

Mr. G. F. Frankland.

The subject of our sketch was born in the village of Barrowford, in Lancashire, in the year 1834, and at the age of eleven was apprenticed to a grocer, farmer and cattle dealer, at which business he put in his time; after which, at the age of twenty-one, his ambition led him to cross the Atlantic to see America. He took his first passage in a sailing vessel, which was wrecked off the coast of Ireland; however, he was more successful when he next shipped, for he reached New York safely and made his way to Toronto, he having a relation near Richmond Hill, to whom he went and where he took his first lesson in farm work in Canada. He was set at ditching, a job that did not exactly suit him, so made his way to Yonge street, near Engleton, and here he engaged himself with a butcher named Nightingale, with whom he remained long enough to learn the business, as well as become popular with all who knew him.

Nearly two years were spent in working for another's interest when he determined to launch out for himself. He formed a partnership with two men who were well acquainted with the surrounding country. This firm carried on a successful wholesale butcher's trade, purchasing and selling both dead and alive, Toronto being their headquarters. About this time Mr. Frankland married, and to his wife he ascribes much of his success, her counsel being well weighed and generally acted upon through her lifetime. For many years Mr. Frankland carried on a general butcher's business in St. Lawrence Market, living at the same time out in the suburbs of the fast-growing city where his business kept increasing until he had amassed sufficient capital to undertake the shipping of preserved meats to England. In his case this did not turn out a profitable undertaking. However, nothing daunted, he turned his attention to widen his now growing business. In this particular Mr. Frankland had a thorough reliance on what Canada could do if only an opportunity offered, at the same time keeping in mind the wants of England with her vast wealth and population. It was always his ambition to let England know what resources this country had, and being a loyal British subject he endeavored to place Canada first in the eyes of the world, especially as far as England was concerned. In 1872 he tried his first venture in England with live cattle, which proved a success, notwithstanding the excessive charges for everything in the way of building pens, freight, passage, charges for the men and other incidental expenses. Since this his pen has been busily employed in procuring better accommodation for the export cattle trade, as well as in praise of his adopted country.

In the year 1876 Mr. Frankland was presented with a silver service and a beautiful clock by his friends in the city of Toronto and vicinity.

In 1882 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace by the Government of Ontario, and in 1885 St. Lawrence Ward returned him to represent it as alderman in the city council, a position he has continued to occupy for six years.

In 1886 his friends invited him to a banquet at the Queen's Hotel. During the evening they

presented him with the massive gold watch and chain which he usually wears.

In the month of January of this year the Dominion Live Stock Association elected him as their President, and this without even privately informing him of their intention.

Mr. Frankland has for a length of time advocated the building of an agricultural hall in the city of Toronto, where the Live Stock Association and Farmers' Institute meetings could be held, and where permanent fat stock shows and spring and winter stallion and other shows could be held, which would contribute largely to the agricultural interests, as well as be of immense benefit to the city of Toronto.

President James Mills, M. A., and Alderman John Hallam Address the Sheep Breeders.

In another column will be found extracts from an address delivered by Prof. Jas. Mills, M. A., before the midsummer meeting of the Dominion



MR. G. F. FRANKLAND.

Sheep Breeders' Association. We advise all to carefully read it. It is one of the best addresses ever delivered before the Association. It contains much important advice, which should be put into practice by all sheep breeders. The well-known wool dealer, ALDERMAN JOHN HALLAM, who has always taken a great interest in the work of this Association, spoke immediately after Professor Mills, as follows:—

"I am sure that everyone in this meeting will agree, in the main, with the learned Professor's remarks concerning the different points to be observed if sheep breeding is to be a success in the province of Ontario; but I regret that he has not touched upon wool, which is an interesting item to farmers. His remarks upon every point connected with sheep raising are pertinent and will be appreciated. I am speaking now from a wool-buyer's standpoint, and must confess that there is great need of improvement in shearing sheep and preparing the wool for the market. Wool is marketed in a most careless and slovenly way, even by some of the thoroughbred stock raisers, with taglocks also mixed with burrs, chaff and seeds, which are very detrimental.

Our manufacturers object to this, because it gives them so much trouble and will not allow them to make the quality of goods that the wool would be fitted for if free from this objectionable matter. I am sure if the farmers would keep their wool free from burrs, seeds and chaff, they would get from one to two cents a pound more for this product. This Association and the agricultural papers might do good service by instructing the farmers to be more careful in shearing, and to keep the sheep from the hay and straw stacks, and have the wool put up in a neat and clean condition.

"There is another remark I wish to make. A great deal of our wool is now losing its combing qualities. It is losing its brightness and getting very brashy. This, in my opinion, is owing to the crossing and interbreeding of sheep. Brashy or tender wool will not command the price for exportation, but has to be used in this country for yarns and blankets, and for this purpose is very undesirable. It is not in the interest of farmers to grow brashy wool, for the fleece are much lighter and the staple more tender, and in consequence the farmers get less for their product. This remark applies to thoroughbreds. I cannot give you the reason, but, in my experience as a wool-buyer, when thoroughbreds have been in this country for one or two years their wool gets brashy, coarser and more tender in staple. There would be an unlimited demand for pure Southdown in Canada as a wool most suitable for clothing purposes, but, as I have stated, it gets tender and brashy and loses all that quality that English Southdown is famed for. With reference to other breeds of sheep, I have nothing to say; but I think it a great mistake for our farmers to sell off their lambs at from three to four dollars each during the months of August and September, when, if they were kept and grown into yearlings, they would double their price in March or April. I think I can state that fully 85 per cent., if not 90, of all animals slaughtered from June to April or May following are lambs. This, in my opinion, is a great loss to the food supply of this country. There is not enough of shorn lambs' wool in this country to make it an object, as it is not the custom here, as in Denmark and Kent, to shear the lambs in September and October. As to the value of this class of wool I cannot say, although I have imported tens of thousands of Danish lamb fleeces, shorn off the sheep without being washed, at from 10d. to 12d. per pound, also Kent lambs at from 8d. to 10d. per pound. The most valuable wool in England is that shorn from Shropshire lambs, which I think would command from a shilling to 14d. per pound. Mr. McCrae, of Guelph, who is a practical manufacturer, dissents from this, but I think he will agree with me that it is desirable above all things in raising sheep to have it free from burrs, chaff and seeds. When the sheep are free from this foreign matter they will be easier kept in good health, and will not be subject to the irritating influences of back-scratchers.

"I have to regret that the bulk of the wool is now in the hands of the wool dealers, and that during this last six or seven weeks combing wool has gone down from one to one and a-half cents a pound, and it is not likely to recover, as money is very tight in the United States, and the flooding of the United States market by large importations of wool from all over the world by the United States wool dealers and those who speculated in the McKinley Tariff have not been worked off, and will, in my opinion, take a year or more to equalize this state of affairs, so I do not look for any improvement on this line for some time to come."

The British Dairy Association examines would-be cheese and butter makers, and issues to them certificates that enable them to get positions.

More than 43,000,000 pounds of oleomargarine were manufactured in the United States last year an increase of about 12,000,000 pounds over the previous year.