, regarding foot and mouth disease, like cholera and erysipelas. They also must be accompanied by an affidavit from the seller, stating that they had been in the district for one year prior to the sale, and that none of the diseases named have existed among them, or animals with which they have come in contact, and that no inoculation has been practiced among them for the past two years. Also by an affidavit from the importer, or his agent in charge of the shipment, that they have not passed through infected districts, and that they have been shipped in clean, disinfected cars and vessels. The certificates and affidavits must accompany the animals and be presented to the Customs Collector, and by him given to the Inspector for the Bureau of Animal Industry. Stringent inspection regulations are also continued.

The ninety-day quarantine for cattle from any port of the world, excepting from Mexico, Central and South America, and fifteen days for sheep and swine, except from North, Central and South America, continues. The prospective importer of animals, except North, Central or South America, or all cattle from the Dominion of Canada, is required to get certificates from the United States Secretary of Agriculture—one as to the number, and kind of animal to be shipped, and the port and probable date of shipment, and the other as to the port of landing, etc.

Cattle and sheep from Canada, for export from the United States, may now be entered at the ports of Island Pond and Becher Falls, Vt., in bond from Portland, Me., for export from the latter port only, provided they are accompanied by the health certificate and affidavits referred to above; the railway companies to provide suitable pens at the port of entry for unloading and inspection.

**Abolishing the Agriculture and Arts Association.**

A bill has been introduced in the Ontario Legislature according to which the Ontario Agriculture and Arts Association and its Council will cease to exist on January 1st next; all its property and effects, real and personal, to become vested in the Crown, for the public uses of the Province. The keeping of registers of pure-bred stock is transferred from this Council of the A. and A. to the various associations, as bodies heretofore engaged in such work conjointly with this Council; but the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may from time to time appoint a person, or persons, on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, to assist in such registration; his salary to be payable out of the Government grant for agriculture. The method of keeping the registers, the issuing of the herd and stud books, and the responsibility for the pedigrees will rest with the breeders themselves entirely, as is the case in the United States.

The new act makes the method of organizing all agricultural societies uniform. Following is a list of the organizations to be bodies corporate under it: Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, Entomological Society, Eastern and Western Dairymen's Association, Ontario Creameries Association, Ontario Poultry Association, Eastern Ontario Poultry and Pet Stock Association, Bee-keepers' Association, Agricultural and Experimental Union, Sheep Breeders' Association, and Swine Breeders' Association, the membership of each being not less than fifty, each paying not less than \$1.00 as an annual membership fee.

Hereafter the Minister of Agriculture is to appoint an auditor to audit the accounts of all the associations, to report to the associations, and also to the Minister.

Poultry Associations will not receive a grant if they hold a show two years successively in the same place.

**The Dominion Grange.**

At the recent annual meeting of the Dominion Grange, held in Toronto, it was decided that no amalgamation with the Patrons could, at present, take place. A Patron delegation was present to convey fraternal greetings to the members of the Grange, and discuss matters of common interest. Master Dawson Kennedy said the Grange owned many halls and considerable property throughout the country, and while its membership is not large, it is increasing. While the Grange puts up no candidates in the political field, its members can be depended upon to support farmers against professional men, and always stand by the Patron candidates.

The Agricultural Committee's report, in referring to the action of the Dominion Government, commended the work which was being done by Prof. Robertson, in placing the product of our creameries on the English market for experiment during two months of this season, in the best condition possible, and under favorable circumstances. The Government was urged to arrange for better transportation service.

The following recommendations were endorsed by the Grange:—That the tariff be reduced to a revenue basis, and that bonusing any industry at the expense of the country be done away with. They disapprove of the subsidizing of a line of steamships to Australia, as the products of that country are very similar to those produced in Canada, and at a much less cost. They consider that the Franchise Act of the Dominion is more cumbersome and expensive than is necessary. The Committee also expressed the belief that a considerable portion of the Provincial grant to the Agriculture and Arts Society and Central Farmers' Institute might be better employed in assisting Local Institutes, and aiding the agricultural interests generally. This, it will be remembered, is the ground the FARMER'S ADVOCATE took in a recent issue.

The officers elected for the coming year were: Worthy Master, Dawson Kennedy, Peterboro, re-elected; Secretary, R. Wilkie, Blenheim, re-elected; Overseer, George E. Fisher, Freeman; Treasurer, P. Hepinstall, Fordwich, re-elected; Lecturer, W. F. W. Fisher, Burlington; Chaplain, J. M. Syne, Dalston; Steward, Samuel Elder, Banda; Assistant Steward, P. McDuffe, Omagh; Gate-keeper, Lyman Henry, Sombra, re-elected; Executive, Henry Glendenning, Manilla; Jabel Robinson, Middlemarch; Auditors, J. Fallis, Newbridge; R. R. Mowbray, Kinsale.

It was decided that the Grange should meet in London next year.

**The Great Horse Show.**

All the leading horsemen throughout Canada and the United States are now turning their eyes towards the Canadian Horse Show in the new Armories, Toronto, on April 18, 19 and 20, for which all arrangements are well forward. It promises to eclipse anything of an equine or social nature ever attempted in Canada heretofore. A large party is coming over in special cars from New York and other U. S. points. As we stated in last issue, the prize list now amounts to some \$5,000, several important additions having been made lately. Write Mr. Henry Wade, 12 Elm street, Toronto, for any information desired.

**The Price of Salt in Car Lots.**

In an article on "The Use of Salt," in our last issue, Mr. Coleman (T. T. Coleman estate), Seaford, Ont., was quoted as saying the price per ton, in car-load lots of fifteen tons, F. O. B. cars, at the works was \$5 per ton, whereas \$2.50 was the figure intended.

The appropriation for the services and travelling expenses of lecturers at Farmers' Institutes (including the new Superintendent, Mr. F. W. Hodson, formerly of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE) is placed in the Ontario estimates this year at \$5,000, an increase of \$2,000, further steps being taken to improve the system. There is also an item of \$1,000 for the expenses of Agricultural College professors attending Farmers' Institutes, conventions, etc. We note that the vote of \$800 for the Central Farmers' Institute has been dropped, Hon. Mr. Dryden, the Minister of Agriculture, expressing in the House what has been frequently pointed out in these columns and elsewhere, viz., that its existence and work in the past could not be justified on the grounds of utility.

An Eastern Ontario reader writes us as follows: "Would you please use your influence to get the names taken off the entry tickets at the Toronto Industrial Fair, and let the grain get the prize, and not the man. I was at the Fair last year with grain and did not receive anything; I exhibited at Ottawa against the same grain, and received first, the other second; because it was the grain that was judged at Ottawa, and not the man."