

## EDITORIAL.

Fruit trees may be planted until they start into growth. Pruning may be done even after that time, as it is better to prune late than not at all. All dead wood should be removed, as it only causes decay and death among the healthy branches. If trees show signs of becoming stunted, a good dressing of manure on the surface over the roots will be serviceable. Currants and gooseberries are greatly benefited by a coating of manure worked into the surface soil.

Many of the old apple-orchards of Canada are dying out, and should be replaced by new ones. Many farms are practically without orchards, or, at all events, the output is so limited and so inferior in quality as to hardly merit the name "fruit growing." Farmers will make no mistake in setting out on a well-chosen, well-prepared site a new orchard. Procure the young trees from a reliable nurseryman, choose well-tried sorts adapted to the locality, let them be mostly winter fruit, and do not select more than three or four varieties. Do not delay the planting, for it will be several years before the orchard comes into bearing.

At the recent annual meeting of the Dumbarton (Scotland) Agricultural Society one speaker mentioned the fact that while the week previous "the best home-grown hay was selling in Glasgow at 60 shillings," "which," remarks a contemporary, "not unnaturally disconcerted the dairy farmer, who was fond enough of cheap feeding stuffs, but had a good deal of hay to sell. The truth is, farmers here have rather undervalued Canadian hay, but, as a matter of fact, it is equal, if not superior, to almost every kind of hay grown in this country, except the very best products of the Carse farms."

Our live stock market reports are becoming decidedly more cheering reading for the feeders, though the long delay in the up-turn of prices has been, we must say, rather surprising. Choice beef cattle have been selling in Chicago at \$6.00, compared with \$4.50 a year ago; hogs, \$5.42, compared with \$4.95; lambs, \$6.00, compared with \$5.75; and sheep about the same. Cattle and hogs have been moving up in this country also, as would naturally be expected, though Canadian prices, at corresponding dates, have dragged along considerably lower than in the States. It is encouraging to note the reference to sales in Chicago of good driving horses at from \$225 to \$1,000 each.

## Meeting Foreign Competition.

The Scottish Farmer has been giving its readers some very plain-spoken advice on the subject of meeting competition from America. Reference was made to the competition which recently resulted in the best Polled cattle being sold in Glasgow market at from 3s. to 4s. less per cwt. than the American bullocks were making at Yorkhill.

"The butchers not unnaturally complain that while farmers grumble at the low prices ruling for prime fat Scotch cattle, they make no attempt to meet the changing circumstances of the time by sending a regular and steady supply into the market all the year round. The consumers eat beef all the year round, but the British farmer feeds his cattle as if butcher meat were only eaten during a few months of winter. From May to September, it was urged, a Scotch bullock fit for killing could hardly be got in the Glasgow market, and, consequently, the butchers had to go elsewhere for supplies. When the farmer has made his cattle fat, and sends them to such a market as Glasgow, the butchers have got into the way of going to Yorkhill, and they are bidding against each other there, while the home-bred cattle are being sold dirt cheap in the market. Bemoaning low prices will not help the farmer when he feeds his cattle in this irrational way, throwing them on the market all in a lump. The only way in which foreign competition can be met is by producing the best article, and doing so in a regular, uniform way, so that the customers will not be under any temptation to remove their patronage to another shop. The man who can obtain 1s. 5d. per pound for fresh butter can laugh at Danish products; and had many of the good butter-makers around Glasgow stuck to that form of dairying, and left the sweet milk trade to those who are not butter-makers, Danish butter would never have gained such a foothold in Scotland as it now enjoys. The truth must never be forgotten, that there is plenty of room at the top. Produce the best; regulate the supply to the demand; agitate for the abolition of preferential carrying rates; let every article, whether home-grown or foreign, be sold under its own name—these methods may not draw the sting of American competition, but they will mitigate the keenness of the conflict."

## Our Illustration.

On the title page of this issue appears a portrait of the celebrated German Coach Stallion, Ludwig No. 1452, the property of Mr. George Cockburn, Baltimore, Ont., bred by Mr. D. Greebe Nevenbrok, Arnst, Elsfleth, Germany. This popular horse was foaled in 1889, sired by August No. 1140, by Ardo No. 1000, dam Piquedame No. 944, by Emigrant No. 925. He is a handsome dark bay, with black points, standing 16½ hands high; beautiful, neat, clean head, with prominent, bright eyes; long, handsomely arched neck, full chest, strong and oblique shoulder, short back, and very strong over the loins, well put-on tail, with plump and smooth quarters and thighs; clean, well-muscled limbs, good feet, and broad heels. He shows great knee action, and moves with grace that always wins the admiration of everybody. As a colt, he was a prize-winner in Germany, also at the World's Fair, and at the St. Louis Fair he took first prize over all Coach stallions, and first in the all purpose ring, defeating the horses from Kentucky and adjoining States—the first time in twenty-two years a stallion won such honors that did not go all the gaits, that prize nearly always going to Kentucky horses. Since Mr. Cockburn purchased him he exhibited him at the Industrial, Toronto, last fall, and secured first prize, and also in New York, December last, he was successful in carrying off first honors. We hope to see him at the Spring Stallion Show, Toronto, this week.

Mr. Cockburn has been a breeder of Clydesdales for a number of years. At present he has two stallions, several brood mares, and a number of promising young things. Abbot of Renwick (5474), [575], is a compactly built horse; when fitted would weigh about 2,000 pounds. He has a good set of muscular, clean legs, well feathered, with good feet and pasterns, a prominent eye, and fine disposition. He was foaled May, 1884, being imported in 1887 by R. Beith & Son, Bowmanville. He was bred by Geo. C. Symington, Kirkcarswell, Kirkcubright; sire, Belted Kniget (1395); dam, Kirkcarswell Trim (413).

Gay Prince [5796], was bred by Mr. John Ralston, Millmain, Stranraer; sired by Prince Edward 1254, dam Lady Wildflower 4974. He is a low-set fellow, with clean legs, well muscled, good feet, excellent chest, and a good stock getter.

## Agriculture in New Brunswick.

The New Brunswick Government report on agriculture for 1894 indicates that that Province is paying more attention to dairying than any other branch of farming. Importations of thoroughbred dairy sires have done much to improve the milking herds. It is within the last few years that the farmers of that Province are finding out the value of corn for fall and winter feeding. Agricultural societies seem to be holding their own through the dull times. Says the Secretary, Julius L. Inches: "We would like to see a little more healthy rivalry among the agriculturists of the Province, especially with the breeders and dairymen. What can adorn a farm more beautifully than a herd of well-bred cattle? As a rule the well-bred ones are the well-fed ones, and, consequently, those are the most profitable to keep."

The dairy associations have been well-sustained wherever organized, but yet there are many districts without organizations, which, no doubt, will fall into line in the near future. The Provincial Dairy Commissioner, Mr. John Robertson, formerly of London, Ont., is doing faithful and successful work in assisting the industry along the best lines. The travelling dairy, under the management of Mr. Alward, of Fredericton, visited many districts, giving lessons on home dairying, corn growing, etc. The cereal and root crops were a fair average, being best where best looked after.

The cultivation of apples is increasing rapidly from year to year, which, it is expected, will continue, as the country seems well adapted to their production. Until within the last few years little attention was paid to proper varieties and care of the trees, but now increased knowledge is directing effort along more advanced lines. Small fruit cultivation is receiving more attention than formerly. Owing to the low price of beef in recent years, few farmers devote their attention to the breeding of beef cattle. Shorthorns and Polled-Angus are the breeds most in use for beef production. In dairy breeds, Jerseys, Holsteins, and Ayrshires seem to be about equally popular.

Although New Brunswick is well adapted to sheep raising, the very low price of mutton hinders the development of large flocks.

Swine being such an important adjunct to the dairy, hog raising has made rapid strides in the last few years, which, too, is largely aided by the ease with which corn, oats, buckwheat, and potatoes can be grown.

## Agriculture in Nova Scotia.

The report of the Secretary of Agriculture, Geo. Lawson, LL. D., Nova Scotia, shows that the season of 1894 was fairly good for farmers. Although spring seeding was a little late, and the summer's rainfall phenomenally small, the few showers that came kept the crops progressing until about July, when pastures became so parched that supplementary feeding had to be given the stock, which is causing a shortage in feed this spring.

The crops of the Provincial Farm, at Truro, under the management of Mr. F. L. Fuller, taken as a whole, were very good; but late grains, such as corn, buckwheat, and beans, suffered to some extent from the early frosts. Of oats, five varieties averaged 36 bushels per acre; barley, about 20; buckwheat, 16; potatoes, about 175; mangels, 800. Silage corn—Angel of Midnight, Long Yellow, Pearce's Prolific, Pride of the North, give about 10 tons per acre. Turnips, carrots, parsnips, and beets gave good returns.

Nova Scotia has eighty-nine Agricultural societies, all of which have condensed reports given in the above report. Many of these societies own syndicate pure-bred stock sires. Some of them take Agricultural periodicals conjointly; they also buy their seed grain in some instances in the same manner. Some support exhibitions; others have learned that fewer and larger shows are more beneficial. An effort is being made in some societies to advance the interests of the Provincial show, making it of more general benefit to the lesser farmers. Legislative grants to these societies are generally utilized in purchasing thoroughbred stock, which is greatly improving the stock of the country.

The Provincial Legislature, in February, 1894, passed an Act to encourage the establishment of joint butter and cheese factories, by allowing them, under specified regulations, a grant of \$200 the first year in operation, and \$100 for each of the two succeeding years. Butter alone may be made the first year, but after that both butter and cheese, in reasonable proportions at suitable seasons. Last year fifteen applications for recognition were sanctioned by the Government, twelve sets of by-laws were approved, and ten \$200 grants paid.

The report of the Provincial School of Agriculture, at Truro, under Prof. H. W. Smith, shows that 42 students registered last year, the average attendance being for five months. One hundred and twenty-five Normal students received regular instruction also. Six local Agricultural schools were in operation last year. Of the 300 students, 188 received special agricultural instruction, making a total of 230 students in Nova Scotia receiving instruction in agriculture from that school last year. Diplomas and certificates were issued to eight students.

As our readers are aware, an excellent Provincial School of Horticulture, under Prof. Faville, is also maintained at Wolfville, N. S.

The official report of the Provincial Exhibition at Halifax indicates that the show of horses (150 entries) was not up to the average; cattle (327) good; sheep (225) above the average; swine (84, and 10 litters) representative; poultry, not large. As might be expected from Nova Scotia, the Fruit Growers' Association made a magnificent display. Among other references, we note the following: "Herbert Wright, of Guelph, Ont., who has before served as judge in this Province, judged all the live stock except horses, and confirmed the impression he had already made as an honest, hard-working, impartial judge." Special "attractions" were tried, but we are pleased to note that the results did not justify the expense involved.

## A Story by Mrs. E. M. Jones.

Probably no book of the kind ever attained such world-wide celebrity in so short a time as "Dairying for Profit; or, the Poor Man's Cow," by Mrs. E. M. Jones, of Brockville, Ont. We feel safe in saying that thousands of ADVOCATE readers have been both delighted and profited by its racy, sympathetic and helpful pages, and it therefore affords us peculiar pleasure to begin in our Home Department, of this issue, the publication of a story entitled, "GOLD ELSIE'S RIDE," in three parts, from her gifted pen. From the every-day theme of dairying to the writing of this touching little tale seems a wide step, but the real interest with which Mrs. Jones invested the former was a guarantee of her capabilities along other literary lines. The readers of our Home Department, and there are a host of them throughout America and elsewhere, will appreciate with the keenest interest "Gold Elsie's Ride" (a horsewoman's story), which, by the way, seems very appropriately timed, though not intentionally so, for the issue of the ADVOCATE appearing concurrently with the great Canadian Horse Show in Toronto.

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