

better, who see the folly of the course things are taking, and have a clear knowledge of what the inevitable result must be; yet they weakly yield to the demands of the fickle crowd, and in many cases turn from what they know to be the true course of breeding, in order to profit for the present by conforming to a course they know is not best for the breed or for the country. I have no patience with the flippant remark, too often heard on these points, that in business "life is too short" to fight against prejudice; that it is wiser to go with the stream and profit by the boom. It is a weak and unworthy sentiment; life is never too short to be true to one's conviction of what is right, and what is for the best interests of all concerned. All honor and praise is due to the brave and stalwart few who, as breeders in all the classes of live stock, have proved themselves worthy to be called breeders in the best and highest sense of the term by remaining true to conviction, who by keeping a steady course have preserved a remnant of the useful qualities of the breeds, and saved them from the fate which would surely have befallen them but for the sound sense and firm attitude of those who were loyal to the great cardinal principles of constitution, quality and endurance.

#### Our Abridged Report of the Hon. John Dryden's Speech, Delivered at Guelph at the Close of the Provincial Fat Stock Show.

After a reference to the hospitality of the citizens of Guelph, the hon. gentleman said:—I want also to congratulate you, Mr. President, on the success of your show. I have taken to myself some little credit for the result you have now reached. You remember when I was here last year that I expressed some disappointment, and told you that I thought it ought to be a great deal better—that the parties managing the show ought to take an advanced step, that they ought to give more money in prizes, and that you ought to have a far better Fat Stock Show than was then seen; and I told you if it needed a little more money that no doubt the Legislature would grant it. You have asked for more and you received it without grudging, and I venture to say there is not a man listening to me to-night but is pleased with the forward step which you have now taken. No better investment can be made than the money spent in connection with a fat stock show such as you are holding here now. These shows are in the best sense of the word educational, and I think they give an education that our people cannot get anywhere else. We had reached the time when there seems to have been no place for the Agriculture and Arts Association in the show line. They had to crowd and squeeze themselves in to get a place anywhere in the province. Toronto did not want them, Hamilton did not want them, London did not want them; but I believe Guelph did give an invitation, and when the time came you had an excellent show, but the people would not come to see it; but in the line you are now working there is an open field and plenty of room for development. I want to impress upon you that you should go on, and do not stop with present attainments. It is not for me to say where the show ought to be; but whether it be held in Guelph or elsewhere, it should be somewhere in the province of Ontario.

THIS SHOW IS NOT AS GOOD YET AS WE CAN HAVE.

The farmers did not know in time the amount of prizes you intended to give. Just say now: We intend to continue and hold a better show year by year, and you will soon find a deeper interest taken, a greater number of entries, and a much larger attendance of visitors. The province expects you to go forward in this line, and be assured it will accomplish more good than any other work done by the Agriculture and Arts Association.

NOW I SAID THAT THE WORK DONE HERE WAS EDUCATIVE.

Farmers are like other men in business. When a farmer wants to accomplish anything, there is no use starting out in a haphazard way; he must decide two things: First, what he wants to accomplish; second, how to succeed in doing it. Now, in the live stock line what he is to aim to accomplish is placed before him as an object lesson in the show which he has seen here to-day. He will find here the sort of animal that he ought to try to produce. In the conversations and discussions indulged in he will be able to learn to some extent how to copy that which is there presented. Mr. Awrey has told you something about the

#### SCHEDULING OF OUR CATTLE

in Great Britain and the loss that we may sustain. I can find no language strong enough to express my indignation that this country should be scheduled on the false statement that pleuro is found among our cattle. The statement is not true, and I am bound to say that if the disease existed in Canada somebody in this country would be able to find out where it is without going to England to have it pointed out. Now, although it does not exist here, certain British officials say that it does, and have so managed to schedule our cattle. We will not be prevented from producing good cattle in this country, even though our cattle be placed on the same basis as the American cattle are. If scheduling prevents the sending of raw, lean cattle across the sea to be followed by the feed to fatten them, allowing the Scotch or English farmer to reap the profit which rightly belongs here, then I think good will result. In this connection I want to read an extract from a letter which was published in one of the American papers.

WRITTEN BY A SCOTCHMAN,

a man who knows all about this business, and who has many friends in this vicinity: "Aberdeen has lately been flooded by store cattle, consisting of Canadians (chiefly rough) Irish, and Orkneys of all sorts—good, bad and indifferent. The auction sales vary greatly, according to the visible supply and the moods of buyers. I often wonder how in the world seven pounds ten shillings, or ten pounds, or even thirteen pounds a head can pay all expenses and keep western farmers in salt and shirts, for those are the general prices I have seen Canadians making, occasionally less, sometimes a little more. If I were farming out there I would buy stockers and make them prime beef with corn and cake, which would greatly improve my land as well. Your farmers should get them young, square, blocky, wide, near to the ground, and fleshy, with broad backs; then do them well and send them on to London, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Aberdeen at thirty months or less. Yes, less than more. Shapes and quality are certainly more in demand now than size. If I could not buy the right kind I would breed them, and feed them from calfhood right along, until at twenty or twenty-four months they were ripe as berries. I formerly did this myself (when my herd of Shorthorns was small) with fair cross-bred or grade cows, and always a first-class bull. My heifers went first, followed by the steers, dressing about 750 or 850 pounds. This season, more than ever before, the difference in price between small fatcattle and medium large has increased, and three to four pence per pound more (dressed weight) is freely paid for the former."

Now therein is a lesson which some of us might take to heart. What he says is just what I was impressing upon those who were gathered here a year ago. In order that the education here given should become effective, it is essential that the farmers should get the benefit of the skill that they put into this business—that is, when we produce the right sort of cattle we ought to have the extra price which they are worth, according to the quotation just given; but the difficulty is that drovers go out into the country and buy by the pound, regardless of breeding or quality. They say, "I will pay you just four or five cents a pound," as the case may be, "and will not pay any more, no matter what the quality is." So your neighbor, who has an inferior animal, receives that amount, while you, with an animal such as that described by Mr. Duthie, can get no more. Now, I say that is not fair, and the drover who does that is in the end hurting himself, because he in effect says: Pay no attention to those who urge you to breed better and feed better; I will take your cattle and pay you the highest price now. Let me give you an illustration. You know we are trying to show, through the Travelling Dairy, how to produce better butter in private dairies. I came across a merchant who lives not one hundred miles from my own home, and he was telling me how he now manages his butter business. He says, "I buy all the butter I can get of all grades. I have a butter worker downstairs, and as each lot comes in it is worked over, put through a butter print, wrapped neatly in parchment paper and sent to market. It comes in all sorts of shapes and colors, and if it is light in color it stays light, but instead of losing, as formerly, I now make money." But do you not see what that is doing? This man gives to the woman who makes poor butter exactly the same as the one who makes good, and so is obstructing the educating influence of the Dairy School. In the same way when cattle, rough and smooth, command the same price, the good effect of this show is so far hindered and destroyed. Now because we do not get the best results of our labor and skill is one reason why some of our young people are turning their attention to something else instead of agricultural pursuits.

#### WHAT IS IT TAKES THEM AWAY?

Some one will at once answer, "Too much education." I do not want anyone to tell me that, because I do not think it is true. Do you mean to say that a man can become too intellectual—that he can learn to think too well? There is nothing in that of itself to turn him from the farm. Is it because there is too much labor on the farm? Not a bit of it. Some of you say it is; but it is not. If these young people are going to succeed in any line of business there must be labor connected with it; and so it is not mere labor which drives the young man away. There are two things, to my mind, which have a tendency to do this. The first is a false sentiment pervading the entire community that farming is a poor, mean business; it is felt all through the school system. The little fellows get hold of it sometimes in their own homes, and later among their comrades at school. The second one is that farming is a non-paying business, or in other words, labor without reward; and these young men say that they will not stay in a business when there is nothing in it. The fact is, prosperity on the farm makes the sturdiest kind of men, and the loveliest women. City men seek them out to preside over their elegant homes. But constant and incessant labor, year in and year out, on the farm, without any reward, gives you soured husbands, tired, broken-hearted mothers, and disgusted children who are bound to go into the city or town to try to live by their wits. I have discovered that it is a far easier thing for a boy to hoe a row of potatoes when there is ten or twenty cents at the end of it than it is without. The sun does not hurt, and he does not so easily get tired. You old men are exactly the same; if you go on laboring without reward any of you will grow weary in well doing. So, to come back to my point, the advanced farmer is entitled to the best price his products will bring, and if there is any class of people who ought to have the best result of their skill and labor it is

those who follow agricultural pursuits. I hope to see the day when these defects will be remedied, and in the truest sense the best man will win.

I am delighted to witness the results that have so far been achieved in connection with this show, and I hope that you will with courage continue; and so long as I am at the head of the department of agriculture in this province you can depend on my sympathy and co-operation, and that I will always be prepared to recommend to the government and legislature that you should receive whatever assistance it is in the public interest to give.

#### Tamworth Swine.

BY JOHN BELL, AMBER, ONT.

Having been an owner of Tamworths for over three years, and having seen them in all the different stages of life, also having seen them under very indifferent treatment, I frankly say, more Tamworths. I was first induced to try them through perusing the columns of the English Live Stock Journal, with the intention of buying. I corresponded with John Norman, Jr., Esq., Tamworth, England, and eventually purchased a pair, which landed in this country the last of August, 1889. Never having seen a Tamworth pig before, I was disgusted with my venture. I never have seen a man that liked them on first sight, and I have yet to see the man that don't like them after giving them a fair trial. Men who made the most sport of them, were the first to come and buy. In a short time the unsightly appearance which they presented at first disappeared; day by day they gained favor in my sight. In a short time after arriving here the sow gave birth to a litter of pigs—strong, vigorous fellows—that grew at an amazing rate. I had a litter of improved Berkshires, two weeks older than the Tamworths; I let them all run together from time of weaning; by the 1st of April I was convinced that there were some good qualities in the red skins, and since then I have bred nothing but pure Tamworths. I find the demand for them for breeding purposes gaining rapidly. I do not hold that the pure-bred is as good for general use as the half-bred, owing to the Tamworth having the power of transmitting their superior qualities to their offspring. When matched with other breeds the pigs come remarkably strong and growthy—exactly what the pork packer wants at the present time—*deep, lengthy fellows*, with plenty of side and ham. In the County of York there is a great number of small, white sows, bred from almost all the different breeds available; they resemble somewhat the Middle Yorkshire. Those sows mated with the Tamworth boar never fail to produce the very best of pigs. I do not wish my readers to think that I value those white sows more highly than other breeds. I do not, but there is a great number of them in the county, and they seem to be just what is required to mate with the Tamworth boar. Wherever pigs bred in this way have been raised along with other breeds, they have never failed to show their superior qualities. In the fall of 1891 I had a young boar stray away; he was lost for six weeks; during the time he served a great many sows, a number of which was those small whites. During the last few months I have frequently been told that that boar straying through the neighborhood was the best advertisement the Tamworth pigs ever had. Farmers bring their sows several miles to my boars. When once tried in a neighborhood they are sure to be the means of inducing others to try them, as the man that has cross-bred Tamworths is sure to have better pigs than his neighbors, which goes a long way towards advertising the breed, as there are sure to be three or four neighbors together at killing time. The flesh is superior to that of any other breed, the carcass containing a larger proportion of lean meat. Some writers say that pork packers are trying to lead the farmer by the nose. On this point I ask, What is the use of breeding and feeding sorts not wanted? You might just as well take peas to the malt house to try to sell, as take the little fat, chunky pigs we formerly bred to the packing house. The demand calls for leaner pork; and the packer must have it. Those writers must give up their old ideas, and not be like the man that carried water uphill all his life because his forefathers did it. The packer wants a lengthy hog, with the rear end the heaviest—not one-third wider at the shoulder than at the ham. It is also said that we should breed a pig that can be driven to market. If there is any argument in that, we certainly require a good, flinty, hard animal, and one with activity, combined with size and quality. In the Tamworth and their crosses we get all this. If the breeders of pure-bred swine would endeavor to breed the pig the demand requires, and encourage the farmer to do so, by giving useful hints as to feeding, breeding, management, etc., the swine industry could be made a source of great profit. The Tamworth has a little uphill work to contend with in this locality, owing to being so near Toronto market. The pork butchers of Toronto require a great number of pigs to supply the trade, and as they want small, light hogs, with as little bone as possible and a good proportion of fat, the Tamworth and other large breeds do not altogether suit their demand; but as soon as the pork-eater gets a taste of the fashionable bacon, the pork butcher will have to change his views, or loose the trade. I have not tested the Tamworth to know how long they would live without food, nor on how little they would subsist; but this I do know, that they will thrive where others will not.