

**PAGES  
MISSING**

# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

\* AGRICULTURE, STOCK, DAIRY, POULTRY, HORTICULTURE, VETERINARY, HOME CIRCLE. \*

VOL. XXXI. LONDON, ONT., and WINNIPEG, MAN., DECEMBER 15, 1896. No. 420.

### Take Heart of Hope, O Farmer!

(Written for the "Advocate.")

BY ROBERT ELLIOTT, FLOWER MILLS, ONT.

The white field, the green field,  
The field all yellow gold,  
Have grown and gone in magic-wise  
Till now we see with wistful eyes,  
And something of a sad surprise,  
The year is growing old.

Some glad days, some sad days,  
Some days that woke despair,  
You gave to us—you strange old year—  
And yet to prove your heart sincere,  
And our long-doubting souls to cheer,  
Your closing days are fair.

Yes, now dear, we know dear,  
Your gloom was sent to show  
How more than passing fair would shine  
Above the somber-shadow'd pine,  
Sweet earnest of a day divine,  
The rosy sunrise glow.

Erst blind dear, unkind dear,  
We reach adown the slope  
To grasp your hand before you go,  
To bless you kindly for the flow  
Of good to us, and most you know,  
For our new heart of hope.

O farmer! strong farmer!  
Anear and far away,  
O'er prairie wide, by singing sea;  
On hill and dale and sunny lea,  
Lift up your eyes wh'er you be—  
Behold the better day!

You toiler! you moiler!  
Take heart of hope once more;  
Our Canada is good and true,  
Be kind to her in all you do,  
And she shall still prove kind to you:—  
Kind, kinder than of yore.

Her heart is with you, farmer,  
For when you slip she sighs,  
And when you fall she trembles, reels,  
Half-dazed 'mid fortune's whirling wheels,  
And when she sees you rise she feels  
The heart within her rise.

From Christmas to Christmas;  
From smiling May to May,  
Sift well the seeds of time and sow  
Good deeds until your harvests grow,  
To catch the smiles of heaven and show  
Bright gleams of perfect day.

#### Announcement.

"CORN AND GOLD" THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE COLORS FOR 1897.

TO OUR READERS.—The present being the Christmas issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, it appears with a special cover in colors. As the central feature of the frontispiece, our artist has utilized a lifelike "morning meal" farm scene, with an appropriate setting representative of the glory of Canadian grain fields. A jocular friend at our elbow suggests that the wistful-looking individual with lengthy ears in the background is like the non-subscriber to the ADVOCATE, for the simple reason that "he is not in it." Among the many other illustrations, that of Mr. Crossley's "Sandy Bay Farm," sketched last autumn by our artist, is typical of Muskoka, that picturesque portion of Ontario. We also give engravings of several typical Canadian farm scenes, a couple of beautiful Western ranch views, two glimpses of farm steadings in "Auld Scotia" which will awaken tender memories in the minds of many of our older readers. To make room for the engravings and numerous special articles, we have enlarged the paper materially and surrendered most of the space usually devoted to everyday farm subjects, which we will resume in our January 1st issue, with an increased contributing staff of the most practical men in Canada.

We take pleasure in announcing that, beginning with January 1st, 1897, the Ontario and Eastern edition of the ADVOCATE, and Manitoba and Western edition, respectively, will appear bound in colors of

gold and corn, which we trust our readers will regard as appropriate to Canada's first industry. A large number of our subscribers retain and bind the papers year after year, and the cover will assist in their preservation.

For lack of space, our premium announcements do not appear in this issue, but may be found in any back number from Nov. 2nd to Dec. 1st.

New subscribers will receive a copy of the handsome Christmas Number and all of 1897 for \$1.00. Single copy, in strong tube for mailing, 25c. Subscribers desiring extra copies for sending abroad, or to friends away from home, will be supplied at reduced rates.

To our many friends throughout Canada and elsewhere, who have done so much in extending our circulation and giving their best experience in letters for publication, we are greatly indebted, and rely upon their co-operation for the future.

To all we extend the greetings of the Christmas season, with the assurance that they will have the best services of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE in 1897. THE WILLIAM WELD CO., LTD.

#### The Outlook for Canadian Farming.

Probably the most comprehensive review of Canadian farming ever published is that presented in this issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE from the pens of writers competent to speak in all the different Provinces of the Dominion. They have discussed in turn its Tendencies, Needs, and Prospects. The importance of a survey of this kind is readily seen. It broadens the view from a mere localism and enables us the better, as farmers, to take stock of the present situation and our bearings for the future. The testimony of Hon. Mr. Greenway and Mr. Mackay clearly emphasizes that the tendency of the Great Northwest is towards diversified or mixed husbandry, in which unquestionably lies safety. When, however, we consider the peculiar adaptability of Manitoba and the Northwest for producing the world's finest wheat and the vast areas there yet unbroken by the plow, it can readily be understood that wheat will be one of its greatest exporting staples for years to come, but with other products steadily increasing. The stall feeding of cattle is developing wonderfully in Manitoba, and when coupled with that is the natural luxuriance of the Western plains for grazing, as one of our ranch scenes indicates, we need not wonder at the immense train loads of cattle on the hoof every summer rolling Britainward. One of the special needs of Manitoba at the present time is a practical school of agriculture, with the dairy school in conjunction, where young men could take a winter course. Mr. Gosnell presents the situation in British Columbia with a trenchant and suggestive pen, and with a degree of frankness that is begotten of absolute confidence in the future of that wonderful Province, the mountains, the forests, the soil and the waters of which are alike teeming with half-developed wealth. Among the many "needs" of that Province are railways into the mining country. Ontario pursues the even tenor of its way with increasing attention to specialties, to which there is a growing tendency generally in Canada. Specialty farming is doubtless the most profitable, but natural conditions and markets must be favorable and there must be special knowledge and skill. The bulk of the year's returns may come from fat cattle, or dairying, or fruit, but all lines should be so conducted as to contribute to the general fund, each being managed as though it were a specialty. Ontario holds its position *par excellence* as a breeding ground for pure-bred stock. A section of Quebec, too, has a progressive band of breeders. In some sections, like the Niagara Peninsula, fruit-growing is forging to the front; Quebec, ditto; while the Nova Scotia Annapolis Valley has become world-famed in that regard. From every Province and the Territories comes the refrain—dairying, dairying, dairying. With so many other countries on the same tack, we do not wonder that the battle ground is shifted to quality and in crowded markets prices tend downward, and the lower grades go to the wall. But Canada will hold her own. The Maritime Provinces are enjoying a distinct agricultural revival. One of the practical "needs" which is overlooked is that of forest preservation and tree planting. From Quebec comes a plea for better educa-

tion and a guiding hand to better methods in matters of the farm that might seem a trifle strange to the self-reliant independence of the Westerner. Mr. Chipman, of Nova Scotia, voices the demand for the better transportation of farm products to the best markets. For the individual farmer, he avers, it (the Government) can do little but let him alone; i.e., leave him unhampered and keep down his burden of taxation. There is an astonishing willingness nowadays on the part of the office and contract seeker "to help the farmer." From every quarter comes a cry for improved stock, to which Hon. John Dryden—than whom the Continent has no better authority—gives in his article on "Canadian Live Stock Husbandry" a splendid response, which we hope will sink deep into the consciousness of every farmer, because his advice, properly applied, will mean millions added to the agricultural assets of Canada. We have a bright glimpse of American farming, and one of the ablest reviews of British agriculture, where the situation is none too comfortable, that we have read for a long time. To the consideration of our legislators, both Provincial and Federal, we commend the expression of the needs of agriculture given by those able and representative writers from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The past dull times and low prices have been an education to "thriftiness," better and more discriminating methods begotten of increased knowledge, an ever-growing "need." The prospects are most assuredly brighter—the testimony is a unit on that point, and is aptly and poetically expressed by Mr. Robert Elliott himself, a true son of the soil, in his beautiful lines, "Take Heart of Hope, O Farmer."

#### Canadian Agricultural Exports Since 1867.

Nearly three decades have passed since Confederation. The Imperial Parliament passed the British North America Act on Feb. 10th, 1867, and on July 1st of that year the Dominion of Canada became an accomplished fact. The record of our progress is an interesting and profitable study. Figures are not always dry reading. The following tabulated statements, for which we are indebted to Mr. Geo. Johnston, Dominion Statistician, Ottawa, are quite the reverse. Statement No. 1 shows (a) the total value of exports (the produce of Canada) to all countries, and (b) to Great Britain and the United States. Statement No. 2 shows total animal and agricultural products (produce of Canada) exported respectively to Britain and the United States. Statement No. 3 gives details of the quantities and values of the principal animal and agricultural products exported in 1867 and in 1896, showing at a glance what progress has been made in different lines. We might add that the present season of navigation recently closed showed an export of cattle amounting to over 100,000 head, or nearly 4,000 more than last year, but there was a falling off in sheep and horses. There were large increases in wheat and other grains, and nearly half a million more barrels of apples than in 1895. Some 1,725,000 boxes of cheese were exported, an increase of 16,000 over 1895, and of butter, 167,321 packages, compared with 69,664 in 1895. The exports of eggs also increased from 94,807 cases to 125,291.

STATEMENT NO. 1.

Year ended 30th June.	Value of Total Exports, Produce of Canada.	Value Exported to—	
		Great Britain.	United States.
1867	\$ 43,892,026	\$ 13,253,906	\$ 26,275,008
1868	45,504,599	17,905,308	25,349,568
1869	52,400,772	20,485,838	26,718,207
1870	59,043,590	21,160,987	31,734,710
1871	57,630,024	21,579,427	29,330,987
1872	65,831,083	25,223,785	32,814,174
1873	76,538,025	31,431,177	36,708,088
1874	76,741,997	35,580,330	33,132,394
1875	69,709,323	34,173,687	27,928,197
1876	72,491,437	36,398,584	28,061,155
1877	68,030,546	35,491,071	24,326,332
1878	67,989,800	35,861,110	24,381,009
1879	62,431,025	29,398,424	25,492,029
1880	72,894,097	35,208,031	29,568,211
1881	83,914,701	39,816,513	34,058,431
1882	94,137,660	42,637,219	45,782,584
1883	87,702,431	39,672,104	39,379,188
1884	79,833,098	37,410,870	34,332,641
1885	79,131,735	36,479,051	35,568,810
1886	77,756,704	36,694,263	34,284,490
1887	80,960,909	38,714,531	35,263,922
1888	81,382,072	38,646,284	40,407,483
1889	85,257,588	35,594,281	39,519,940
1890	80,272,456	41,499,149	36,213,279
1891	88,801,066	43,243,784	37,872,758
1892	99,338,913	54,949,055	34,972,517
1893	105,798,257	58,409,606	37,695,599
1894	104,161,770	60,878,056	32,572,515
1895	103,085,012	57,905,594	35,890,434
1896	109,923,752	62,718,941	37,985,928

STATEMENT NO. 2.

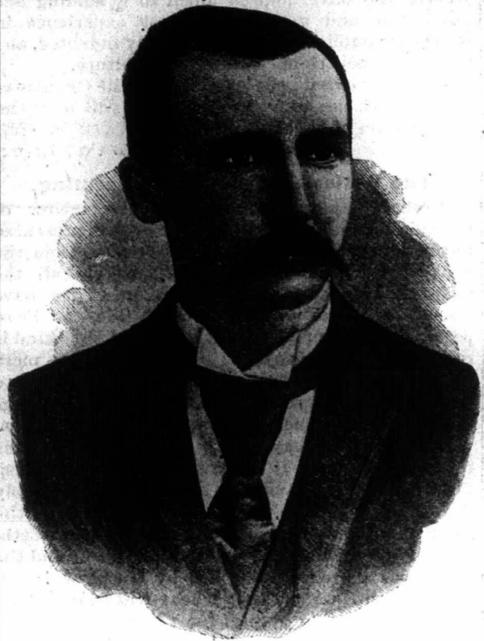
Year ended 30th June.	Total Animal and Agricultural Products, Domestic, Export &	Value Exported to—	
		Great Britain.	United States.
1867	\$ 22,452,473	\$ 4,546,356	\$ 14,800,374
1868	19,341,357	6,414,685	11,875,312
1869	20,534,552	6,674,121	12,848,997
1870	25,504,703	9,482,402	14,956,161
1871	22,146,808	7,859,503	13,135,840
1872	25,494,393	10,169,091	13,897,594
1873	28,302,384	14,175,228	12,593,579
1874	32,635,810	17,214,535	13,968,246
1875	35,634,859	14,798,365	12,435,307
1876	38,578,291	15,385,200	15,177,122
1877	37,587,296	13,729,351	12,946,281
1878	30,804,010	18,234,943	11,071,799
1879	32,537,712	18,461,796	12,690,989
1880	38,896,290	23,121,376	13,702,189
1881	40,645,450	23,180,276	15,839,865
1882	50,212,131	23,540,041	24,612,216
1883	42,915,359	27,813,166	18,342,976
1884	34,314,195	19,241,261	13,016,653
1885	38,528,571	22,050,085	14,933,328
1886	38,062,008	21,218,627	15,189,498
1887	41,257,870	24,410,193	14,916,178
1888	38,187,456	19,083,112	17,615,437
1889	35,472,541	18,507,162	15,828,746
1890	35,443,629	21,096,121	13,073,717
1891	35,205,370	25,129,206	11,369,204
1892	49,158,040	37,977,037	9,176,968
1893	52,302,906	41,493,537	7,688,367
1894	47,502,859	40,181,644	4,599,211
1895	48,531,344	39,242,481	7,011,256
1896	48,791,344	40,694,222	6,173,875

\*\$10,105,556 of this amount was barley; also \$6,000,000 in 1881 and \$6,000,000 in 1883.

The New Canadian Minister of the Interior.

Hon. Mr. Sifton, recently sworn in Minister of the Interior in the Canadian Government, represents the progressive spirit of the West, where, as Attorney-General of Manitoba, he won distinction for himself. The most hearty and general appreciation has been expressed throughout the country regarding this appointment. Immigration and other important matters pertaining to the development of the West will now come under his direction, and if we are to judge by what he has accomplished in the past, he should have ample opportunity to realize the high hopes which his advent to office has awakened. In one respect particularly he has graduated in a good school. The immigration policy of the Manitoba Government has been original in methods and singularly successful in attracting a well-to-do and permanent class of settlers to the Prairie Province. In fact, it has been throughout of that enduring character which stands out in striking contrast to the spasmodic movements which at times have attracted to some countries a rush of population very miscellaneous, and not infrequently very undesirable in its character. Expectations are now very generally entertained that Canada is entering upon an era of agricultural progress, when through her fertile valleys and across her fertile plains shall soon be heard: "The bread of millions yet to be."

Mr. Sifton, whose portrait we give, was born on March 10th, 1861, the son of J. W. and Catherine Sifton. He was but a little over six years of age when the first Dominion Day was celebrated. His birthplace was in the County of Middlesex, near the City of London, in the heart of



HON. CLIFFORD SIFTON.

Western Ontario. He attended in succession the Public School, the High School at London, and the Boys' College at Dundas, Ont., which was then under the direction of Rev. Dr. Ryckman. During this period he visited Great Britain, spending several months there, and the opportunity was undoubtedly a profitable one to him. From impressions received during his visit, he entertained for a time the idea of entering the East Indian Civil Service, but other counsels fortunately prevailed. In 1875 the family moved to Manitoba, where he has ever since made his home, with the exception of his college term, which began in 1876, when he entered Victoria University, Cobourg. His career at Cobourg was a most successful one, terminating in 1880, when he graduated as the gold medalist of the year. Later in that same year he entered the office of the Hon. S. C. Biggs, then one of the foremost barristers of Western Canada, and was called to the bar in 1882. Upon entering the practice of his profession he removed to Brandon, Man., and rapidly rose to a foremost position among the younger lawyers of Manitoba. During this time he devoted himself exclusively to law, and was not brought into contact with the administration of public business, except as solicitor to the City of Brandon and also to the Judicial District Board. He did not go through the apprenticeship of municipal and civic politics which falls to the lot of most students of statecraft. However, it seemed natural he should enter directly into Provincial politics, for his father had been twice a member of the Legislature and Speaker of the Assembly. He entered the Legislature in 1888 as the Liberal member for North Brandon. He devoted himself as earnestly to politics as he had to study and to law, and in 1891, on the reconstruction of the Greenway Ministry, was appointed Attorney-General. It was admittedly an onerous position, but he held it with credit to himself during these particularly trying years between 1891 and 1896. Standing some six feet in height, he is a type of physical manhood of which Canada may feel proud

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to have produced. Like his Irish ancestors, from whom, doubtless, he inherits his fluency of speech and ready repartee, Mr. Sifton is a member of the Methodist Church, and has always taken an active part and interest in the affairs of the denomination. He was married August 13th, 1883, to Miss Burrows, daughter of Mr. H. T. Burrows, of Ottawa, and a fruit of that union is a family of four boys.

A Successful Meeting of Joint Agricultural Interests.

A public meeting was held in Guelph City Hall, under the joint auspices of the various associations and interests having to do with the recent Fat Stock Show. There were about 1,000 people present to hear the speeches of the Dominion and Provincial Ministers of Agriculture and other notable speakers.

The Hon. Mr. Dryden occupied the chair, and expressed his pleasure at seeing such a representative meeting of stockmen, which indicated unity and enthusiasm among them, which means much in these rather depressed days of agriculture.

Mayor Lamprey's address of welcome was indeed hearty, as were also the replies made by President Mills, Mr. John I. Hobson, and Mr. J. C. Snell.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, expressed much pleasure in meeting such a large gathering of stockmen, in whom he felt a deep interest. "They are the men," said the Minister, "by whom Canada is so well and favorably known throughout the world. The people of the United States are forced to come here for the best of their stock, and would buy more were it not for the quarantine barriers."

Mr. C. E. Thorne, Director of the Wooster, Ohio, Agricultural Station, spoke on the "Relative Cost of Beef and Butter." He referred to the great range of individuality in different animals, and the variety of values of various feeding stuffs in different localities as being in the way of definite conclusions. In his experience he has found that water in food stuffs has no more value than water drawn from a spring or well. Their experiments consequently were based upon the total dry substance in foods. The speaker, by the aid of charts, indicated that the principal feeding experiments of American and Ontario Experiment Stations showed that it takes about ten pounds of dry substance in the food to produce one pound of increase in live weight, assuming that a well-balanced ration containing considerable grain were used. In feeding for milk, it has been found that the average production of butter-fat from 100 pounds of dry substance was three and one-half pounds, which is equal to about four pounds of butter. With regard to the age of cows and the period of lactation, it was found that cows over eight years old year by year became less profitable, and that after 120 days after calving the food fed gave a less profitable return.

STATEMENT NO. 3.

ARTICLES.	1867.		1895.	
	Quantities	Values.	Quantities	Values.
Animals—				
Horses.....No.	7,625	\$ 600,271	14,744	\$1,312,676
Cattle....." "	47,899	1,190,799	93,802	7,120,823
Sheep....." "	60,482	149,976	291,751	1,024,587
Swine....." "	8,790	41,350	805	7,562
Poultry and other				
Animals.....\$	28,420			45,848
Bones.....Lbs.	2,599	6,611,300	27,935	
Butter....." "	10,817,918	1,741,291	3,650,258	697,476
Cheese....." "	1,577,072	193,554	146,004,650	14,253,002
Eggs.....Doz.	2,645,776	311,109	6,500,817	807,990
Hair.....Lbs.			802,296	27,352
Hides and Skins.....\$	42,447			882,332
Horns and Hoofs.....\$	606			3,417
Honey.....Lbs.	1,380	143	47,352	3,874
Lard....." "	58,198	1,276,586	104,130	
Bacon & Hams....." "	2,841,440	287,467	40,134,026	3,906,709
Beef....." "	2,420,320	169,979	5,673,592	438,053
Pork....." "	3,077,424	214,913	519,736	32,446
Poultry and Game.....\$				20,091
Meats, Canned.....Lbs.			3,470,446	319,792
" all other....." "		2,666	1,566,978	88,352
Sheep Pelts.....No.		42,225	195,183	69,998
Wool.....Lbs.	1,764,648	604,159	5,463,161	1,049,459
Other Animal Products.....\$	4,390			62,874
Barley.....Bush.	6,882,776	4,058,620	1,708,370	720,718
Beans....." "	26,108	28,987	350,934	425,253
Buckwheat....." "			378,794	174,056
Oats....." "	3,085,189	1,441,183	926,975	320,458
Peas....." "	2,165,989	1,746,627	2,259,124	1,730,659
Rye....." "			62,942	33,003
Wheat....." "	2,383,017	3,847,427	8,325,689	5,359,109
Other Grain....." "	12,363	7,918	7,609	2,973
Flour.....Bbls.	700,555	5,007,983	222,975	838,112
Oatmeal....." "	105,650	631,618	30,283	276,310
Meal, all other....." "	85,929	58,448	119,137	87,259
Brass.....Cwts.	6,214	72,144	16,692	151,567
Flax....." "	2,722	21,492	199,072	1,539,691
Hay.....Tons	93,163	25,309	239,225	28,176
Hops.....Lbs.	7,718	5,844	17,415	12,160
Malt.....Bush.				767,806
Seeds—				55,253
Olover.....Bush.			141,126	23,544
Grass....." "			63,746	65,152
Flax....." "			38,986	25,267
All other....." "			5,304	17,309
Straw.....Tons				
Fruit—				
Apples.....Bbls.	17,535	39,290	853,288	1,821,463
" Dried.....Lbs.			4,176,950	250,320
Berries, all kinds.....\$				107,817
Canned or Preserved.....\$				109,122
All other....." "				40,602
Potatoes.....Bush.			1,379,012	527,379
Vegetables.....\$		11,382		118,449
Other Agricultural Products.....\$		10,977		100,416
Total.....\$	\$22,452,473		\$48,531,344	

Reduced to percentages, the total exports of domestic growth and manufacture show an increase of 150 per cent. in the period 1867-'96. The exports to Great Britain in the same period increased 373 per cent., and those to the United States increased 44 per cent. Taking exports of domestic, agricultural and animal products, these formed 52 per cent. of the whole exports (domestic) in 1867, and 45 per cent. in 1896.

The exports of animal and agricultural products to Great Britain formed 20 per cent. of the total exports of these products in 1867, and those to the United States 66 per cent. In 1896 the exports of these products to Great Britain formed 84 per cent. of the exports of animal and agricultural products, and those to the United States only 12 per cent. There was nearly nine times the value exported to Great Britain in 1896 than there was in 1867, and the export to the United States in the same period fell off to about two-fifths of the value of 1867.

Hon. Sydney Fisher, Canadian Minister of Agriculture, was recently elected a Vice-President of the American Guernsey Cattle Breeders' Association, at the annual meeting held in Philadelphia; Governor Morton, of New York State, being the other.

What more appropriate reading for the rural school entertainment this winter than the touching and hopeful poem by Mr. Robert Elliott?

**Sandy Bay Stock Farm.**

The colored illustration which appears in this number represents three well-known Shire mares, the property of Mr. Horace N. Crossley, Sandy Bay Stock Farm, Rosseau, Muskoka, Ont. They were painted from life by our own artist, are exceedingly true to nature, and attest his skill as a painter. The sketch was made during the past autumn. The scene in the background is a view of a portion of the farm itself, taken from the west, looking on Rosseau Lake; and no doubt many of our readers who have passed a few pleasant days at Ontario's greatest summer resort—the Muskoka Lakes—will have no difficulty in recognizing the scene. The mares here depicted are all well-known prize-winners, and have secured for the Sandy Bay stables the blue ribbon of their class at the Toronto Industrial (i. e., the medal for best Shire mare of any age) no less than five times in succession. In fact, ever since these stables competed in the show-ring they have taken the medal, with the exception of the first year, when, Sapphire being only a two-year-old, the judges, after a good deal of wavering, preferred to give the medal to an older mare rather than risk bestowing the premier honor on a young animal who might possibly not fulfill the promise of her youth.

(79) Sapphire, the figure in the left front of picture, is a seven-year-old bay mare, sired by Northern King (2635), dam Vol. XI. Shaw's Jewel. She won second at Halifax, Eng., in 1890, as a yearling, being beaten by a colt. This is the only time she has suffered defeat. In 1891 she was imported by the present owner, and exhibited that year at the Toronto Industrial, when she secured first in the two-year-old class. In 1892 she obtained first in the brood mare class (her foal also securing first) and silver medal and diploma as best mare of any age at same exhibition. In 1893 Sapphire was awarded the medal as best mare of any age at the Montreal Provincial Exhibition and silver medal and diploma at Toronto Industrial. In 1894 she was successful at the latter show as one of a team, being mated

have been illustrated in our paper and need no mention; they are, notably, Fireworks, Rosseau Performer, Althorpe Duchess, Althorpe Countess, Lady Bird, and Lady Cocking—all well-known prize-winners; but besides these there are a number of youngsters that have already made their mark and who promise to rival the deeds of their respective progenitors, and which can be bought reasonably. Certainly now is the time to make investments, after the show season is over and before the stallions are engaged for the season or the fillies are mated. All the signs of the times point to a great improvement in the horse trade during the coming year, and prices are already rising. For the winter season Mr. Crossley is making his home at 91 Woodlawn Avenue, Toronto, where he can be consulted by those on the lookout for individuals of these two popular types of horses—Shires and Hackneys.

**Mr. Simpson Rennie's Gold Medal Farm.**

Our readers will appreciate the glimpse we give of "Kelvin Grove" farm, the property of Mr. Simpson Rennie, Milliken, Township of Scarborough, York Co., Ont., which may be taken as representing the highest type of the older Canadian farms. Our engraving represents the residence, outbuildings, and a small portion of the estate itself. This farm (consisting of 102½ acres) was awarded the gold medal in the prize farm competition of 1883 (group No. 4), conducted under the old Ontario Agriculture and Arts Association. The judges that year were Messrs. John I. Hobson and Wm. Donaldson. Among the essential points to successful farming on which the judges laid special emphasis in their general deductions were: Stock-keeping, with proper accommodations; extermination of weeds; underdraining; maintenance of fertility; proper equipment; care of implements, etc.; and the best use of stock foods. Mr. Rennie is a brother of Mr. Wm. Rennie, now the successful Farm Superintendent at the Ontario Agricultural College, and founder of the Toronto seed firm bearing his name.

**The Ontario Fat Stock Show.**

The thirteenth yearly Canadian "Smithfield" came to a close on December 12th after three of the most successful days in the history of the show. It was held under the auspices of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, the Eastern and Western Dairymen's Associations, the Guelph Fat Stock Club, City Council, Board of Trade, and the Ontario Agricultural College. Not more than five years ago stock had to be brought from the Agricultural College Farm to help fill the capacious rink in which it was held. Two years ago, without the College stock, there was barely room enough left to form a judging ring, and last year one-half of an extensive annex had to be used to enclose a portion of the sheep, the other half being occupied by the poultry show held at that time. This year the exhibits of cattle increased until within the main building there was room for only one class of sheep—Leicesters—besides the cattle and swine, the annex being well filled with the other various breeds of sheep. While the increase in dairy cows had something to do with the overflow, the other classes of stock also were responsible for the extra space required. The attendance and therefore the gate receipts were much larger than ever before. The following table shows the number of entries present, as compared with those of last year:

	1895.	1896.
Beef Cattle.....	62	90
Dairy.....	11	30
Sheep.....	252	279
Swine.....	104	150

It is particularly gratifying to see this splendid exhibition growing year by year. No doubt the efforts of the various stock and dairy associations have had much to do with the steady advance. The dairy test, affording as it did a class for the different breeds, was particularly interesting, but no larger than it should have been. The Holstein-Friesian breeders rejoice in their victory with Calamity Jane, the winner of last year, owned by Messrs. Rice, Currie's Crossing, Ont. It is no small



THE GOLD MEDAL WINNING FARM OF MR. SIMPSON RENNIE, MILLIKEN, ONTARIO.

with Queen of Althorpe, and for the third time secured the silver medal and diploma. Since that time Sapphire has not been shown.

The mare in the center and a little to the rear of Sapphire is (10) Queen of Althorpe, foaled in 1887, and imported by the proprietor in 1890. She was sired by Sliding Scale (6405), and out of a dam by Sir Roger (2026), who won a great many first prizes in England. Queen of Althorpe for four years was worked steadily on the farm and not shown at all, but being required in 1894 to make up one of a team along with Sapphire, she was exhibited at the Toronto Industrial and secured first place. This success she followed up in 1895 by taking first prize as best brood mare, and silver medal and diploma at same exhibition (her foal, having met with an accident, only took second place). She also secured first as best brood mare and medal for best mare of any age at Montreal Provincial Exhibition in same year (her foal here secured first).

The picture on the rear right does not do full justice to (99) Rosseau Propriety, who is one of the very best Shire mares ever brought to this country. She was imported by Mr. Crossley in 1894, is a blue-roan in color, three years old, sired by St. Hybald (4068), dam Althorpe Dewdrop by Samson (4670). She is a very low-set, but blocky mare, and on account of her small size has been set back on two occasions, but barring her height she is in every respect what a Shire mare ought to be. Propriety has won first at Toronto Industrial, 1894; second at same exhibition, 1895; first at Montreal Provincial, same year; and second at Ottawa as best Shire mare any age, same year. In 1896 she won first as three-year-old at the Toronto Industrial and silver medal and diploma as best mare of any age at same exhibition in the largest class of Shiremares that was ever shown there. Mr. Crossley has this year disposed of most of his surplus stock of Shires, but has still on hand a few fillies which have won prizes in their class and which can doubtless be secured at prices fitting the times.

The Sandy Bay Stock Farm is not only notorious as a stronghold of the Shires, but is equally celebrated as a breeding-ground for Hackneys. Many of the best samples of this breed owned by Mr. Crossley

His farm in York County, we might add, was awarded the first silver medal in the competition of 1883.

**Proposed Removal of the Fat Stock Show.**

During the recent show at Guelph, Ont., deputations from London, Brantford, and Lindsay asked for next year's show. They were asked to put their claims in writing, and President John I. Hobson and Secretary F. W. Hodson were appointed to investigate and report at the February meeting of the Executive. This subject will bear considerable discussion.

**Hereford Breeders Meet.**

The annual meeting of the Hereford Breeders' Association was held in Guelph on December 10th. Vice-President Mr. Alfred Stone in the chair; Secretary Henry Wade being also present, and read a paper from President H. D. Smith, who could not be present. The paper referred to a marked increase in the demand for Herefords at much more satisfactory prices than had been obtained for the previous four or five years; also that there was increased competition and interest displayed at the last fall shows. The Secretary reported that 150 animals had been recorded from December 1st, '95, to December 1st, '96, and has on hand 533 pedigrees for the first volume. One thousand one hundred and fourteen pedigrees lost in the fire have not been returned to copy, but are coming in slowly. The membership roll bears the names of 27 members. The financial statement showed a balance on hand of \$147.22.

Officers for 1897:—President, H. D. Smith, Compton, Que.; Vice-President, Alf. Stone, Guelph; Vice-President for Nova Scotia, W. W. Black, Amherst, N. S.; Vice-President for Manitoba, Sir Donald A. Smith, St. James; Vice-President for the Northwest Territories, H. A. Munns, Olds, Alberta. Directors—Geo. Brant, Warwick; A. Waldie, Acton West; Richard Stutt, Forest; Jas. Carswell, Renfrew; F. A. Fleming, Weston; A. Rawlings, Forest; Isaac Wisser, Prescott; H. Read, Mimosa; Jos. Sharman, Todburn, Man. Auditor, D. W. Green, Toronto; Secretary-Treasurer, H. Wade, Toronto.

The judges of the beef breeds of cattle at the Fat Stock Show reported in this issue were: Thos. Crawford, M. P. P., Toronto; James Smith, Brantford; Reserve, James Russell, Richmond Hill. The judges of dairy stock and conductors of the test were: J. W. Wheaton, London; R. G. Murphy, Elgin; and Prof. G. E. Day, Guelph.

For reports of other live stock meetings see page 550.

feather in her cap to do as she did when we remember that not more than some two months ago she had a very heavy attack of milk fever. The breeders' meetings, too, as well as other gatherings, were all most successful. Among the more notable visitors was Hon. Sydney Fisher, the new Dominion Minister of Agriculture, who is putting himself promptly and thoroughly in touch with the leading breeders of the country.

**CATTLE.**

Of the show of cattle we think it is safe to say that, on the whole, it was the best of the series. This, we believe, is true of the average as well, and we are not sure that even the best of former years were of a higher order. There were about 130 entries, being about 50 more than last year, and the different breeds were more generally and more largely represented than at any former show. Shorthorns and their grades, as usual, were largely in the majority; but Galloways, Polled-Angus, Herefords, and Devons were out in considerable numbers, and added in no small measure to the interest of the exhibition.

The exhibitors in the class for registered Shorthorns were: H. & W. Smith, Exeter; Jos. Kirby, Armstrong's Mills; Wm. Dredge, Nassagaweya; A. & F. Bolton, Armstrong's Mills; John Fried, Roseville; J. Oke & Sons, Alvinston; Robert Talbot, Eramosa; J. & P. Crerar, Shakespeare; R. J. Robinson, Ailsa Craig; W. J. Rudd, Eden Mills; and Isaac Groff, Elmira.

In the section for steers two years and under three, Messrs. Smith had the only entry, a white, named Barmpton, of medium size for age, but blocky, thick-fleshed, and of good quality. The only pity is that he should have found so easy a place to win. In yearling steers there were three entries, and the competition was made exceedingly interesting by the entry of Mr. Groff's red-roan Duke, bred by Mr. Charlton, near London, sired by Indian Wing, a son of Indian Chief. This is a typical butcher's steer, and a true example of a profitable animal from the feeder's standpoint as well as for the block. For smoothness and firmness of flesh, evenly distributed on the most valuable

parts, he was an ideal steer; while his stylish and breezy appearance and his wealthy coat of mossy hair gave him a charm which won for him expressions of admiration, from all lovers of a good Shorthorn especially, and from all others who know a good beast when they see it. He was not highly fitted, had not been long out of the pasture, and might have been much fatter, but he carried a wealth of natural flesh that would stand the test of another year's feeding, and should, if carried on for next year's show, make him invincible. He was promptly placed first, but it is matter for regret that his record was clouded by irregularities in the entry and failure to produce evidence that he was eligible to registry, for which reason he was, on protest, ruled out, and the prize money withheld for this and for the sweepstakes in the class, which was also placed to his credit by the judges. H. & W. Smith's white steer, Bruce, by Abbotford, dam Bonnie Brae, made a good second to Roan Duke, and on the protest being sustained, drew first money. He was a right good one, too; low-set, blocky, thick-fleshed, and well brought out. Mr. Kirby's Guelph Warrior was awarded third prize. He was a strong number, carrying a large proportion of good flesh on the best parts, and well matured for so young a steer. Steers under a year were a strong section, there being five entries, three of them white, and all good ones. Bolton's Barney, a blocky, red calf, with level back and thick, firm flesh, was given first place, followed by Fried's Clipper and Oke's Rob Roy for second and third.

The section for Shorthorn cow or heifer three years and over brought out three exceedingly good ones, Crerar's Rosabel, Robinson's Constance 4th, and Talbot's Bessie. The Crerar cow was a favorite with many on the outside of the ring, being a fine model of the breed, with smooth proportions, but a closer and more critical examination would bear out the decision of the judges, from the point of view of a butcher, when they gave the place of honor to the well-finished Constance, the Talbot heifer taking second place and Rosabel third. Two-year-old heifers were a good section, first money going to Fried for Roseville Fancy, by Hopewell, a son of Imp. Hospidar; a heifer of great substance, depth of body and smoothness of flesh, one of the very best numbers in the show. There was but one entry for yearling heifer, Fried's Oxford Rose, a very worthy one, long, level and well furnished. She would have stood some beating in a fuller class.

**Grades and Crosses.**—There were two sets of prizes for grades this year, one for grade Shorthorns, given by the Shorthorn Association; the other open to all grades and crosses, given by the Fat Stock Combination. The same animals were practically the winners of the two sets of prizes, the only exception being that of second prize for cow three years and over, which was won by the Polled Angus cow, Dinah, owned by Jas. Bowman, Guelph.

The section for grade steer two years and under brought out an uncommonly good lot, headed by the phenomenal red steer, Clinker, which was first as a calf here in 1894 and first as a yearling in 1895; bred by D. D. Wilson, Seaforth; owned by W. H. Nichols, Hamilton; sired by imported Prime Minister, a Duthie bred bull, a grandson of the great Cruickshank bull, Field Marshal. Clinker comes honestly by his honors and furnishes a fine confirmation of the axiom, "Blood will tell." His dam and grandam were respectable grade Shorthorn matrons, and his mother's milk gave him a good start in the world, his weight at 11 months being 990 lbs. At 22 months he weighed 1,730 lbs., and at two years and 11 months 2,275 lbs. He was a marvelous case of early maturity at any one of the three stages indicated, and if he had a fault this year it was that he was too big to be handy, but there was not a suspicion of coarseness in his whole make-up. Thickly-fleshed, smooth and firm, he was a moving miniature mountain of high-class beef, and if he was too big it was not the fault of the steer, but of the "steersman" who allowed him to live so long. He was sold for \$200 to go to Halifax for Xmas beef, and won \$60 in prizes at this show and \$180 in three years. The second prize steer, Mr. Leask's rich roan Jack, was a true type of the handy sort, weighing 1,500 lbs. at 25 months; sired by a son of Messrs. Russell's Miss Ramsen cow, a winner at the Highland Society's Show and at the Columbian Exposition. His breeding backs him up, and his quality is all that the most fastidious could desire. His quarters are long and level, his loins thickly covered with firm flesh, his hair is soft and silky, and his hide mellow to the touch. He will kill with a minimum of offal and will prove a profitable carcass to the butcher. The same exhibitor had the third prize steer, one of much the same character, but somewhat slack in the back and not so thickly fleshed. Mr. Thomas Russell showed a real good steer in this ring, a dehorned red-roan of great substance and fine quality, weighing 1,930 lbs. at

the close of the show, when two years and ten months old, having gained 305 lbs. since the last week in August, or considerably over 3 lbs. per day.

In the section for yearling steers Mr. James Rennie's light roan, Captain, was a sure first. He weighed 1,600 lbs. and is a fine, lusty fellow, large for his age, full of natural flesh, thick, deep, and evenly covered. His handling was mellow, his hair mossy, and his whole conformation very nearly perfect. Mr. Duncan Stewart had a good second in Everton Lad, and R. J. Robinson, Ailsa Craig, got third prize with a good red steer, Billy, by Indian Wing.

Steers under one year old were a strong lot, there being seven entries, the first prize going to Mr. Fried's Sandy, a grandson of Indian Chief; deep and long and level; a very promising youngster. John Campbell, Woodville, had a good one for second place, a son of Lord Willoughby by Indian Chief, a smooth, even calf, with strong back, compact form and smooth flesh. Mr. Leask's Jumbo, a white son of Moneyfuffel Lad, the sweepstakes bull at Toronto Exhibition the last two years, won third prize. He is a very promising young fellow, and will no doubt be heard from again. For the best grade cow or heifer three years old and over there was a strong contest between a half dozen good ones, Mr. Oke's White Blossom, a substantial, smooth and well-fleshed cow, winning first honors, followed by Mr. Bowman's Angus grade, Dinah, a level, lengthy and smoothly turned heifer with all the appearance of a thoroughbred. Mr. Yule's large red cow, winner of many first prizes in the grade class at Toronto in past years, ended her show-yard career at Guelph, being sold to the butcher there. Her weight was 2,200 lbs., and she carried her flesh smoothly, having a strong back and full crops and great girth.

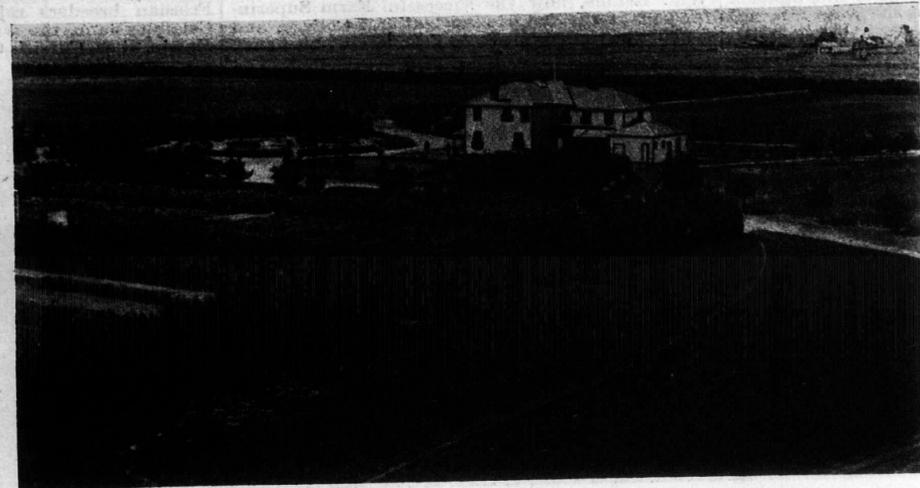
**The Championship.**—The contest for the championship prize for best animal any age or breed in the show brought out all the first prize winners in

all the classes and made a most interesting display. There were a half-dozen very high-class animals in the ring, and all were good. The contest seemed to narrow itself down to a selection of three animals, from which the champion must be drawn. These were the two-year-old grade steer, Clinker; the yearling steer, Roan Duke; and the white heifer, Water Lily, show by Mr. Rennie. A good many of the onlookers counted on the contest being between the latter two, they were so smooth and firm and compact, but the judges looked over these (not in the sense of overlooking them) and declared in favor of the two-year-old red grade steer, Clinker, and, covered with prize-ribbons, he made his farewell bow to the show-ring and graduated with honors galore. Herefords and Polled Angus were classed together, and were shown by the F. W. Stone Estate, Alfred Stone, and James Bowman, all of Guelph. There were a number of good representative animals of the breeds shown, but they were not in the highly-finished condition one expects to see at a fat stock show. Alfred Stone's first prize two-year-old Hereford heifer was an exceedingly good one, well covered with smooth, firm flesh, and standing on short legs. His second prize cow was of the same character and typical of the breed. She would count among the best ones anywhere. Mr. Bowman's first prize cow was one of great substance, large, long, deep, and evenly fleshed.

**Galloways and Devons** showed together and made a very creditable show, although not in high condition. The former were shown by Messrs. D. McCrae, of Guelph, and James Yule, of Vaughan, and the latter by W. J. Rudd, Eden Mills. Mr. McCrae's Galloways are true to the breed type, standing well on short legs, thickly fleshed, and covered with splendid coats of fine, mossy hair. The first prizes were all awarded to him, Mr. Yule winning second for cow under three years.

DAIRY TEST.

It was with some hesitation that the dairy department was introduced as a feature of the Guelph show a year ago, but enough competition was shown on that occasion to warrant the offering of more money this year. While perhaps the most sanguine of the promoters of the movement may be disappointed with the results, we feel that the enterprise was a decided success upon this occasion. While few extraordinary records were made, we believe another year will find more large breeders in readiness to put in their best cows. The following table shows exactly what each competitor did away from home. No doubt the best cows, which are usually highly nervous, would have scored higher within their own stables:—

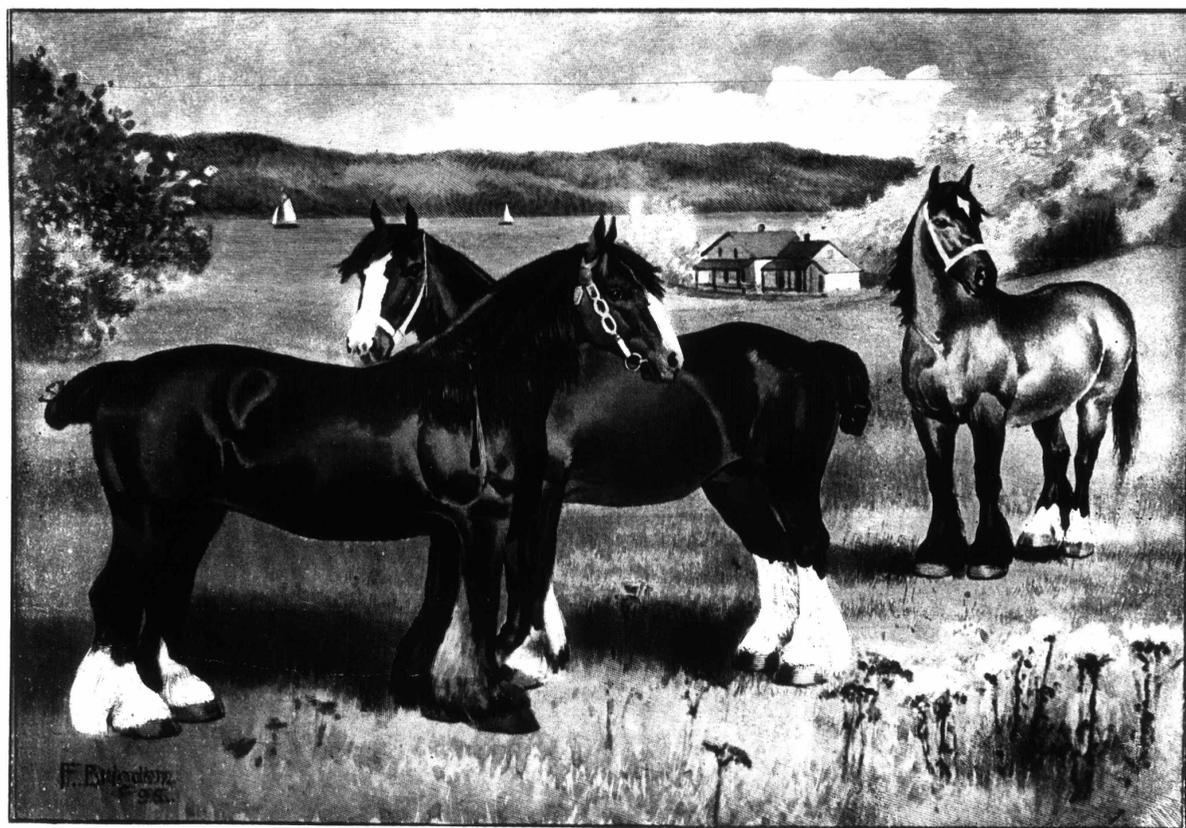


THE EXPERIMENTAL FARM AT INDIAN HEAD, ASSA., N.-W. T.

BREED.	NAME OF COW.	OWNER.	Points for Conformation.	Total Pounds of Milk.	Average per cent. of Fat.	Total Pounds of Fat.	Average per cent. of Solids not Fat.	Total Pounds of Solids not Fat.	Total Points Scored.	Awards.
Jerseys, over 36 months..	Elen of Oakdale .....	J. H. Smith & Son, Highfield .....	16.25	59.00	5.47	3.155	9.77	5.696	181.13	First
do.	Corinne of Don .....	B. H. Bull & Son, Brampton .....	17.75	55.00	4.72	2.581	9.51	5.317	146.59	Second
do.	Signal Rosea May .....	J. H. Smith & Son .....	18.75	44.25	5.96	2.591	9.88	4.399	142.92	Third
Jerseys, under 36 months.	Ida of Highfield .....	do. ....	16.25	52.75	3.90	3.042	9.11	4.810	153.08	First
do.	Queen of Highfield .....	do. ....	18.00	36.75	5.30	1.956	9.55	3.522	137.95	Second
Ayrshires, over 36 months	Dandy .....	Naaman Dymont, Clappison .....	16.75	83.75	3.44	2.886	9.08	7.655	194.31	First
do.	Pauline Hall .....	W. M. & J. C. Smith, Fairfield Plains .....	18.50	62.25	3.93	2.556	9.36	5.871	159.85	Second
do.	Gurta (19) .....	W. M. & J. C. Smith .....	18.50	54.75	4.25	2.380	9.52	5.187	149.09	Third
Ayrshires, under 36 mos.	Rose Morton .....	W. Thompson, Rockton .....	17.00	52.25	3.96	2.086	9.50	4.988	138.92	First
Holsteins, over 36 months	Calamity Jane .....	A. & G. Rice, Currie's .....	17.25	134.50	2.95	3.903	8.88	11.990	279.28	First
do.	Edgley Frena (43 months old) .....	A. Hoover, Emery .....	15.25	104.37	3.38	3.519	8.78	9.218	232.87	Second
do.	Catholine .....	A. & G. Rice .....	16.25	90.50	2.86	2.588	8.92	8.079	196.82	Third
Holsteins, under 36 mos.	Iolena of Fairmont .....	do. ....	15.75	75.25	3.20	2.391	9.21	6.964	171.17	First
do.	Bright Promise .....	do. ....	14.00	50.00	3.23	1.623	8.52	4.264	122.51	Second
Grade Cows, over 36 mos.	Holstein .....	do. ....	15.50	97.75	3.76	3.741	8.99	8.852	230.47	First
do.	Durham .....	J. R. Grieve, Guelph .....	14.50	93.25	3.50	3.218	8.81	8.202	205.91	Second
do.	Durham .....	T. H. Dent, Woodstock .....	15.00	85.00	3.53	2.5	9.05	7.686	196.14	Third
do.	Jersey .....	Jas. Hurley, Guelph .....	17.00	80.50	3.47	2.812	8.47	6.844	181.11	Highly Com'ed
do.	Guernsey .....	Mr. Tyson, Guelph .....	16.50	58.25	5.00	2.955	9.74	5.686	169.09	Com'ed
Grade Cows, under 36 mos	Jersey .....	Jas. Hurley .....	16.00	23.00	5.60	1.297	9.96	2.299	94.63	First

**Awards.**—Best dairy cow, any age, breed, or grade—First, Calamity Jane, for which she received the following prizes: A plow, valued at \$15, donated by the Wilkinson Plow Co., Toronto; \$25 by the American Holstein-Friesian Association, and \$25 by the Canadian Holstein-Friesian Association. Second, Edgley Frena, winning a Leader corn and root cultivator, value \$10, donated by Thom's Implement Works, Watford, Ont., and \$15 from each of the American and Canadian Associations. Third, Catholine, \$10, donated by the H.-F. Association. (Continued on page 523.)

SUPPLEMENT TO THE "FARMER'S ADVOCATE," CHRISTMAS, 1896.



The London Printing & Litho. Co. (Ltd.), London, Canada.

THREE SWEEPSTAKE SHIRE MARES.  
The Property of HORACE N. CROSSLEY, ESQ., "SANDY BAY FARM," ROSSEAU, ONTARIO.

**Canadian Live Stock Husbandry.**

THE PRESENT DAY PRESENTS THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME—THE PATHWAY TO SUCCESS CLEARLY POINTED OUT.

(BY HON. JOHN DRYDEN, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE FOR ONTARIO.)

Those of our farmers who are especially interested in live stock husbandry have during recent years been passing through a period of depression in common with every other branch of agriculture. The returns for their skill and effort have been at times very small, and the outlook for the future has sometimes been entirely discouraging; but in the midst of their discouragement I would have them remember that the whole world consumes their products. The world's population increases rapidly year by year, and the time will never come when there will not be a desire on the part of mankind to consume what they have to sell.

For the past ten or fifteen years a large percentage of the population have not been so conditioned that they could readily buy what is needed of live stock products to satisfy their desires; but when a change comes, as come it must, the demand will be increased and live stock husbandry will come to the front, and will come to stay. In this great industry what is wanted at the present moment is some word of encouragement which will stimulate farmers generally to take advantage of the situation in order to commence on a proper footing in the conduct of this branch of agriculture. No better time ever existed in Canada than the present for making a commencement towards laying the foundation of superior studs, herds, and flocks. At no time in our history have we had a larger number of superior animals to select from than now. But this is not the only advantage. These animals are selling at a price which is within the reach of the majority of our farmers. At the prices now prevailing pedigreed stock ought to find a place on every farm. Why should not the dairyman have in his stables cows whose pedigrees would be almost a guarantee of great milk production? First-class ones can now be secured at a small percentage above the price of good grades. Why should not the best sheep and the best swine now take the place of the inferior scrub? Why should not good Shorthorns take the place of the stunted, hard-fed animals so frequently used in producing beef? Why should not the best of our horses be chosen now, when prices are so low, as a foundation for future production of a higher quality? These superior animals cost no more for food, care, and shelter than those found on our farms everywhere at the present moment, while the returns received would multiply twenty, fifty, or even a hundred per cent.

I am not suggesting that every man should commence a career as a producer of pure-bred stock for breeding purposes, but that, at the present low prices, it will pay to invest in these for the production of wool, mutton, bacon or beef. Many persons seem to have a horror of a pedigree, as though it reduced the value of the animal for practical purposes. But our so-called "fancy stock" is being bred, or should be, for the best practical results at the pail, the shearer's table, or the butcher's block. This is the ultimate test, and the pedigree which does not show results in this direction is inferior and represents no real value, no matter how clean the head, arched the neck or straight the back. No one ought to be asked to invest in a mere paper pedigree; but a pedigree ordinarily represents value along the practical lines indicated.

My plea, therefore, is that good animals ought to be secured now, when they are within the reach of everyone. It is folly to wait until the turn comes in the market, when everyone will want the best at once and the price will soon be beyond the reach of the man who is making the purchase for ordinary practical purposes.

I am aware that the first objection to be urged is lack of capital. Few of our farmers feel at the present juncture that they have money to spare which they could invest in this direction. But if they have animals about them of an inferior description my suggestion would be to sell five of the present lot and buy three superior ones, and thus make a beginning. This has been done and can be done in almost every section of country. Let it be remembered that I am urging this plan in order that we may receive better returns, not merely as breeding animals, but using these for the practical purposes of the ordinary grade.

When a start is made, then let every cross be for the best practical results. Let us copy from the example of the farmers in Great Britain, who bring everything in this direction to a practical test. With them the particular turn of the horn or the color of the hair has very little weight, as these things do not enhance or reduce the real value of the animal. So ought it to be in Canada. Let improvement for practical results be the watchword. If it is beef we are producing, aim to improve the quality and increase the quantity at the same expense. So with milk, mutton, wool or bacon.

To accomplish these improvements will prove to be a most interesting study, and one which, if successful, will bring ample returns in dollars and cents. The farmer who can thus succeed will become a manufacturer in the very highest sense.

I know of no calling which brings greater satisfaction than success in live stock husbandry. No two animals of the same breed will be found exactly alike, but when skill in mating not only perpetuates

the present good quality, but steadily advances towards the ideal of perfection, and withal insures greater returns, the work becomes to the enthusiast a perpetual delight.

What a difference in the wealth of our country and the comforts of our people if every farm could be thus stocked! We should still need to labor, but our labor and toil would not be as now it often is, merely a striving after wind, but would bring tangible results.

In our Canada we have every stimulus possible to urge us forward in this direction. Not only, as I have suggested, have we numerous flocks, herds and studs from which a selection may be made, but we have in various parts of our country the very best soil and the very best climatic conditions requisite to guarantee live stock products capable of taking the lead in the best markets in the world. For years our best stock has occupied this place. Our finest carriage horses are in high demand in the cities of the United States. Our heavier horses are found to be superior and best stand the strain of incessant work in the dray and omnibus of Liverpool and Glasgow. "Canada Mutton" is still an attractive advertisement for the New York butcher. With the quarantine removed, our cattle will be sought to supply the needs of the American breeder. Canadian bacon is becoming more and more the desire of the English consumer.

Besides all this, we have not yet forgotten our achievements in this regard in the great competition at the World's Fair. With all this before us, shall we not keep up heart? May we not put on fresh courage at the present moment? We are to-day in the front ranks with these products; let us hold our

**New Brunswick's Secretary for Agriculture.**

Julius L. Inches, of Fredericton, N.B., was born in Dunkeld, Perthshire, Scotland. He came to this country when quite young, and after being engaged in business in St. John, N.B., he settled on Berry Hill Farm, in the parish of Kingsclear, four miles above Fredericton. Mr. Inches was a very successful farmer, and always took a great interest in the welfare of his brother farmers by introducing stock from abroad, he having made several importations of cattle and sheep direct from Scotland. He was a prominent member of the Board of Agriculture at the time of his appointment to the position of Secretary for Agriculture in 1875, which position he has filled to the entire satisfaction of the farmers, and it is largely through his efforts that the agricultural and dairying interests of the Province have attained such a high standing. It also affords above a lifelike portrait of Mr. Inches, which will not only be appreciated in New Brunswick and the other Maritime Provinces, but elsewhere throughout the Dominion.

place. To do this we must be helpers of each other. Whatever is good must be made known to all our people. We must seize on every educational advantage, and these are all about us and are and must be rapidly multiplied. What others have done let every young man believe he can also do, for, as the old adage has it, "There are as good fish in the sea as ever were caught." These difficult days through which we are passing have their advantages, for they compel us to think out better plans and more progressive methods. They make us more careful and prudent in every expenditure; they drive us to stop the little leaks which after all, because unnoticed, are most certain to empty the barrel. Canada, in reference to live stock, has a great future before her. Let her sons take courage; let them lay the best and surest foundations, pursue the best methods,—let them take advantage of the experience of others in our own and other lands, remembering always that skill comes to those who study, observe, and learn,—and success will certainly crown their efforts.

**The New Brunswick Farmer.**

IMPROVED CONDITIONS—A CHANGE IN LUMBERING—LIVE STOCK IMPORTATIONS—THE DAIRY MOVEMENT.

(BY JULIUS L. INCHES, SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE.)

The condition of the farmer in New Brunswick has greatly changed for the better in late years, and we have every confidence that it will continue to improve in the future. The large lumber business as formerly conducted was of little direct benefit to the farmer. The lumberman procured his supplies from the merchant, who imported his stock of what was required from abroad, charged a good profit on all he sold, and had no interest as to the farmer's welfare. As there were no exports of farm products at that time, there was no inducement for the farmer to raise more than he could use. The complaint of the want of a market was general. No doubt much of this fault-finding was unreasonable in a country with good land and excellent climate and one of the best governments in the world. There is much improvement now in regard to markets, and the farmer finds a ready sale for all he can produce at the same prices as farmers in other countries can obtain. The lumber business is now much better managed in the interests of the country. The large waste of former times is changed. A prudent conservation of the lumber is now general, and more labor is expended on its preparation for other markets. Also, the increase of manufactures of various kinds, which may be observed everywhere, has improved the farmer's condition.

The introduction of improved dairying is making a great change for the better, and where heartily adopted and managed with judgment it is going to revolutionize his work and in a short time improve his position very much. The Province is naturally well-adapted for dairying. It has fine pastures, with plenty of land for the production of extra food for stock; fine, cool, running water everywhere; no disease peculiar to the Province, and the stock is always healthy. Everywhere the soil is suitable for a succession of crops for feeding green and filling the silo. Corn, vetches, etc., can always be depended upon for providing extra food, as, since land is abundant, there need be no disappointment in providing food for milch cows, a failure of such crops being unknown where proper care has been given to their cultivation; and this gives a certainty to dairying that few other countries can boast of. Root crops can also be relied on; and the yield is as large as it is in any other country we have compared returns with. We regret to be compelled to acknowledge that our stock is not as good as it should be, and that there are many districts in which few improved animals can be found, although many importations have been made and we have always endeavored to procure the best. The horses are very fair, and fine, well-bred animals can be had in many sections. The several importations from Britain made by our Government has improved all our stock, and two importations of cattle and sheep from the Upper Provinces have added to the value of this class of stock. Still further introductions of stock are desirable, particularly of dairy cattle and sheep. A moderate importation of pigs was made in the spring of 1896, which has been greatly appreciated and will do much good. We expect to have a similar importation in 1897. The animals introduced will be the foundation of much improvement. The desire for the large, coarse breeds has entirely changed, and all now demand the small or medium sized animals that will grow and fatten quickly and give a much improved quality of food. The importation made last year only created the desire to obtain more.

New Brunswick is now in a good position to take advantage of the improved facilities for farming and derive a benefit from the sale of their surplus products. Railroads traverse the length and breadth of our territory, and these, with her splendid water transport, give her easy access to any market throughout the world. In addition to the usual produce sold, we are now exporting considerable quantities of dairy produce and fruit—both new industries. The Government has made liberal provision for some years past to initiate the farmers into the most improved methods of making cheese and butter, in which great progress has been made, and we can now boast of a large number of cheese factories and creameries in active operation, with the certainty of the number being largely increased. It is surprising that an industry so suitable to the country should have been neglected so long, and at the first effort of the Government complete success has been the result.

Farmers have not in the past given the attention to winter dairying that they should, such as providing good stables, succulent food, and proper care of the stock; but some sections are now doing so, and the quantity made by each factory will increase each season. All this is having its influence in many sections of the Province, and will largely increase the amount of our exports.

Hodgson Bros.' (Liverpool) report of Nov. 28th quoted finest Canadian and American creamery butter at 80s. to 95s. per cwt.; lower grades plentiful at from 56s. to 70s.; finest Australian, 98s. to 105s.; finest Danish, 110s. to 114s. Moral: Canada has something to do yet in butter dairying.

### Farming in Manitoba.

THE TENDENCY TOWARDS DIVERSIFIED FARMING IN THE GREAT PRAIRIE PROVINCE.

(BY THE HON. THOS. GREENWAY, PREMIER OF MANITOBA.)

Farming in Manitoba is no longer an experiment. When I first came to the Province, eighteen years ago, and for several years afterwards, it was thought by some questionable whether farming operations could be made a success or not. Especially was it true with regard to wheat-growing. Some of our Eastern friends who paid us visits in the early "eighties" said that it was yet in doubt whether or not wheat could be grown successfully. For myself I never had any misgivings upon that point. It has, however, long ago been established beyond question that we can grow an excellent quality of wheat and get a crop each year with as little liability to failure as in any other wheat-producing country. The great fertility of our soil cannot be better proven than by noting the results attained last year in grain-growing, when 25,000 farmers produced considerably over 60,000,000 bushels. I fancy that these results have

NEVER BEEN EQUALED IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY.

It is also gratifying to note that the quality of flour produced from our hard wheat is being better understood and appreciated, as evidenced by the fact that large orders have recently been received for it from countries where it is being introduced for the first time. With advantages of this kind, it was, perhaps, quite natural that many should come to the conclusion that the success of the farmers depended solely upon wheat-growing. In pursuance of that idea, for years our wheat area went on increasing rapidly, but it has long become patent, to every careful, observing agriculturist at least, that if we would become successful farmers we must not depend upon wheat alone, but undertake a little of the various kinds of farming, stock-raising, poultry, etc., as well as grain-growing. A considerable progress has been made in that regard in recent years. It is because I fear that on account of the recent advance in price of wheat our farmers may next year commit the old error of "putting too many eggs in one basket" that I am found, in response to the invitation of the *ADVOCATE*, writing a few lines upon the subject that always takes the foremost place with me, "Farming in Manitoba."

My advice to my fellow-farmers is the same now as it has been for years: Diversify your farming operations as much as possible, doing a little—of course, as much as you can—in the different branches—cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, etc. Grain-growing must not be neglected, for it is yet your staple industry; but the labor in connection with grain-growing is restricted to six months in the year: sowing, summer-fallowing, harvesting, and threshing and marketing. It is only when this work is supplemented by stock-raising, giving employment to farm hands during the balance of the year, that farmers can really show what our Province is capable of doing in their line. To the outside world it is now generally known what the Province can do in wheat-raising. It is well, however, to consider what can be done in the other branches of agriculture.

Some two years ago in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories a general export trade in fat cattle was commenced, shipping direct to Great Britain. This trade is only in its infancy, and will undoubtedly develop rapidly. The business from the Territories will not interfere with that of Manitoba. We produce, or should produce, the

VERY FINEST STALL-FED CATTLE,

fed upon coarse grains, grasses, and roots, which grow here in such abundance. These cattle should be ready the first thing in the spring, when prices are generally best; while cattle from the Territories fatten during the summer on the ranches and are shipped in the fall. The conditions are most favorable for feeding cattle in this Province. We have cheap feed, and it is in winter that our labor is cheapest.

Speaking of this question of feeding, does it not strike the thoughtful Manitoban that there is quite an anomaly existing regarding this question? The Manitoba farmer grows vast quantities of coarse grains suitable for food for stock. Instead of using it himself in that way, he more frequently takes it to market; often gets but a low price; it is shipped East; pays a heavy freight rate, and is fed there to the kind of stock that should be fed with it here. No doubt much of it is consumed by farmers there in feeding for the Manitoba market large quantities of poultry. For instance, I saw an account in a paper a few days ago of a party who was purchas-

ing a number of carloads of poultry in Ontario for shipment to Manitoba, to be brought here, pay another high freight rate, then to be consumed by Manitoba people. Now, it must be apparent to the most obtuse that this is all wrong.

Let me say a word further upon the stock question. I think greater care should be taken to improve stock, cattle especially, so that every animal offered for sale may show the stamp of good breeding. This can only be done by a careful selection of stock and continually adding new blood by the use of the very best sires, so that the progeny may be as far removed as possible from the so-called scrub, which in many cases cost more for care and feed than they are worth and have a tendency to disgust farmers with cattle-raising. For the reason that this important matter has not yet received proper attention, many of our so-called fat cattle going out of the Province are not suitable for the export trade, and consequently do not command the highest prices.

With the increasing number of cattle, dairying is fast becoming an important feature of our agricultural pursuits. The success of this industry is so far satisfactory, but up to the present time the work of the cheese factories and creameries has been confined to the summer months. I believe that this work will in the near future be extended to the winter months; the desirability of such action I am sure must be quite manifest. The increase of all products of the dairy during the winter, as well as the time at the disposal of the farmers to attend to the work, are alike favorable. Personally, I may say that I have every confidence that

OUR DAIRYING INDUSTRY

will soon become one of our most important. I have recently been making additions to my buildings for the care and feeding of all kinds of stock, but more

### Farming in Prince Edward Island.

"OUR LOT IS CAST IN A PLEASANT PLACE; YEA, WE HAVE A GOODLY HERITAGE."

(BY WILLIAM CLARK, NORTH WILTSHIRE.)

That dairying has taken a wonderful stride forward in this Province during the last decade, no one acquainted with the facts will for a moment deny. The beginning of the "nineties" found our farmers producing about enough butter to supply the local market, while of cheese nearly the entire amount consumed here was imported from Montreal. True, a few cheese factories had been in operation before that time, but they failed to work satisfactorily for either the proprietor or the patrons, and so had to suspend business. In 1892 the first cheese factory was started here on the co-operative principle, under the care of the Dominion Government, and the returns were so satisfactory that year to the patrons that the following year eleven factories were operating, and since then the business has steadily grown, till this year thirty factories and half a dozen creameries are operating, the output of the cheese factories being valued at \$200,000, and that of the creameries at \$20,000, and this in spite of a severe depression in prices of dairy products.

While dairying has been enjoying such a boom, other branches of live stock husbandry have not suffered, unless we except the breeding of draft horses, and our farmers have themselves to blame to a certain extent that our horse trade is not what it was in the "eighties." Because a few Standard-breds were sold here at sensational figures, farmers went headlong into breeding that sort, and they now find themselves with a lot of spindle-legged horses that are of little use on the farm and bring little or nothing in the market. But our exports of hog products, poultry products sheep and lambs, are increasing rapidly from year to year, while our

exports of oats, potatoes, hay, and other raw products of the farm are as steadily decreasing. These facts all go to show that the tendencies of the times in farming in this Province are all towards live stock husbandry and a gradual abandoning of the idea that nothing can excel oats and potatoes for export, for the growth of which our soil and climate are particularly adapted.

The great, the pressing need of the farmers at the present day is organized agricultural effort. We, as farmers, are working singly and alone. We have not one really live fruit-growers' or live stock breeders' or dairymen's association in this Province today. True, we have a few farmers' associations, but they exist in name only. They meet once a year to elect officers, but they do no practical work. Such a system of organized work as exists in Ontario would be a great boon to the farmers of this Province. The benefit accruing from the hundreds of Farmers' Institute and dairy meetings held this winter must be incalculable. Then, again, we have grievances im-

posed on us by our Legislature. Our farmers are paying more than their just share of the taxation, and as long as we remain unorganized, as we are at present, our legislators will laugh in their sleeve at us, and we can make no effective demands for redress. We have the minor needs of cold storage for our perishable products, better transportation facilities than we have at present, a cheaper rate of interest on money borrowed by our farmers, but all these and other boons we would soon have if we would but organize and work together.

As we take a retrospective survey we can view the present with much satisfaction, and look forward to the future with hope. The time is quite fresh in the mind of the writer when nine-tenths of us did our business wholly on the credit system. If we took a load of produce to market, the amount was entered on the merchant's books, and if not previously taken up in groceries and provisions, which was generally the case, it had to be taken up in the future. Very little cash found its way into a farmer's pocket. Now nine-tenths of us are independent and buy for cash and sell for cash, and it is an immense advantage. Our prospects for the future are bright. With dairying established on so solid a footing, with live stock husbandry steadily becoming our sheet anchor, with a wonderfully fertile soil and with a salubrious climate, we can say with the psalmist of old, "Our lot is cast in pleasant places; yea, we have a goodly heritage."

Every new subscriber to the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* received during December will receive a copy of the present (Christmas) number and all of 1897 for \$1.



NATIVE MAPLE HEDGE AT EXPERIMENTAL FARM, BRANDON, MAN.

especially for the milking cows, the number of which I intend increasing as fast as I can, with the view of becoming a larger patron of the creamery, and with the view of trying to induce winter operations, at least in our own locality.

Now, just let me say again to your Manitoba readers: Do not make the mistake of depending entirely upon wheat or any other one kind of grain. I believe that from cattle, hogs, sheep, and poultry and their products come returns that change a farmer's account from a bare living, oftentimes a deficit, to a prosperous occupation, as well as daily furnishing his table with the very best in the land, and convincing him that we enjoy in Manitoba a grand heritage in one of the best agricultural countries in the world.

**Manitoba Maple, or Box Elder (Negundo Aceroids), Hedge and Tree Belt on the Experimental Farm, Brandon, Man.**

"Of this tree about 400 feet of double hedge is now being tested. It is found that two rows of trees planted alternately three feet apart each way makes the most effective windbreak."—From report of S. A. Bedford, 1894.

"One row of maple seed sown about 1st May will make the best windbreak around buildings and along roads, when appearance and labor are taken into consideration. If maple is used for gardens, etc., not more than one row should be sown or planted together, as even one row absorbs a great deal of moisture from land in immediate vicinity."—From report of A. Mackay, 1894.

The illustration given shows what a beautiful windbreak a few years' growth will furnish. Many such can now be found scattered over Manitoba.

**The Tendency and Needs of Farming in Ontario.**

A SPECIAL PURPOSE SYSTEM TO BE PURSUED UNDER THE NEW CONDITIONS, WITH INTELLIGENCE AND CARE.

(BY G. W. GREEN.)

If I had been asked two years ago to state what was the tendency of farming in Ontario, I could unhesitatingly have replied, "In the direction of increased attention to dairying." Such, indeed, was the tendency then, although not a few words of warning were heard from those who foresaw in the ever-increasing ranks of dairymen the danger in the near future of a lowering of the prices received for their products. That fear has, unfortunately, been realized, and dairying is not now such a remunerative business as it was in years past. It will not be long, however, before it will once again become a valuable branch of farming, always provided that those interested in it unite in taking every possible care to produce nothing but a really first-class article.

The building of the Canadian Pacific Railway across this Continent during the eighties, and the consequent opening up of our great Northwest, created a sort of revolution in Ontario farming, inasmuch as it demonstrated conclusively that it was impossible for us in Ontario to raise wheat for export in competition with the prairie farmer, and make anything out of it. A great many of us had been very partial to wheat-growing, and it was only with reluctance that we gave it up.

Finding ourselves beaten in wheat-growing, a great many turned their attention to cattle raising and feeding, with the best results, financial and otherwise, for some time. It seemed, indeed, as if there would always be a good margin of profit in that industry. The periodical drop in prices, however, came in due time, and, aggravated by the depression which has prevailed all over the world during late years, brought the profits in beef-raising, like those in the departments of farming, down to a vanishing point.

There can be no denial that the position of the farmer in Ontario is by no means an easy one at the present time. With prices for his products as low as they are, it requires hard work to make a living, and the utmost care and intelligence on his part to show a profit at the year's end. What, then, is he doing to meet this state of affairs? Many, I regret to say, are doing nothing but bemoaning their fate. These men are to be found in the ranks of the less progressive agriculturists, who have never tried sincerely to improve their ways. They were satisfied, when times were good, if they made a living, and now that they cannot do that, on account of low prices and their own out-of-date methods of farming, they make no effort to adopt modern conditions of agriculture.

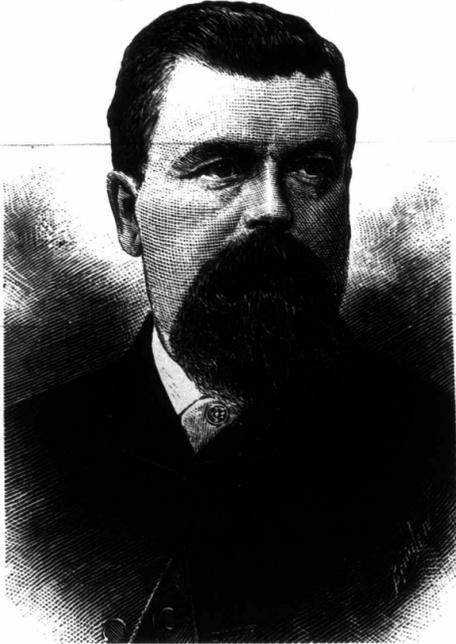
**SPECIAL PURPOSE FARMING.**

A large proportion of the farmers of this Province, however, are honestly doing their best to adapt their methods of farming to suit present conditions. The tendency at the present time seems to be in the direction of special lines, the line or lines chosen being those best suited to the particular section in which each farmer lives. Thus, in districts along Lakes Ontario and Erie the specialty is fruit; in sections where good crops and good pasture are to be met with, stock-raising for beef purposes or dairying are popular, and the same thing holds good as regards sections where horse, sheep, and swine breeding can be profitably carried on. There are two branches of farming, however, that can be more generally pursued all over the Province than the others named, viz., poultry-raising and bee-keeping. The former of these has received a very large increase of attention by farmers in all parts during the last couple of years, and deservedly so, as it is, though but in a small way, one of the most profitable departments on the farm. So is bee-keeping where the conditions are not adverse, and good profits have been realized from the product of the honey-bee.

The man who has determined to follow out any one of these special lines must exercise due care and forethought in so doing. The attainment of

success depends on each one giving special attention to every detail of his work, small though some of them may be and seemingly insignificant. If we start aright, with a high ideal before us of what is required in our business, and carry out our plans according to these high ideals, we shall reap success, even when times are hard and prices low. Take the fruit-grower, for instance. It would be waste of time for a man to try to grow plums or peaches in sections where other fruit will do much better—he must plant the trees which will do best

**Premier of Manitoba.**



HON. THOS. GREENWAY.

there. I know men to-day in the Niagara Peninsula who are doing well by growing peaches. They do not trouble their heads to grow other fruit for market, for the simple reason that peaches do so much better in that locality. It must be borne in mind, however, in this connection that it is not wise for the fruit-grower to experiment with too many varieties. Two or three of the good standard sorts for which the market calls are better than a dozen varieties and will sell better when your fruit is sold on the ground to one buyer.

fruit put up neatly in a small package will catch the eye, especially of the wealthy consumer—a class it is desirable to reach—much more readily than the same fruit put up carelessly in a larger basket or barrel. The majority of shippers use this latter method, hence the comparison between their fruit and the more neatly-arranged samples is more favorable to the last mentioned, especially if, as should always be done, none but really good fruit is put up in them.

**INTELLIGENCE AND CARE.**

In the other departments of the farm we must use the same care and intelligence as in fruit-growing. Economy in preventing leaks and in utilizing to the utmost the advantages which we possess must be steadily practiced under existing conditions. In live stock breeding we must continue to use the best sires that we can get and keep our stock up to the same high standard as we maintained when prices were high for them. By so doing and by properly advertising them we shall get fair prices, even if we do not make fortunes out of them at present figures. By studying up feed combinations we can often save feed and obtain equally as good results as we were getting from a more expensive ration. In live stock raising, too, we have the advantage of disposing of a number of bulky products of the farm in a condensed form, thus saving freight on shipments.

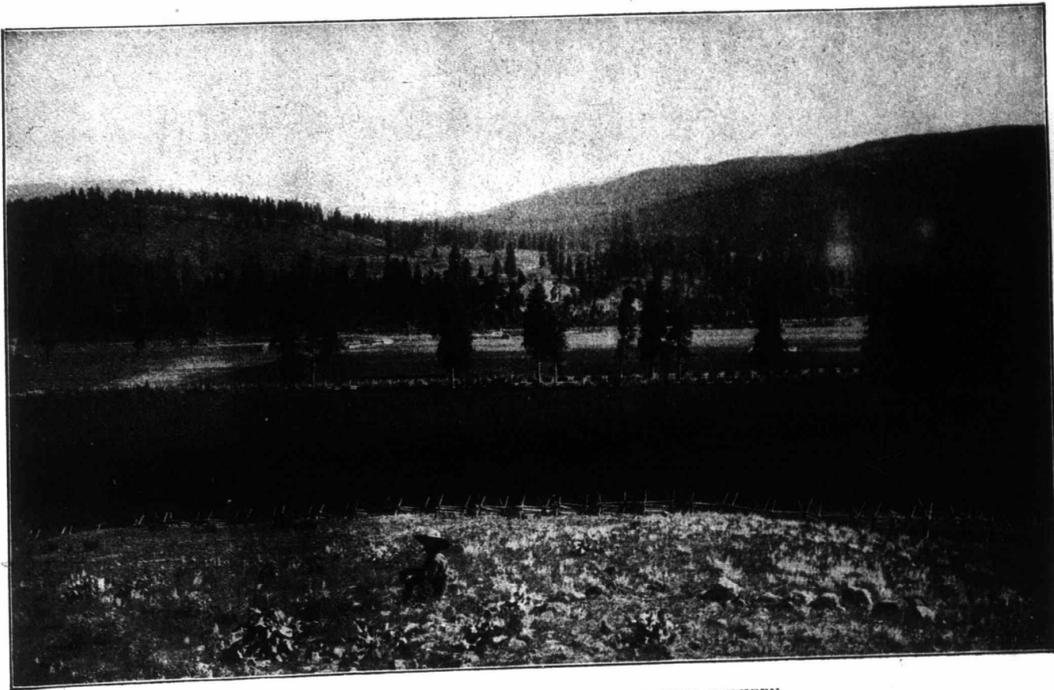
Poultry-raising has made great strides lately in Ontario, but most poultry-raisers have still much to learn. Comfortable quarters, cleanliness, and suitable stock are prime requisites, while two most important points are the food fed and care in marketing the products. The cost of food need not be high, and yet the food may be most suitable for the production of eggs. In this matter we can learn a great deal from successful poultry-raisers. It ought to be unnecessary to state that the best results are obtained when eggs are marketed quite fresh, and when chickens are pushed forward and sold early before the markets are glutted with stock.

**EXTENDING TRADE.**

Apart from the ways in which the Ontario farmer can by his own exertions improve his condition, much can be done by the Government of Canada to relieve him by means of wise changes in the customs tariff. On commodities such as corn, which our feeders require to finish off their fat cattle for the British markets, and which our American cousins can grow to much better advantage than we can, the tariff should be nil. Then those harassing quarantine regulations on both sides of the line, which cripple the live stock trade between the two countries, should be done away with. We need freer intercourse in the matter of farm products with our neighbors to the south of us, and we should endeavor to secure this, if possible, by mutual concessions. In this connection I would strongly urge the importance of farmers being properly represented before the Tariff Commission, so that the Government at Ottawa, when they come to revise the tariff, may be thoroughly conversant with farmers' needs.

**THE SKIES BRIGHTENING.**

Although times are quiet now, I believe that there is an era of prosperity before our farmers in Ontario. There is a hopeful tone pervading the country, and loan companies report farm lands as already stiffening in value. Although times of depression are disagreeable, yet we often learn useful lessons from them which we can make use of to good advantage when a more prosperous era comes, as it must in time. We are fortunate in having in our Dominion and Ontario Ministers of Agriculture, Hon. Sydney Fisher and Hon. Jno. Dryden, two gentlemen who are fully alive to the needs of agriculture, thoroughly in sympathy with it, and ready to do what they can to assist



VIEW ON ROAD BETWEEN SALMON RIVER AND SPALLUMCHEEN. YALE DISTRICT, SALMON VALLEY, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

When once orchards are planted we must carefully attend to our trees, pruning and spraying them at the proper seasons. Spraying has now become a necessary function of fruit-growing if we wish to harvest crops of first-class fruit. During some years, it is true, it does not seem so necessary as in others, but its use always ensures a larger crop of marketable fruit. In marketing fruit ourselves it is always best to get it before the customer as tastefully as possible. A sample of

the farmer in placing his products on distant markets in the best condition. When the cold storage system gets into proper operation and we have the benefit of a fast freight line to Great Britain we need fear the competition of no country in her markets. Our cheese has a first-class reputation there already, our butter is rapidly acquiring the same, while our horses, beef, mutton, bacon, eggs, fruit, poultry, and honey can all be rated as A 1 if only we take care to ship nothing inferior thither.

### The Madison Garden Stock Show.

BY RICHARD GIBSON.

"The Live Stock Society of America" held their second annual show at Madison Square Gardens, Nov. 23rd to 28th. This is not a local show, but has for its officers men selected for their skill and efficiency as breeders and exhibitors of the various classes of live stock from all over the United States; men of ability and progress. To name a few: the President is Hon. W. H. Gentry, Mo.; Vice-President, R. B. Ogilvy, Madison, Wis.; Secretary, G. Howard Davison, N. Y.; Treasurer, Mortimer Levering, Ind.

Notwithstanding the efforts put forth, the show was not a success financially or for the purposes intended. The officials did their duty. The exhibitors responded in greater numbers and with a better display of cattle than last year. Still the attendance was very disappointing. The Americans are evidently not admirers of farm stock, they care more for what they wear than what they eat.

A BONNET SHOW WOULD DRAW a crowd where sirloins and steaks would be passed by. A woman's bicycle race would be an immense attraction while sheep and lambs would be voted vulgar. It does seem strange that the people don't care sufficient about the food they consume to patronize an exhibit of the very finest productions of America's most skillful breeders and feeders. We

are more interested. However, omitting the classes and coming to fat cattle championships by ages. The two-year-olds were represented by the Angus Rusty, the winning yearling of last year; T. Clark's Jessamine, the sweepstakes winner all over the States this fall; the Shorthorn, Gay Lavander, shown so successfully by Robbins throughout the West; the Devon steer, Hanna, a good one from Illinois; and the capital grade shown by Van Natta. This was a wonderful, thick, meaty fellow. Pierce's Angus won, and seldom has a better butcher's steer been seen: firm, yet elastic, his touch was enchanting; thick, and well covered, his frame was symmetrical, no waste, and for his weight, but little offal. Yearlings—Van Natta's Hereford; the Shorthorn heifer, Sultana; Aberdeen-Angus steer, Black Jim; and grade Angus heifer. This was an easy win for the Hereford, and seldom has such a yearling been seen; weighing over 1,500 lbs.; smooth, well covered all over; a thicker fleshed yearling I never touched, and after a hard fight with the two-year-old Angus, he was eventually pronounced champion of all ages and breeds. In calves, T. Clark easily won with another Hereford; a Shorthorn was reserved.

Sheep.—Shropshires not only hold the place of honor in the catalogue, but also by virtue of their numbers and quality, and won outright the prize for best graded flock of any breed, being, however, well followed by Southdowns. In the breeding classes,

to R. Miller's firsts and seconds at the U.S. fall fairs. In lambs it was an easy win for Davison, with the Mills lamb, who has won an unbroken record, finishing the season by winning sweepstakes for best female.

Southdowns rank next, both in quality and interest taken. The competition was not strong, as F. W. Barrett and the Pagham Harbor Co., of England, were the only competitors, except W. Rockefeller, who was not in it. It is needless to follow the classes, as the only two exhibitors divided. Barrett made a wonderful showing, and it was perhaps as well our Canadian flocks were at home. Barrett's flock was in the pink of condition, and reflects great credit upon its owner for the way in which he brought it out.

Hampshires were a good lot and this sort seems to be gaining many friends. The principal exhibitors were Hiller and Milton, from Michigan, and Goble, New Jersey. In aged rams, Milton first, Hiller second, Goble third; they were all imported, and second ran first very close. In one-year-old, Milton first with a capital sheep; Goble second and Hiller third. Lambs—Hiller first, Milton second and third. Ewes—Milton, Hiller, Goble, Shearling—Milton, Milton, Goble. Ewe lambs—Milton, Hiller, Milton.

Cotswolds were only represented by one flock, that of Messrs. Harding & Sons. They made a great show, and had put up a flock that might well frighten other competitors; it is unnecessary to



HORSES AT WATER ON G. E. ROBINSON'S "ELBOW PARK RANCH," CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

are compelled to admit such is a fact after the experience of Chicago and New York. They do things differently in England, and last week the Agricultural Hall, London, was filled to overflowing, while our little town of Guelph had probably as large a paid attendance as at New York.

But to the show of cattle, the Herefords must hold pride of place, and with Thos. Clark, Geo. Redhand and W. S. Van Natta out in full war-paint those who have followed the shows this last fall will realize what a grand show the Whitefaces made. Clark came out best, Redhand second.

In Shorthorns, J. G. Robbins won right through, with Kent and Watson capturing the seconds, except in cows and calves.

Aberdeen-Angus.—S. R. Pierce, Ill., and Goodwin & Judy, Ind., put up a great show. The females were indeed a wonderful lot; but how queer it does seem to a Shorthorn breeder to see such magnificent females with a lord of the harem so commonplace. It is a fact that real symmetrical Angus bulls are seldom seen.

Jerseys and other dairy breeds made a good show. In the former Norton, for Miller & Sibley, gathered in nearly all firsts. As he was leading around his bull a Wall street man, to show his knowledge of stock, said, "That is a polled Angus, see the pole—hence the name."

I can only casually mention the fat cattle, as space will not permit to treat them as they deserve, but must hasten to the sheep, where Canadians

Davison represented the American breeders, while J. Campbell did the honors for Canada; Dr. Davison's old competitor all through the West this fall, R. Miller, having given up the contest. While Canada made a good fight, the battle may be pronounced a draw in favor of the Yankee, as he won flock prize and sweepstakes for ram and for ewe. Throughout the West R. Miller captured in many a stubborn contest, and under many judges, not only flock but also female sweepstakes. Besides the above exhibitors were S. H. Todd, Ohio, and W. Bayard Cutting, N. Y. Aged ram—Davison first, with his imported Coxon ram, "all along the line" a winner this fall, and also sweepstakes in ram classes; he is about perfect forward of hips, thence he fails; Campbell second; Davison third. Shearlings—Campbell first, with his Mansell ram, the Canadian winner this fall. He beat Davison's first prize winner in the West all along, except at Milwaukee, where Miller won with a Mills. This was an interesting fight and fairly won. Ram lambs—J. Campbell first and third; the first was a beautiful lamb, and the third the imported William. Ewes—Davison first, with the champion sweepstakes yearling of last year. She has improved since at Indianapolis and Springfield, and Dan Taylor deserves credit for bringing her out so well and fresh; Campbell second and third. In shearlings the Canadian representative was an easy first, with a home-bred one beating Dr. Davison's Royal winner (second prize pen), which has been winning thirds

particularize.

Dorsets were confined to two exhibitors, and one pulled the wool over the other one's eyes to the extent of only leaving him one first.

Fat Sheep.—It was in the fat classes, however, where there was the most competition. In the Shropshire class for one-year-old wether there were fifteen entries, and R. Gibson's Quantity was selected for pride of place, while Dr. Davison was second and J. Campbell's imported wether third. In registered Shropshire wether lambs (fifteen entries) R. Gibson's Gay Monarch first and his Guiding Star second, Davison third, Todd fourth. The Belvoir flock here repeated the wins of last year, and the first prize wether was the second prize lamb. In pens of three lambs, R. Gibson first, Beattie second, and Davison third.

Southdowns.—Pagham Harbor Co., England, sent over a sensational wether. He was in prize pen at Smithfield last year, and has grown into a wonderfully even, neat, symmetrical shearling, with just the firmest back and thickest legs ever seen at an American fat stock show. He deservedly won championship. But to whom does the honor belong? Is it not an acknowledgement of weakness for an old breeder to publish to the world: "I am importing my show mutton sheep!" It certainly reflects greater credit upon Canadian exhibitors who breed and feed their own. The championship was won last year by Mr. Beattie, and it would have come to Canada again this year had the American flockmas-

ters to depend upon their own breeding and feeding. Lambs—J. D. Wing first, W. H. Beattie second and third; there might be two opinions as to the justness of this award.

In Oxfords and Hampshires, W. H. Beattie, Wilton Grove, Ont., was first with a capital Oxford; Newton second with do., and third with a Hampshire. Lambs—Newton first, with a very good Oxford; Goble second and third with Hampshires. All other breeds, or the menagerie class (fourteen entries)—Newton won all the prizes; first with Leicester (this was J. Kelly's first prize lamb at Guelph last year); second with Cotswold; third, French Merino. Wether lambs (fourteen entries)—First, a Stuyvesant's Dorset; second, Newton, with a Leicester do.; third with Lincoln.

Grades and Crosses (twenty-three entries)—A most interesting exhibit, and to show how the Shrop. is crossing upon all sorts and conditions of ewes it is sufficient to note that the winners in these cross-bred classes all had either Shrop. sires or dams, and the same was remarked last year. John Campbell was first with a truly-made, evenly-fed wether Shrop.-Leicester; Newton second, with a sheep similarly bred; while J. D. Wing was third with a Southdown-Shrop.

In wether lambs (twenty-one entries) S. H. Todd first and second; sired by a Belvoir Shrop. ram, dam by a Shrop., grandam, a Merino ewe—two crosses of Shrop. on Merino foundation; they were justly

years it would be taking out of the country thousands of steers fit for any market in the world. As it is, the ranches alone are supplying the great share of live stock freight, and not one farmer in a hundred is raising the right kind of animals.

Better farming is being done in the Territories at present than ever before. In the early years any sort and all sorts was done. The country was full of young men, and men of all nations and trades. It was overrun also with ponies of no earthly use but for Indians; and when these, men and ponies, were at each end of a plow good work was not the natural result. In addition to these there were what were called "buckboard farmers," who seven days in the week were on the road to town. All is changed now, at least in a great many districts; and though it is true there are a few ponies left, as well as young men, it has been a case of the "survival of the fittest," and buckboard farmers are in some more congenial clime, eking out a living. Farming is being done in a large portion of Assiniboia in accordance with territorial climate, as it is now generally understood, and the settler who may imagine in his first year or two in the country that he can farm according to British or Ontario modes soon finds his mistake.

The "needs" of the Northwest are numerous, but common sense and a good stout heart are absolutely necessary. When a settler attempts to work to suit his own notions, all aid to help him is

make the Territories a more pleasant place to live in; but it is doubtful if the present settlers would be much better off in many respects. However, all now in the country will welcome new-comers, provided they are respectable and industrious; the scum of the cities is not wanted.

The possibilities of the Northwest in the way of agriculture are almost unlimited. Taking wheat alone, we find that a fringe of the country along the C. P. Railway in one Province alone has this year produced several millions of bushels of the very best grain. We find elevators already up or going up at nearly every station, and train load after train load of wheat passing east every day. If to wheat be added oats and barley, two cereals that can be grown more safely than wheat, and in unlimited quantities and of the very best quality; then, again, if to these are added peas, rye, flax, and potatoes—all exportable commodities—some idea may be formed of the possibilities in the next 25 years. Fifteen years ago doubts were entertained as to the possibility of successfully growing any of above crops in paying quantities. Frost for a few years injured the wheat, and the others, with the exception of a few oats, were never tried. It is true that, with the exception of wheat and oats, none of the others are grown in any quantities. Yet, nevertheless, they all can and will be grown, safely and in large quantities either for feeding or exporting purposes, before many years.



"CUTTING OUT HORSES IN CORRALS" AT G. R. ROBINSON'S "ELBOW PARK RANCH," CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

placed. J. Campbell 3rd, with Shrop.-Leicester cross. The championship wether went to Pagham Harbor Co.'s (Eng.) Southdown; championship lamb to S.H. Todd's 1/2 Shrop. and 1/2 Merino grade; grand championship, Pagham Harbor Co.'s Southdown wether.

**Agriculture in the Northwest Territories.**  
PASSING AWAY OF THE "BUCKBOARD FARMER."  
(BY ANGUS MACKAY, SUPT. EXP. FARM, INDIAN HEAD, ASSA.)

Nothing has been so apparent for the last few years, in the Province of Assiniboia at least, as the tendency towards mixed farming. Thousands have staked their all on wheat, and lost; these thousands have lately gone in for stock, grain, dairy, and poultry raising, and are now making a good living. For two years the dairy has been the chief factor in making both ends meet, and, with the dairy policy soon to be carried out by the Dominion Government, in the Territories thousands more will join those already on the high way to the only true system of farming in the Northwest. Another tendency is towards pure-bred sires, and it is a tendency in the right direction. In connection with the unlimited prairie feed, a pure-bred sire is a necessity to produce beef fit for the British market. Prairie feed will produce beef, it is true, without

pure-bred sires, but not large or rich enough for British tables. Nothing would pay the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. better than to carry free from Ontario its surplus stock of young bulls. In three

thrown away; but those who comply with this Western country's way of meeting its climate and requirements in their farming operations would be benefited greatly by lower freight rates on what they send out and what is brought in for them. A settler can grow an acre of wheat yielding from 20 to 40 bushels for from \$4 to \$6 per acre; but when he has to pay \$6 to \$12 to send the acre of grain to the Eastern markets, one of the "needs" is very apparent. A cheap rate on fruit from Ontario and the Coast, and on coal from the West, would be very acceptable to all in the Territories.

Pure-bred sires in cattle and swine is one of the present and pressing needs of the country. Scrub cattle are raised everywhere; they are found in every settlement, and the more of them a man has the poorer that man is. But with well-bred cattle it is different; you see them now and then in a long day's journey, but often they are not to be found, except on the way from West to Eastern markets.

The dairy industry is one that requires assistance in the way of making a uniformly good article, and finding a good market. The soil, the pasture, the water, and the willingness are all here to make the best butter in the world, but the promised aid from the Dominion Government is greatly needed, and will be greatly appreciated.

From all accounts, immigration is the one great need of the Northwest—the one great cure for all our ailments. Immigration would certainly give us more neighbors, fill up our vacant lands, and

If to grain be added the stock industry, the possibilities are increased 100 fold. Either with the unlimited prairie land, with its natural grasses, or with its tilled soil and increased productiveness, there are simply no bounds to the production of cattle, horses, sheep, swine, and poultry in any part of the Territories. While to-day the ranches in the north and west raise the large majority of cattle that find a market in the East, there is no reason why every settler cannot add his quota to the large droves found in these parts.

The dairy industry is one yet in its infancy, and, young as the infant is, it has given evidence of great possibilities for the future. A few years ago a butter factory was unknown, and though to-day they are still few in numbers, all doubts as to their practicability are at an end. When Northwest butter will sell in the Old Country as it has done the present year, at nearly the same price as the best Danish article that has for years held the highest place in the markets of Great Britain, then it only requires united action of the people and Government to make this one of the greatest industries of the Northwest Territories.

Space forbids more being said on the tendencies, needs, and possibilities of the Northwest. While the tendencies are all pointing to better and more diversified farming, the needs are decreasing each year, and with the aid and experience gained in the country, the possibilities will soon overshadow the lesser Canada in the East.

### The Ontario Fat Stock Show (Concluded).

#### SHEEP.

It was thought two years ago that the sheep exhibit had reached the probable limit of excellence and numbers, but for several years the regular attendant has seen an improvement year by year until the present climax has been reached.

*Cotswolds* were the first to be called into the ring. The exhibitors were: J. G. Snell, Snelgrove; Thos. Waters, Rockwood; John Park & Son, Burgessville; Geo. Weeks, Glanworth; W. E. Wright, Glanworth; and John Rutherford, Roseville. The five yearling ewes were, perhaps, the most uneven section in the long-wooled breeds. Mr. Snell's imported pair were the best individuals—lengthy, broad, and deep in front and well covered on back; but the second ewe might have carried considerable more width of thigh without being out of proportion. She handled well, however, and was followed by John Park & Sons with two fairly good specimens. Mr. Snell's best ewe was hard to fault. The seven ewe lambs had among them at least five well-fitted entries of pronounced Cotswold character. Parks' first prize lamb need have no hesitation in preparing for the fray of 1897. She is already well advanced in growth, and is withal of nice quality. Mr. Weeks came in second and third, and Snell fourth and fifth. Evidently Cotswold breeders do not find it advantageous to use the castrating knife extensively, as only three yearling wethers were out in competition. John Rutherford has frequently proved himself a judge of what to feed advantageously, and also to possess a knowledge of how to fit them. In this case he had little difficulty in heading the list with a massive sheep, followed by a couple of ripe sheep of Snell's breeding, shown by Mr. Wright. John Park & Sons showed three prime wether lambs, upon which he defeated Snell's trio in the grouped contest.

Judges.—Wm. Thompson, Uxbridge, and Jos. Gaunt, St. Helen's. Reserve—E. Parkinson, Eramosa.

*Lincolns*.—While there were only two firms exhibiting, with the exception of Rutherford's yearling wether the competition was keen and the individuals of high merit. In each ewe section the judges took considerable time in deciding, so even were the sheep. Gibson & Walker, of Denfield, won the first and third awards in each case, however, by reason of their possessing more of the ideal Lincoln type; while Wm. Oliver, of Avonbank, came between them. These two flocks always send out high-class representatives, both in character and fitting. The first-prize yearling made herself and breeders famous by bringing to the flock for the second time in succession the \$100 Cooper silver cup premium for best sheep bred and owned by exhibitor. Gibson & Walker took first and second on a massive pair of yearling wethers, with Rutherford third. The cup now becomes the property of Messrs. Gibson & Walker. Gibson & Walker again led in single wether lambs, with Oliver second and third, the latter winning first in the group of three. Throughout the whole class there can hardly be said to have been an indifferent individual shown.

Judges.—E. Parkinson, Eramosa, and Jos. Gaunt, St. Helen's. Reserve—Wm. Thompson, Uxbridge.

*Leicesters* were shown by Orr & Lillico, Galt; J. S. Smith, Maple Lodge; John Kelly, Shakespeare; A. & W. Whitelaw, Guelph; and John Rutherford, who competed only in the different wether sections. The yearling ewe section, although having four in competition, was an exceedingly difficult one to judge. The four firms mentioned each put in a sheep. Kelly came out ahead more because of the high condition of his entry than for her Leicester character; the second and third winners, of Whitelaw's and Smith's, surpassing her in type. The seven ewe lambs that lined up were also a magnificent row, not only nearly all ideals of the breed, but they were fat and well-grown. They won in the following order: Whitelaw first, Kelly second and third. Yearling wethers and wether lambs compared favorably with the female sections. Kelly won first in each of the single sections and second in the trio of wether lambs. Orr & Lillico won second in each of the single sections, first in the trio, and third in ewe lambs; and Rutherford third in yearling wethers.

Judges.—Jos. Gaunt, St. Helen's, and W. Thompson, Uxbridge. Reserve—E. Parkinson, Eramosa.

*Oxfords*, like the Cotswolds, dropped out last year, but were again forward upon this occasion. The flocks of Smith Evans, Gourcock; Peter Arkell, Teeswater, Ont.; J. H. Jull, Mt. Vernon, were represented in each of the female sections, while W. E. Wright, of Glanworth, and John Rutherford showed wethers. The numbers were in no case large, but the quality was up to the best. The first prize Toronto Industrial yearling winner led in this contest. She was upon this occasion shown by J. H. Jull, who also was awarded third on her mate; while Mr. Evans' flock, out of which they came since the Industrial Fair, carried away the second and fourth prizes. We might say that the first prize ewe had no walkover, as the reserve judge had to be called to decide the matter. Evans, Jull, and Arkell won, as mentioned, in ewe lambs, with not much between them and all good individuals. In wethers Mr. Wright came forward with a very handsome, well-fitted sheep, while Rutherford followed with one of his ripe mutton sort. Mr. Arkell was placed third on a good sheep carrying less mutton than the other two.

Judges.—Henry Arkell, Teeswater, and J. Miller, Markham. Reserve—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip.

*Shropshires* attracted much attention, as well they might, when the flocks that stood so well in New York at the recent show were present. These, however, were not the only good ones, although they were, perhaps, the most highly fitted. The exhibitors were John Campbell, Woodville; D. G. Hanmer, Mount Vernon; John Rutherford; R. Gibson, Delaware; W. E. Wright, Glenworth, and W. H. Beattie, Wilton Grove. The five yearling ewes were exceedingly pleasing to witness, so broad, deep and even were they. Not only were they models of the breed, but the perfection in which they were brought out showed what applied skill can attain to. Mr. Campbell's New York winner can hardly be improved upon as a mutton sheep, while her wool covering is about as near as possible what the standard of excellence calls for. She won first, and was followed by her mate, a ewe having a little less development, but very nice. The backs of this pair met one's hand surprisingly firmly, so short was the covering of wool. Some of the others looked as well, but had not been so highly finished. Mr. Beattie was placed third on a well-fitted entry, with hardly the briskeet of those above her. Messrs. Hanmer's pair would take a deal of beating if judged solely on Shropshire character, but they had hardly flesh enough to compete successfully at this fat stock show. Campbell again led in ewe lambs, taking first and second. Breed type and high flesh were

land, while Gibson's defeated everything he met last fall at New York and at Guelph. Campbell's sheep was given the preference, and an excellent individual of Hanmer's was placed third, and Campbell fourth. The string of twelve wether lambs was such as to make a judge's head ache, so even were the best half dozen, while Gibson's New York lambs seemed certain of something very good. A big-little beauty of Hanmer's was right among them, and won second premium, the first, third and fourth going to Gibson's. The fifth ticket was fastened to a real Shrop. of Mr. Wright's. There was no looking over necessary to place the first award in three lambs, as Gibson's lot had full and undisputed right to it. Hanmer was placed second and Wright third.

Judges.—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip, and Henry Arkell, Teeswater. Reserve—J. Miller, Markham.

The *Southdown* class was the big one of the show. Every section was well filled, and every prize-winner was a good sheep. The main contest lay between John Jackson, of Abingdon, and T. C. Douglas, Galt. Other exhibitors were: A. Simenton & Son, Blackheath; Geo. Baker & Son, Simcoe; W. H. Beattie, Wilton Grove; A. Telfer & Son, Paris; and Thos. W. Smith, Glanford. The twelve yearling ewes were not all crackers, but more than half of them were good sheep. Mr. Jackson has always been a successful exhibitor, and we suppose he will continue to be for years to come. His pair of snug, well-covered, well-fitted ewes were correctly placed first and second. Douglas followed next in order with perhaps the fattest ewe in the row, and Messrs. Telfer came fourth. Jackson's ewe lambs were quite in keeping with his yearlings, winning no less than first, second and fourth. Douglas was placed fifth with a very fat lamb, a bit plain in the head but well developed in body. One of the sensational sheep of the show appeared in the yearling wether section (we refer to that shown by Mr. Beattie), winning here and also for best sheep any breed, grade or age, in a strong ring of supposed champions. Two noble specimens that would tickle the palate of an epicure, shown by Mr. Douglas, were placed second and third, followed by Messrs. Simenton. Mr. Douglas made a clean sweep of all the money offered for single wether lambs, and first and second for trios. Messrs. Baker followed him next in order in each case.

Judges.—J. Miller, Markham, and Henry Arkell, Teeswater. Reserve—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip.

*Dorsets* were better shown on this occasion than for several years, although just two competitors were out, Messrs. R. H. Harding, of Thorndale, and James Bowman, Guelph, the latter exhibiting just three sheep, viz., a yearling ewe and two ewe lambs, upon which he won third, and third and fourth, respectively. Mr. Harding's nine entries were all good specimens of the breed, and in good flesh.

Judges.—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip, and Henry Arkell, Teeswater. Reserve—J. Miller, Markham.

*Hampshires and Suffolks* were out in competition in meager numbers; the former shown by John Kelly and John Rutherford, and the latter by W. J. Rudd, Eden Mills. While these two breeds are much alike in body, the Hampshire has possibly a more roomy frame, more wool on the head, and a brown face and legs as against the blacker points of the Suffolk. Mr. Kelly's ewes in both sections were well fitted. They won all but second in yearlings, which went to a strong ewe of Mr. Rudd's. Mr. Rutherford had no opposition in either wether sections. Judges as for Dorsets.

*Grades*.—The class for grades was well filled in every section by grades of mostly Lincoln, Leicester and Shropshire. The exhibitors in every case were men who competed in the various pure-bred classes. The Shropshire breed drew most honor to themselves in this open field. A half dozen yearling ewes made up the smallest section. Campbell and Wright had neither much to boast over the other, as each had low, wide, deeply-fleshed ewes sired by rams of their favorite breed. Campbell's ewe was particularly firm and "Shroppy" and won first place. Orr & Lillico had out the next in merit in quite a typical Leicester. Yearling wethers compared favorably with the ewes, being from the same flocks. Here the Lincoln blood scored in a massive sheep of Gibson & Walker's. Campbell was next in order and Kelly following, each with a Shropshire grade. Wether lambs, both single and in threes, made strong sections, there being some dozen or more of various shades of complexion in each lot. Shropshires again scored, with Leicesters in second place. In ewe lambs, Shropshires showed the greatest excellence, with little margin over well-grown, firm-backed Lincolns that took second and third awards; Beattie's prime little Blackfaced fatling receiving the highly-commended ticket.

Judges.—Wm. Thompson, Uxbridge, and T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip. Reserve—Henry Arkell, Teeswater.

#### SWINE.

The exhibit in the swine department exceeded in numbers that of previous years, but the general quality and finish was hardly up to that of 1895. Although in the several classes of breeds many very excellent and even superior individuals were exhibited, a large per cent. seemed to lack the finishing touches, and there was also, in many cases, a noticeable weakness in quality and conformation. But as in last year's exhibit, there was a marked disappearance of the overloaded, unmarketable sort, giving place to a decided type and weight, for which the packers and shippers of the present are calling.

### The Maritime Provinces Experimental Farm.



MR. G. W. FORREST, SUPERINTENDENT.

In the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* for Sept. 16th, 1895, we gave an extended account of the origin, development and work of the Dominion Experimental Farm system, together with portraits and biographical sketches of Dr. Saunders, the able Director, and entire staff. Some time ago we announced the retirement of one of the Superintendents (Col. W. M. Blair) of the Experimental Farm at Nappan, Nova Scotia. Above we give a portrait of his successor, Mr. Geo. W. Forrest, whom we might say has always been engaged in farming. Starting with small capital, by care, economy, and good methods he became possessed of one of the best farms (now managed by his sons) in that part of the Dominion, which is saying a great deal. His mottoes have been, "Whatever you do, do well," and "Feed your farm and it will feed you." His ancestors came from Ireland over a century ago, and were among the first settlers in Cumberland county, where Mr. Forrest was born, at River Hebert, in 1838. Among the positions of trust previously held were those of militia captain, municipal councillor, valuator on the Intercolonial Railway, and member of the Provincial House of Assembly. The farm at Nappan has done well under his care this season. Steps have also been taken, by the disposal of the cattle on the farm and the introduction of improved pure-bred stock, that it is hoped will prove decidedly advantageous.

both exemplified, while Hanmer's third and fourth awards require no apology made for them, so nearly are they perfect. A warm contest waged in the yearling wether section between Campbell's and Gibson's sheep. Here is where we do not envy the sheep their mutton, but it does seem a matter for regret when the pick of ewes are rendered liable to be ruined as breeders at the commencement of their career. These two sheep had little between them; Campbell's was of this year's importation and no doubt was as good as could be procured in Eng-



### An Agricultural Revival in Nova Scotia.

EXPORTS INSTEAD OF IMPORTS—DAIRYING AND LIVE STOCK REARING—SUITABLE BREEDS—INDIVIDUAL EFFORT RATHER THAN GOVERNMENT AID.

(BY R. W. CHIPMAN, SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE.)

A brief reference to our agricultural work and progress for the past 25 years will enable me more easily to begin with our present tendencies. I regret to say that during the last quarter of a century we have not made that progress in stock raising and general farming that, in my judgment, our opportunities demand; in fact, in the raising of all kinds of live stock, taking the Province as a whole, we have not held our own,—have been actually importing beef, mutton, pork, and poultry for home consumption, and also import from other provinces oats, barley, peas, and beans; all of which can easily be grown at home. Thus, you will see, we import too much and export too little; but in fruit-growing, I am glad to say that in the last 25 years we have made most marvellous and rapid progress in the counties of Annapolis, Kings, part of Hants, as well as in many other counties. We have also, in the last few years, made a decided start in producing a better quality and larger quantity of butter and cheese.

Having visited during the past season and attended meetings in sixteen out of eighteen counties in the Province, I am glad to say the present tendencies are a general waking up or revival among our farmers, and a full determination to make a forward move in advanced farming.

The fruit-growers, who have trebled and quadrupled the production during the last 15 years, are still extending, with energies strengthened by successes in the past. The same may be said with the dairy industry. In sections where fruit cannot be grown so extensively, farmers are beginning to learn that dairying on the co-operative plan is the next most profitable branch of farming.

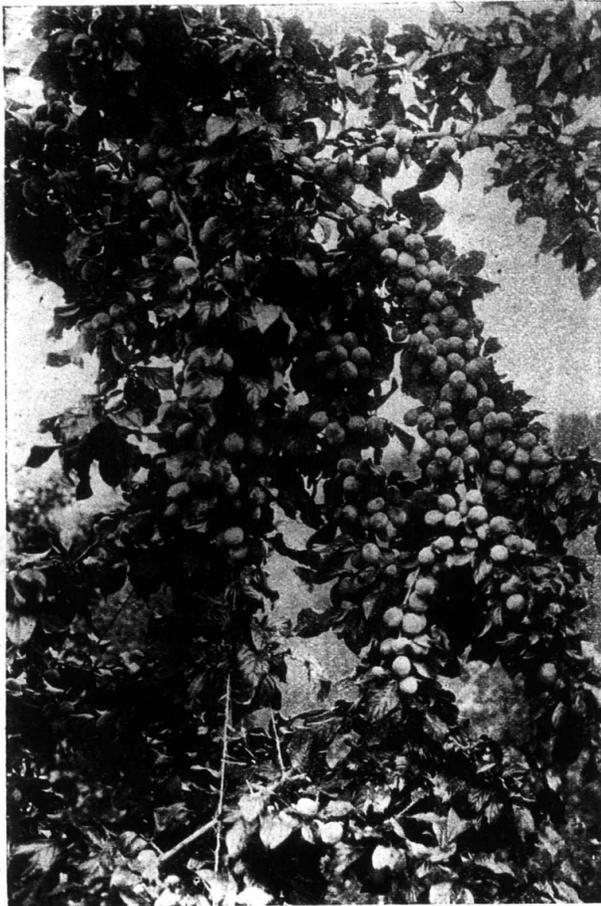
In stock raising, hogs will naturally follow and grow with the dairy. In beef and mutton we have stood still or gone back so long that the slight start we are now making is scarcely perceptible, but I think I can see the beginning at least of a forward movement. Many of the counties of this Province, while not adapted for fruit-growing, are equal to any in the Dominion for stock raising,—some favored with extensive dykes and marsh lands, with good uplands adjoining; other counties, notably in Cape Breton, with miles of broad and fertile intervale, and hillsides and mountain slopes, where thousands of cattle and hundreds of thousands of sheep can be profitably raised, our home market supplied and a surplus exported to the great London market, as easily as from any other Province in the Dominion, and I think I am safe in saying the inclination and tendencies of our farmers at the present time are to take advantage of our opportunities and start a progressive and forward movement. Having spoken of our past and present tendencies, our needs will not require much space. I am not one of those who think that governments can do much to aid the individual farmer; but, rather, let him alone, except in aiding him to obtain the best facilities for transporting the productions of the farm to the best markets in the world.

Agriculturists must not depend upon governments, but rather on their own individual efforts; they need to improve their stock. This idea is now growing among the several agricultural societies throughout the Province, as well as with individual farmers. To be successful in this, they have no trouble in starting right; they need not spend time and money experimenting to find the best breeds for beef and dairying; past generations have done this, and I am convinced that, for beef, no improvement can be made on the three great beef breeds—Shorthorns, Herefords, and Polled Angus; all are good, and can be obtained at prices within the reach of all; they mature young, and produce the best quality of beef, commanding the highest prices. In dairying, the same may be said. We do not need to experiment for a breed; this has been settled by the highest authorities years ago;—the Ayrshire, Jersey, and Guernsey are the three great dairy breeds. [NOTE.—It will be a surprise to many to notice the omission of the Holstein-Friesian in this enumeration of the "great dairy breeds," in view of their achievements during recent years.—EDITOR.] It is as useless to try to produce butter and cheese from a beef animal as it is good beef from a dairy cow. You cannot deposit your feed where it will produce both butter and beef at the same time. You might as well sow rye and expect wheat to grow. We also need in parts of our Province, where some of our best farming lands are producing little or nothing, a fresh importation of live, up-to-date, progressive farmers, or, if possible, we need some inducement to persuade some, at least, of our young men who have left these beautiful farms to return and give their native Province the benefit of some knowledge they might have gained in advanced farming, and thus help to keep the few remaining boys at home.

A few words on our prospects will bring this hurriedly-written letter to a close. I believe the Province of Nova Scotia possesses a greater variety of natural resources of wealth than any other Province in the Dominion. We have our mines, containing unlimited quantities of coal, gold, iron, gypsum, and other minerals, and our lumber and fisheries; all of immense value; but our agricultural resources are greater than them all, and these facts are very generally admitted. What better prospects can our young men have in any country in the world than by taking advantage of and giving their best energies and ability to develop the great natural resources of our own native Province, and immigrants or intending settlers coming to Canada landing first in Nova Scotia may go further and fare worse than making a home on some of the good farms, with fairly comfortable buildings, that can be purchased at prices within the reach of men of moderate means.

### Plum Growing in B. C.

The accompanying illustration represents part of a typical plum tree on the Experimental Farm at Agassiz, B. C., which is a fair sample of how fruit grows in the Prairie Province. "I need not tell you," writes Mr. Sharpe, Supt. of the Experimental Farm, "that moderate care will and does



PORTION OF PLUM TREE ON EXPERIMENTAL FARM, AGASSIZ, B. C.

produce as good results anywhere in this Coast region. So many people when they see our trees say, 'Oh, but you have the Government at your back,' forgetting that the soil and climate never ask who owns or tills it, but respond as readily to fair treatment at the hands of any one."

### Washing Fowls for Showing.

To properly wash a fowl is somewhat difficult to accomplish, if not gone about in an understanding way. Hard-feathered fowls, such as games or dark-colored birds, should not need washing; but, as a rule, buffs, whites, and other light colors need a water bath in order to be presentable in good company.

Two ordinary-sized tubs answer well wherein to do the washing: one to wash in, the other to rinse in. To four or five gallons of water, at about 100 degrees Fah., add two ounces of dissolved white castile soap, and a piece of washing soda the size of a man's thumb. Place the bird in the water and sponge it well over, so as to wet the feathers; afterwards take a small hand brush and continue to brush the feathers down until all stained spots have disappeared. Sometimes a tail, crest, breast, or wing will need brushing or rubbing for a considerable time to give it a perfectly clean appearance.

The other tub should contain clean water, about 70 degrees. The birds should be rinsed in this

water until their feathers are thoroughly free from soap, else they are liable to adhere to each other. After removing them from the water they should be gently rubbed down with a sponge, and then put to dry in a wicker basket before a fire. The washing should be done three or four days before going to show. Exposure to drafts or cold temperature should not be allowed for a couple of days after washing, or there will be danger of colds. The need of very clean quarters after washing is obvious.

### Our Popular Collie Dog Premium.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

DEAR SIR,—I am receiving a great number of enquiries for collie dogs through your offering them for premiums, and many, no doubt, write in expectation of being able to buy them at prices quoted for inferior stock. As at present I have nothing for which I would accept less than \$15.00, would it be too much like asking a free advertisement to announce this fact to your readers?

Yours truly, ROBT. McEWEN.

December 1, 1896.

[NOTE.—From the above it will be seen that our offer (still good) of one of Mr. McEwen's young collies for ten new paid-up subscribers to the FARMER'S ADVOCATE is unprecedented, and would not be possible under ordinary circumstances.—EDITOR.]

### Raps in New York State.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—There seems to be a difference of opinion among the farmers of Canada as to the safety of pasturing rape late in the season, when the plant is wet or frozen, and several feeders report losses of both sheep and cattle in recent numbers of the ADVOCATE.

Although warned repeatedly of the danger of allowing stock to pasture on rape when it was wet, I learned from experience that it was as safe to feed when wet as dry, and that when frosted it had no bad effects. During the past five years the only loss I have sustained was in 1895, when a high wind blew some fence down during the night and about seventy breeding ewes found their way into the rape field, when they were empty, and one fine ewe was dead in the morning. Two or three others were bloated and purged some, but were all right again in a day or two. I have always been very careful not to turn sheep on the rape until they were well filled, so as to avoid the danger of their eating too greedily at first; and then they are never taken from the rape until they go into winter quarters. In 1895 our lambs were on twelve acres of rape until November, when they were put into the barn, and the field was given to the breeding ewes, which were on it until the middle of January. They had access to the barn at all times, where hay was in the racks constantly, but they only ate a little of it. The ewes were very fleshy through the winter, but the lambs were remarkably vigorous and rugged, and an unusually small per cent. of lambs were lost during the lambing season.

Last spring we sowed rape seed with twelve acres of oats, in which our lambs were pastured from the time the oats were harvested until December 1st. During this time the lambs were never taken from the field, and although there was ten acres of meadow in the field, on which there was an abundance of clover and timothy, they were seldom seen on that part of the field, and did not feed there at all. They went into winter quarters last week in prime condition, weighing from 130 to 150 pounds each.

The past two years I have sowed about three pounds of rape seed per acre through the corn, just before we cultivate the last time. After the corn is taken off the field to fill the silo the rape makes a rapid growth and provides a great amount of feed of the best quality. Our breeding ewes are now on fifteen acres of rape sown in this way, and are given hay in the barn as last season, and I never saw a flock in a healthier condition—all fleshy enough for the butcher.

Five years of experience has convinced me that if sheep are first turned into rape when full, with salt within reach at all times, and are never taken from it, rape may be fed with perfect safety, whether dry, wet, or frosted. FRANK D. WARD, Genesee Co., N. Y., Dec. 8th, 1896.

### Legal Query -- Payment on Mortgage.

CONSTANT READER, Norfolk Co., Ont.:—(1) In making a payment on a mortgage, is it compulsory for the man holding the mortgage to endorse the amount paid on the mortgage, and also to give a receipt; or is a receipt alone sufficient to stand law? (2) Is it necessary to have a witness at time of making such a payment; and could the man's wife act in the capacity of a legal witness?

[(1) It is not necessary that the payment be endorsed on the mortgage. The receipt alone is the only correct thing. (2) No witness is necessary or required if you take the receipt.]

**The Fruit Year in Nova Scotia.**

A MEMORABLE SEASON IN THE HISTORY OF A FLOURISHING INDUSTRY.  
(BY PROF. E. E. FAVILLE.)

The past year has been a most prosperous one for the land of the "Bluenoses." Especially is this true in all the farming districts. In spite of the backward fall, beset with wet weather, the barns, cellars, and granaries are all well filled, bespeaking the possibilities of the "Province by the Sea." In all lines the common word has been "a bountiful harvest." Nature has been busy during the past year on every side, but she has not done it all, for the Nova Scotian farmer has not been idle. His brain, as well as his brawn, has been actively engaged in making the best of his opportunities. As a result, improved methods are noticed and a healthy growth observed all alone the line, more so during 1896 than ever before. During the year about to end, more meetings of Farmers' Institutes have been held, with a better feeling of co-operation, than in other years—a good sign. The development of fruit culture has eclipsed that of any other branch of farming, bringing larger revenues to the Province than any other two agricultural industries. This has been due largely to the efforts of the N. S. Fruit-Growers' Association, which

being opened up and planted. The "Gravenstein apple" of N. S. is celebrated the world over for its delicious flavor and color. Trees have been known to bear as high as twenty-five barrels of apples per tree. The principal farms in the Annapolis Valley are fruit farms. These farms are usually from twenty to thirty acres in extent.

The accompanying engraving shows a glimpse of "Willow Bank" fruit farm, near Wolfville, N. S. This is a typical fruit farm, the property of Mr. C. R. H. Starr, a leading fruit-grower. The cut shows a group of Gravenstein trees at packing time in September. There are about twenty acres of bearing orchard in this block. Some of the trees are not in full bearing; a portion of the trees are home-grown stock, which is always best, making hardier and healthier trees. Mr. Starr has the following varieties planted, viz.: Gravensteins, Ribstons, Kings, Golden Russets, Nonpareils, Baldwins, Blenheim, Pippin, and Northern Spy. The soil is a clay loam, well tile-drained. The orchard has been fertilized chiefly with stable manure and marsh mud (the latter being easy to obtain), supplemented with small quantities of bone meal, muriate of potash, and nitrate of soda. Young trees are all cultivated with hoed crops, while the older portion of the orchard is cultivated thoroughly in the spring and sown with buckwheat, plowing it under in the fall. "Willow Bank" has been made to pay every year

**British Agriculture in 1896.**

A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW FROM WHICH THE CANADIAN FARMER CAN DRAW VALUABLE LESSONS.

(BY ARCHIBALD McNEILAGE, EDITOR OF THE "SCOTTISH FARMER" AND SECRETARY OF THE GLYDESDALE SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.)

In some respects 1896 has been memorable in the history of British agriculture. It has witnessed a distinct revival in cattle breeding, a recovery in the dairy industry, a notable advance in the price of wheat, and an unusual activity in the sphere of legislation. These may be said to exhaust the favorable elements in the agricultural world. On the wrong side of the account we have had an uncertain, not to say bad harvest, a fall in the prices of sheep, and no revival worthy of the name in the realm of horse breeding. This applies to the general horse trade of the kingdom, but there have been notable sales in England of Shire horses when quite exceptional prices have been realized, and Irish hunting horses continue as of yore to hold the first place in the affections of gentlemen who follow the hounds. Times, taking the average all through, have not improved; money, with the average farmer, is a scarce commodity, and for the cattle feeder and grain grower in the Scottish Midlands the years 1895 and 1896 have probably been the worst he has ever experienced. This rapid summary of the situation must suffice by way of



HARVESTING GRAVENSTEIN APPLES ON "WILLOW BANK" FRUIT FARM, THE PROPERTY OF MR. C. R. H. STARR, NEAR WOLFVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA.

each year extends the scope of its work, having, by the aid of the Provincial Government, established and equipped a free school of horticulture, the only one on this Continent. The school is fitted for the education of the fruit-growers, and for the study of the many orchard problems, supplemented by a series of lectures given during the year in the fruit sections throughout the Province. The fruit industry is still in its infancy, having only during the last decade and a half claimed the general attention of the agriculturists, especially in the far-famed "Annapolis Valley," planted as it now is with thousands of apple, pear, plum, apricot, cherry, and peach trees, with acres of small fruits besides, including the development of large cranberry bogs. The past season shows a product in apples alone of over half a million barrels, the bulk of which find their way into the English markets at a profit to the grower. Although the crop has been large all over this Continent, the abundant yield and high grade of fruit make up in a great measure the decrease in price. The nearness to market makes Nova Scotia an easy competitor in the markets of the world, as she has a fine seaboard. The intensive system of planting is being carried on quite largely throughout the Province; a number of large plantations are owned and operated by stock companies. It is estimated that during the past year over 2,000 acres of large and small fruits were planted in Nova Scotia. In addition to the Annapolis Valley, there are many other localities equally as favorable to apple-growing now

large profits. This is only an example of hundreds of other similar cases.

A large portion of the orchards are fertilized wholly with commercial fertilizers. During the past few months a large apple-shipping company has been formed, with fruit-growers as stockholders, and promises to be the largest of its kind on the Continent. In connection with this work is the cold storage movement, now under full headway. The work has not rested in Nova Scotia alone, but has extended to the Provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, a great impetus having been given to fruit-growing there during the past year. The year about to end has been a memorable one to the fruit-growers. The new year is welcomed with bright prospects for the future, as judged by the past. Proud of the country in which we live, we can but say with the poet—  
"Lives there a man with soul so dead  
Who never to himself has said,  
This is my own, my native land."

**A Cure for Hog Cholera.**

Mr. Gollgoly, Lampton Co., Ont., has had a good opportunity of testing the virtues of the following mixture for hog cholera: Half a teacup each of mixture for sulphur added to half a bushel of copperas and sulphur was left standing fresh wood ashes. This mixture was left standing in troughs where the hog had free access to it. Mr. Gollgoly reports raising a large number of hogs this summer, surrounded by hog cholera infected farms on all sides, and his pigs entirely escaped the malady.

preface, and we proceed now within the narrow limits at our disposal to indicate, in the order named, the salient features of each department.

**A REVIVAL IN CATTLE BREEDING.**

Particulars have so recently been given of the prices recorded at the Shorthorn sales in the North of Scotland that it is unnecessary to recapitulate. All the breeds have shared in the revival, and it is long since the breeders of cattle had as good a time as they have had during the year now closing. The enhanced values are due to two causes: the extreme demand from the Argentine Republic for breeding bulls, especially of the Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus breeds; the active demand for Ayrshires from Sweden; and the growth of breeding, begotten of confidence from the passing of the Cattle Diseases Bill making slaughter at the port compulsory in the case of foreign cattle. In the ordinary commercial cattle trade Ireland has shared to an uncommon extent, and it is commonly reported amongst implement makers that it is much easier collecting money from Irish farmers than from farmers in other parts of the kingdom. It is generally admitted that store cattle from Ireland have greatly increased in quality in recent years, and this is generally, and we believe correctly, attributed to the use of improved Shorthorn bulls. The Shorthorn and the Shorthorn cross are favorites in Ireland, and this largely because the farmers there combine dairy farming with the breeding of store cattle for the British market.

Many of the Irish farmers whom we have met regard this general purpose animal as pre-eminently the product of the Shorthorn; and while in the richer lands of the South and Southeast, Aberdeen-Angus cattle have made good progress, the smaller tenant farmer still patronizes the red, white and roan. There is every prospect that young bulls in spring will be dear. There are very few two-year-old bulls in the country, and farmers will need to buy yearlings for breeding purposes this spring. Cattle breeders under the present regime will very likely enjoy further seasons of prosperity, and may be excused for thinking that the days of their mourning are ended.

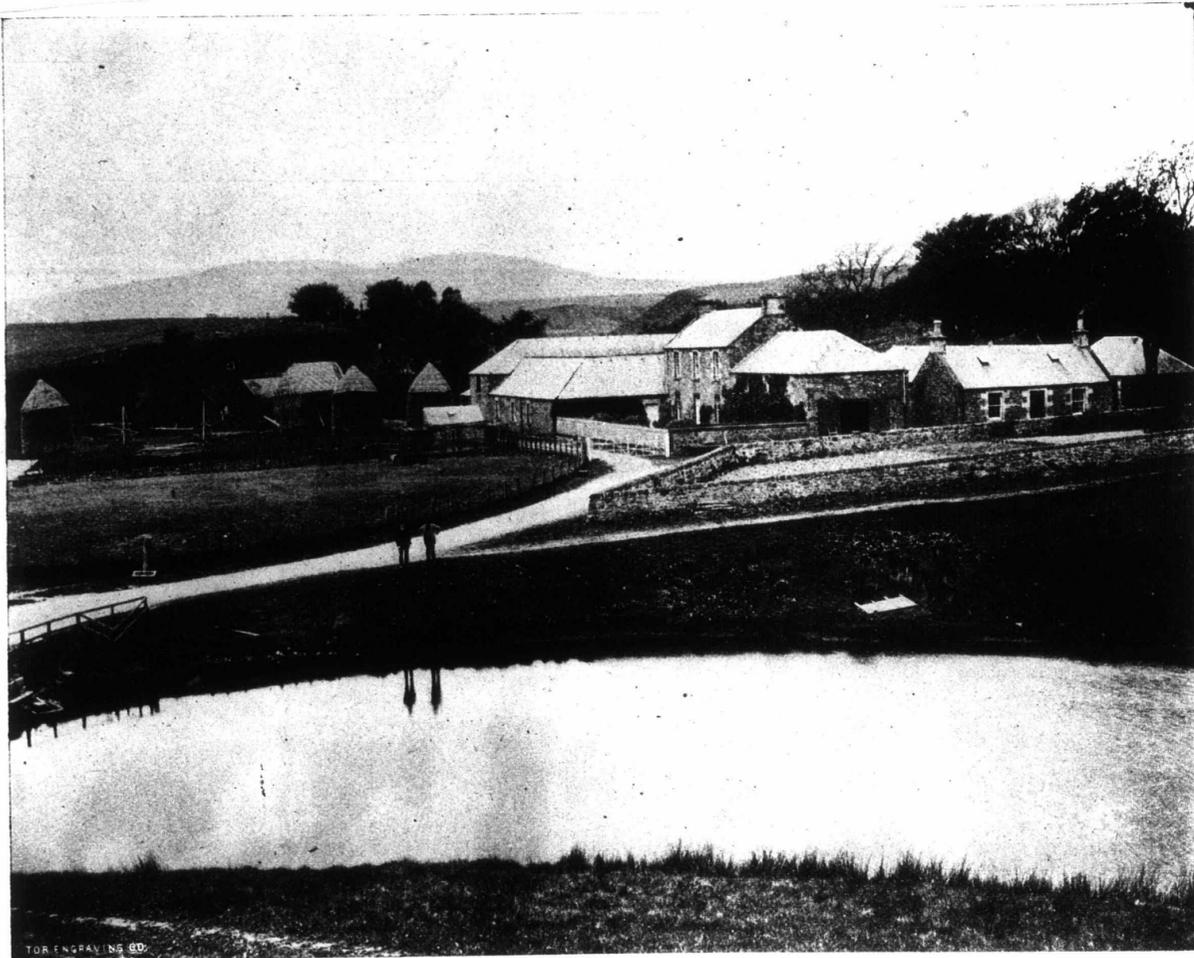
#### A POINT FOR AYRSHIRE BREEDERS.

Perhaps the one breed which is now the object of serious criticism in this country is the Ayrshire. The feeling is growing that something must be done to prevent this hardy breed from losing its dairying properties. This will be a surprise to many of the uninitiated, who doubtless expect that a breed so famous in the dairy world would be jealously guarded from all evil. But it is not so. Ayrshires in this country are judged in two sections, and so diversified are the types that, as a rule, the breeder of yeld stock is rather despised by the breeder of milk stock, and vice versa. Some-

drawn on a Rhins of Galloway farm during the years from 1865-95, inclusive. Taking the two extremes, the price of cheese in 1865 was 65s., and in 1895, 50s. 1d. per cwt. of 112 lbs. The highest price ever made for cheese on this particular farm was 77s. 9d. per cwt. of 112 lbs. in 1866; in 1877 the relative price was 76s., but between these dates and since the last there have been many fluctuations; 1885 was a bad year, the price being 54s.; but the lowest point was reached in 1895, when, as already indicated, it was 50s. 1d. The dairy to which these figures apply is one of the best in the country, and this year the price will very likely be somewhere about 58s. per cwt. of 112 lbs. At the time of writing (7th Nov.) cheese is rising, and the latest quotations in Glasgow market are from 48s. to 63s. per cwt. of 112 lbs. Naturally, those engaged in this industry are congratulating themselves on the state of trade, and there are a variety of lessons to be learned in connection with it. The cheesemakers in 1895 had to contend against two adverse conditions—an overstocked market and a low quality of cheese. This year the reverse conditions prevail; there is an easy market, and the quality of Scottish-made Cheddars has probably not been better for many years. At the great autumn cheese fairs and shows of 1895 merchants made severe animadversions on the quality of the produce, and in many cases the

a guide to the market the price which this first-class butter makes does not count. The market is ruled by the foreigner, and until there is some general movement amongst home buttermakers, such as there is amongst home cheesemakers, this state of matters is likely to continue. The fresh butter made by the farmers' wives and daughters in districts within say a thirty miles' radius of Glasgow simply cannot be excelled anywhere in the world. There is a sweetness and flavor about it which is not found in the products of Denmark, Australia, or Canada; but, unluckily, those who produce this quality are comparatively a small minority, and what is wanted is some uniform system of buttermaking which can be practiced by all parties under varying conditions as regards accommodation and the size of the dairy, and so far this has not been attained. Numerous buttermaking classes have been held throughout the country, and these serve a good purpose in this respect: that they show the ideal methods and the ideal product. How to realize the ideal under the normal conditions specified above is the point which has not yet been determined, and until this takes place the foreigner is likely to have rather more control of our markets than is at all desirable. The sweet or whole milk trade is one by itself. It is the simplest, but at the same time the most

"Land of Brown Heath and Shaggy Wood."



"FERNICHAUGH," THE FARM OF MR. WOODROP, DOLPHONTON, SCOTLAND.

times the statement is made in a contemptuous way, "So-and-So is a 'yeld man,'" and as such he is not expected to know much about milk stock or cows and heifers in calf or giving milk. An effort has been made to amalgamate the two kinds, and it has been asked, Is there another breed in existence whose show-yard male animals are not patronized by those anxious to breed female prize animals? The answer must be in the negative, and the anomaly wants explanation. Whether it will be forthcoming is another matter, but the feeling is growing that sooner or later we must have the milking breed pedigreed with regard to the milking record.

This naturally leads to some remarks on the DAIRYING INDUSTRY.

And in speaking of it, reference will be made to the three branches of cheesemaking, buttermaking, and the supply of whole milk to the large centers of population. The season of 1895 was a disastrous one for those engaged in the manufacture of cheese, an industry very generally followed in Galloway and Ayrshire; but there has been a sudden turn of fortune's wheel, and 1896 will have been quite as good a year as cheesemakers have had for some time. As showing the fluctuations in cheese prices, it may be useful to quote from a return recently published in the *Scottish Farmer* of the prices

dairies were not bought at all, but merchants were asked to take away the stuff and do the best they could with it. This year, when spring trade was opening, equally strong things were said about the dirty condition of many dairies, and farmers and dairymen set themselves resolutely to remove these causes of complaint. A committee was formed to discover the cause of discoloration and to improve the quality of the Scottish Cheddars. Through the labors of Mr. R. J. Drummond, the head of the Scottish Dairy Institute, and his coadjutors, Mr. John Robertson, brother of your Canadian Commissioner on Dairying, and Mr. Henry McFadyean, instructor in dairying in Kirkcudbright and Wigtown, there is ground to believe that the cause of discoloration has been found, and in any case much has been learned regarding the best methods of making Cheddars. In proof of this, as a result of the hints given some dairy farmers have made cheese this year which has commanded an advance in price almost equal to the amount of their half-year's rent. Too many of them still make second-class cheese, but the line of progress has been struck, and we may be sure it will not readily be forsaken.

In regard to buttermaking, the state of matters is peculiar. The best butter sold in our markets is homemade, and it commands a price of its own. Unfortunately, the quantity here is limited, and as

exact kind of dairy farming. It entails within a ten miles' radius of a center of population like Glasgow an expenditure of nerve and tissue unknown in any other department of industry of which we have any knowledge. The routine on farms of this kind is: all hands in the byre at 3, or, at latest, 3.30 a. m., and this for seven days a week, year in and year out. Competition is so keen that by their contracts with the milk dealers in the city the supplies must be delivered at 5.30 a. m., otherwise the contract may be annulled on a day's notice. Add to this all the exacting conditions and restrictions imposed by the sanitary and public health authorities, and it will be recognized that while those engaged in this branch of dairying probably make money, they deserve to do so, as they work for it and run great risk, should an outbreak of disease take place at their farms, of having their trade stopped and the produce of their dairy confiscated.

In Ireland there has during the past ten years been a gradual increase in the popularity of the factory system. This has been largely due to the efforts of a nonpolitical organization which aims at the fostering of Irish industries; and as agriculture is the chief of these, it commands most attention. Before the Danes captured our markets, Irish lump butter, a marvelous compound, was a staple export of the Emerald Isle. The uniformly



enough in the country for both Thoroughbred and Hackney, and that there are many districts in which the average type of mare would suit the Hackney cross much better than the Thoroughbred. The produce of the latter, they say, is a weedy brute, which is good for nothing, while the produce of the Hackney under similar conditions is a useful general purpose horse. Which view will be taken by the commissioners is, of course, undetermined, but they are going about their work in a very thorough fashion, and will no doubt report fairly on the evidence submitted to them.

#### AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION.

We have only space left for a brief summary of the legislation of the year bearing on agriculture. In this respect 1896 has been unique. Whatever may be the result of their labors, it will not be denied that the present House of Commons and Government have attempted to do more for agriculture than any legislature we have had here for many years. Three notable pieces of work have been done—the Cattle Diseases Bill, the Act authorizing the construction of light railways, and the Act relieving agricultural subjects of a considerable share of local taxation. Of the meaning and significance of the first of these no Canadian needs to be informed. Its object was and its result is to make permanent the policy of keeping the ports of this country closed to store cattle. Foreign cattle must all come in fat for immediate slaughter. This has been followed by a rise in the price of store cattle and an increase in the number of cattle imported fat, so that the result has meanwhile not been favorable to the British cattle feeder. Breeding, however, is being rapidly pushed forward, and there will soon be so many more store cattle in the market, alike from Ireland and the higher lands of Scotland, that prices will come back and be more in keeping with the prices at which fat cattle are sold. Of the affect on Canada it is not for us to speak, but we should hope it has not been at all so disastrous as was anticipated by Sir Charles Tupper and others while the agitation was in progress in this country on the subject.

The Light Railways Act excited very little comment and almost no discussion in Parliament. The success which attended the laying down of these light railways in the West of Ireland was what induced the Government to propose similar legislation for Great Britain. In this country, as a rule, railways are promoted by private enterprise, under parliamentary sanction and restrictions. Naturally, these are only promoted in districts where there is some reasonable probability of a remunerative traffic being conducted. The Act recently passed empowers local authorities to lay down railroads of a light construction in remote districts where there is no such volume of traffic as would pay a dividend, and for this end to borrow money from Government with which to defray the cost of construction and up-keep. The idea is to develop traffic and to encourage trade in these remote localities. The roads are laid down at a cheaper rate than the ordinary railroad, and, of course, the loads permitted to be carried are much less than those guaranteed on the regular lines. The theory is that in course of time, by the development of traffic, these lines, or at least some of them, may become valuable enough to be merged into the ordinary railway system of the country; but even if that should never take place, they bring the remote parts of the country into the main stream of traffic and facilitate the marketing of farm produce of all kinds. Should the Act which comes into operation on the 14th inst., authorizing the running of motor cars on the ordinary highways at a speed of ten or fourteen miles an hour, lead to the invention and production of an engine which can be manipulated successfully, it is just possible that the Light Railways Act may not be much availed of. If produce can be carried along the existing roads at the speed indicated, there will be little sense in expending money acquiring ground and laying down a track for light cars and steam engines. In the meantime, however, we have not seen a motor which is in the least likely to accomplish the end aimed at. Several engineers are, however, engaged in perfecting such motors, and one of them at least in Glasgow promises to be a success. Meantime the means are provided for laying down light railways, and to some extent at least they will be taken advantage of. Of the Rating Bill some account was given while it was before the country, and little good is to be accomplished by repetition. Briefly, it ordains that for local rates agricultural land shall only be charged at one-third of its rental. Farmers think it should be one-fourth, and are agitating for this. In any case, one-third is better than the whole, and the Act is an installment of justice to which agriculture was fairly entitled.

Do your neighbor a good turn by inducing him to subscribe for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

#### Most Encouraging.

FARMING IN THE HOME OF THE FRENCH-CANADIAN—A RETURN TO DESERTED FARMS ALREADY TAKING PLACE—THE NEEDS OF THE TIMES.

(BY W. A. HALE.)

The tendencies of farming in this Province within the last thirty years point in a very marked degree towards dairying, and in the last five years of that period far greater advances have been made than during the whole balance of the thirty years, and yet—to what it ought to be if properly fostered—it seems to be still in its infancy. Between the years 1870 and '75 a great boom of cheese factories swept over the Province, with the inevitable result of an overstocked home market, no foreign market to depend upon, and a corresponding collapse, with great financial loss to the farmers and cheese factory owners. Stall feeding of cattle then revived for a time, but dwindled under Western competition till not one basement stable in ten contained the animals it formerly sheltered. Sheep paid well for many years, but a decline in the price of wool (owing, of course, to competition from Australia, the Cape, and South America) and the want of good shipping facilities for lambs to a market, free of duty, together with such unsatisfactory laws regarding sheep-killing dogs, have all tended to reduce the flocks in a very noticeable degree. Fruit-growing, particularly apples, has increased enormously and is still on the increase, and this branch is being well looked after as far as helping the growers to secure good transportation to Europe. Poultry-raising is improving, though still principally as an adjunct to each farm's profits, there being as yet very few specially engaged in the business. Maple sugar and syrup, though cheaper than formerly, are made and sold in greater quantities and, owing to the improved machinery employed, at greater profit. Lumbering, particularly pulp wood, ties, and spruce and hardwood logs, has become so identical with winter work



FRENCH-CANADIAN HARVEST SCENE IN QUEBEC PROVINCE.

on the farm of late as almost to be classed as agriculture, and as the timber disappears and the land is cleared so also will the tendency to dairying increase, furnishing occupation the year round for those who now look to the lumber camps for winter work. The wheat belt has long since swept West, and where the traveling threshing machines have diminished I am sorry to say the hay presses have stepped in, indicating a crying need for an increased dairy industry, for we have heretofore been too apt to work our land more as though it were a mine that had an unlimited deposit of fertility.

Our needs are great, but the difficulty of supplying them is greater. Better education in the rural schools, with agriculture as one of its branches, I would place first as most likely to help in working out its own salvation, supplying better municipal and parliamentary representatives; better laws to regulate the building of unnecessary roadside and farm fences, by which an annual saving might be made that would more than pay the whole amount of the present rural school tax; better roads, with paid Government instructors to show how they should be made, and a law to regulate the weight of the loads in accordance with the width of the tires used on public roads, and a municipal reduction in road taxes to those who use broad tires; less railway subsidies, but more Government road grants to be worked out by the rural municipalities; more care in insuring cold storage, quick, cheap, and safe transportation for fruit, meat, and butter; and, most important of all, continued and increased practical assistance to our dairy industries (particularly the more expensive creameries), such as we have had so excellently furnished by the Superintendent and his staff from the Experimental Farm at Ottawa. The Farmers' Institute system needs encouragement, and plowmen's associations are well worthy of Local Government support.

Among our French-Canadian friends the Roman Catholic clergy are doing good practical work by promoting farmers' clubs, plowing matches, organizing cheese factories and creamery companies, and render good service in transmitting scientific knowledge and the results of Government experimental work. We need free corn, we need free coal

oil, and we ought to trim our tariff in accordance with that of our cousins across the line.

The prospects are most encouraging. It is true the prices of most agricultural products are low, but were it otherwise the chances are that combines and capitalists would "corner" and control any one branch that showed for a time any large profit; therefore let us be content with a moderate price for our coming industry, butter (cheese is established). We need the new bacterial (culture) butter before we can compete with Denmark. Putting the purchasing power of \$1.00 at 100 cents in 1865, it is to the farmer to-day at least \$1.50; and although the prices of some of the farm products have declined, still the cost of production has, by the use of improved machinery, been reduced fully fifty per cent., so that were it not for the tending towards extravagance the farmers generally would be far better off than were those of the previous generation. Take one instance: In 1865 the price of white sugar was eleven cents per pound and the annual consumption was seven pounds per head for each man, woman and child in Canada; to-day the price is say four and a half cents a pound, but the annual consumption has increased to sixty-five pounds per head. Still, on the whole, the farming prospects are most encouraging, and a return to the deserted farms is already taking place. The health and happiness that go hand in hand with a country life cannot be purchased in cities. There is not a single live Londoner of the fifth generation to-day.

#### The Golden West.

A COMPREHENSIVE AND IMPARTIAL REVIEW OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FARMING—THE SPECULATIVE ERA PAST—WHAT EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT—SETTLING DOWN TO BUSINESS—OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED.

(BY R. E. GOSNELL, PROVINCIAL LIBRARIAN.)

As President Cleveland would say, it is a condition, not a theory, that confronts the farmer of British Columbia to-day. The theory is that the soil is particularly fertile and the climate equable and mild, peculiarly adapted for perfect fruiting. Both assumptions are quite correct. Conditions, however, somewhat modify the theory. Farming in British Columbia has not been the success that might naturally have been anticipated under circumstances which appeared so favorable. I have been asked to write an article on the "present tendencies, needs, and possibilities" of agriculture in British Columbia. The farmer of Ontario, who I consider enjoys the very Eden of America, if, indeed, such a spot in agriculture can be said to exist on this or any other continent, has had his cup full of woes. California, of which the cornucopia might most appropriately

be chosen as an emblem, has suffered much. In fact, the farmer everywhere, outside of Utah—and the significance of the exception will be seen later on—has had "a hard row to hoe," more particularly in the Golden West. Therefore, it is not with the intention of giving a "black eye" to the industry that the broad statement has been made with reference to farming in our Province.

Ten years ago, although agriculture was but slightly developed here, the highest hopes of success were held out. On the face of it the conditions were of the most favorable—comparatively limited area of agricultural lands; protection by tariff and freight rates from outside competition; generous, even extraordinary, yield of all kinds of crops; freedom from blights, parasitic diseases and the like; sure crops, and a demand for farm products, which brought high prices and imports per annum amounting to between \$1,500,000 and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate. The drawbacks were those, of course, incident to a new country—imperfect communication, immature methods, the difficulty and expense (in our case peculiarly so) of bringing the accessible land into cultivation, and all the rest of it. On the whole, however, the advantages were clearly in favor of the farmer who could reach the market. For a time he prospered, or should have prospered, like a green bay tree. Just about the time referred to good farm lands began to be at a premium. Knowledge of the conditions referred to above impressed most people that farming some day would become the most prosperous of industries, and it was thought, and with good show of reason, that when the varied resources of the Province began to develop—mining, timber, and fisheries—with the consequent inflow of population, the demand for farm products would place those fortunate enough to have land quite on the "velvet."

It is scarcely possible to imagine a more fortuitous combination of circumstances or better opportunities for success. With, as I have frequently known it, fresh eggs in the winter time 75c. and \$1 per dozen, good butter 35c. to 50c. per pound, Eastern apples \$6 and \$7 a barrel, meats and all other provisions on a similar scale, and a splendid

climate and fruitful soil, faith in the future seemed to be well founded. It is the unexpected that usually happens. The first drawback was that farm lands became "real estate." Every available piece of land was either bought up or pre-empted—not for the purpose of farming, but to hold for a rise in prices. All of us, more or less, had the making of from one to a dozen "good" farms. The farmers themselves rapidly grew rich, or, at least, fancied themselves growing rich, and speculation was rife. There was little production, but much activity in buying and selling. Values went up until land that never saw an axe or a plow was held at from \$50 to \$75 an acre, and the more favorably situated, \$100 to \$150, and, in some instances, \$200. Where it had residence prospects (suburban property) it was not unusual to ask \$300, \$500, and even \$1,000 an acre. We lived gloriously

**IN A FOOL'S PARADISE.**

I speak with due humility, as well as respect for those who luxuriated in it, because only lack of means, perhaps, prevented me from "plunging" like the rest. It did not occur to us until too late that farm land can only have a value determinable by the earning power of its products, and that no land for ordinary purposes could earn a dividend on such a capital investment for fully improved lands, not to speak of virgin acres that required as much more to put them into cultivation. However, we are all wise after the event. Lands suitable for farming were held unimproved; speculation led to mortgaging; arrears of payment and taxes began to pile up; a world-wide depression set in, accentuated by the crises in Australia and the United States; overproduction in the States of the Pacific Coast (California, Oregon, and Washington) sent down the prices of produce and created serious competition; with cultivation came the pests which are general in the East to worry and hamper the producer; floods came and wasted the fields in the Fraser Valley; several bad seasons followed each other in succession;—these and other things quite unexpected, and most of them unusual, contributed to the disappointment we all feel in not having had our ardent anticipations even partially realized.

I may be wiggled well for doing so, but as I see no good reason for not telling the truth, I have to state that the farmer in British Columbia has struck rock bottom. After a vigorous descent he has reached sure footing and can fearlessly begin to ascend again. He has learned much and has disabused his mind of many fallacies which were current a few years ago. He has found out that there is no royal road to fortune, except by pursuing farming as a business on a business basis. By the work of the Fruit-Growers' Association, the influence of the Dominion Experimental Farm, the educative effect of farmers' meetings, and the dissemination of agricultural intelligence by means of the several departments of agriculture and other agencies, considerable development has taken place on right lines and knowledge greatly increased. Farming is really on a better basis than ever it was, because the difficulties in the way of getting along are understood and the necessities of the situation more fully appreciated. It is understood now that better and more improved methods of sowing, reaping, and selling are required, and that eternal vigilance and industry are the price to be paid for success.

**SETTLING DOWN TO BUSINESS.**

Present tendencies, therefore, are in the direction of systematic effort rather than the slipshod and happy-go-lucky ways that prevailed in the past, which have been described by one writer as "playing at farming," and by another as "scratching the earth in places" instead of cultivating it. Tendencies are, to be more definite, in the direction of smaller holdings, proper clearing and drainage of land, better care of orchards, co-operation for dairying purposes, improved methods of marketing and generally an attempt to supply the home market in butter, eggs, poultry, fruit, meats, and the like, and in a way to attract the buyer. For years, for instance, it was common to see B. C. fruit displayed in large, uncouth boxes made out of split cedar, filled in with all sizes, kinds, and varieties. When placed along side of the neatly packed and uniform packages from Oregon and California it had only one effect and that was to make customers for the imported article. Latterly, too, much has been done in the way of improved dairying. Three or four creameries, with excellent demands for their products, have been established. There is a decided improvement in fruit-growing in every particular, and this promising industry will yet assume large proportions. Much remains to be done; everything, in fact, but a start has been made.

**WHAT THE PROVINCE NEEDS.**

As to the needs of agriculture in the Province, that opens a wide field which cannot satisfactorily be traversed in one article. Local conditions, too, vary so much that no particular remarks will apply to the whole. On the lower mainland, for instance, dyking and draining is a problem for solution; while in the upper mainland irrigation is a prominent need. All along the Coast the cost of clearing and the necessity for fertilizing wooded lands when cleared are worthy of every attention. Everywhere roads giving easy access to railway or steamboat communication are required. Cheaper lands and communication are desirable objects. Railways cheaper money are desirable with the mining districts giving communication with the mining districts are of the greatest importance; and so on. The list is a large one. For easy classification I should enumerate them as follows:—

**Cheaper Lands and Smaller Holdings.**—I should advocate a form of government, or corporate assistance, whereby settlers would be enabled to buy lands in blocks of 10 to 50 acres in extent at reasonable rates, being permitted to pay for them in twenty-five annual installments, interest at four per cent.; all improvements in the way of drainage, fencing, roads, etc., to be chargeable to the land. This is not a Utopian scheme. Its feasibility has been demonstrated in West Prussia, in Great Britain, and in a modified form in New Zealand. It is a perfectly businesslike and practical proposition. The only matter to be looked after is that the settler or farmer shall invest enough of his own money to tie him to the land. When a man has to buy land in British Columbia at its full price for cash, bring it into cultivation, and live on it until his holding becomes reproductive, he must either have a lot of capital or go deeply into debt, which means failure to begin with.

**Roads and Railway Communication.**—This includes direct communication by rail with the mining districts of British Columbia—Yale and Kootenay, and with Northern B. C., too, when that is opened up. A railway by way of Hope, with a direct line through Westminster district south of the Fraser, and the ranching district of Yale through to Crow's Nest Pass, would make the whole of the farming regions tributary to the mines and afford a profitable market. This road, however built, should be so safeguarded as to rates that our farmers could ship their products cheaply to the interior and send their fruits to the Northwest, which is their natural and ought to be their most profitable outlet.

**Protecting the Fraser Valley.**—Another need is the conservancy of the Fraser Valley from floods. That is essentially an engineering problem, and belongs largely to the Dominion Government. However it is attempted it should be on a comprehensive plan, and in my opinion should be undertaken as part of the railway scheme referred to in the foregoing. From 150,000 to 200,000 acres of the best land in America is affected by the periodic overflow and high water, which might be converted into a valley as famous for its fruits as the Annapolis.

**Irrigation.**—Of even greater importance is the problem of irrigation in the interior, where millions of acres could be made to blossom like the rose. Reference has been made to Utah. There the Mormon colony was planted by the master mind of Brigham Young, right in the breast of arid America. Whatever we may think of the system of theology he established, he certainly promoted the greatest and most successful colonizing enterprise the world has ever known. There a colony of 120,000 persons expended, without borrowing a cent or going into debt for a dollar, over \$500,000,000 in developing works of public utility. They own all their lands, are absolutely without debt, live largely by their own industry, are peaceable and prosperous, and have never, in half a century, experienced the reverses of what are known as "hard times." What irrigation and industry have done in Utah can be done in the interior of British Columbia. The three great principles which governed the Utah colony were that no man should own more land than he could cultivate, that he should not speculate, and that he should not go into debt. They were part of his religion, and no doubt the conscience clauses have accounted for the phenomenal success of Brigham Young's experiment.

**Co-operation in dairying, fruit marketing, road-making, and in other directions in which a farmer's isolation is his weakness.** I do not mean to say that farmers should become Grangers or Patrons, for in the present state of society the fewer societies the better, but that they should co-operate for business purposes. This is especially a need of British Columbia at the present time.

**Fertilizing.**—As I have already intimated, our farmers all along the Coast districts especially require a knowledge and appreciation of the economy of fertilization. A cheap and readily available manure is one of the great requisites to success. I do not now refer to the bottom or prairie lands, which are abundantly fertile, by careful cropping, for some time, but to that characteristic and predominant brownish gravelly soil of which our wooded land is composed. It is largely destitute of potash and lime—two essential elements. I have advocated strongly the utilization of the fish offal, some 6,000 tons of which the salmon dumped into the waters out of which the salmon are taken, to the detriment of the fishing industry. There are millions of tons of kelp and other seaweed on our coast for the gathering. This, mixed with the offal and composted with lime, would furnish a "dirt cheap" and invaluable fertilizer, available to all. The late Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Montague, promised to experiment on this line, but no steps that I know of have been taken by his successor.

**Banking.**—Lastly, I shall refer to the desirability of cheap money. I mean a low rate of interest. Interest charges are eating our farmers up. The Government can borrow money at three per cent.; Government can borrow money at three per cent.; the farmers in British Columbia are paying from eight to twelve per cent., and nearly every farm has a mortgage. The disproportion is too great. It is simply ruinous. The system of agricultural credit banks is what is needed. They are growing rapidly on the Continent, and in Great Britain have had remarkable expansion. Those who want to know all about them should read Wolff's "Peoples'

Banks." The principle is that any number of reputable persons may organize as a credit bank, the capital of which is the joint credit of the members, each person being jointly liable with his fellows for all the debts of the bank. It then borrows a small capital at say four per cent. and lends out at say five per cent., and also invites deposits, paying the same rate of interest. The borrower has to furnish two sureties and the object for which he wants the money has to be approved by the directors. Both they and the sureties watch the borrower to see that the money is used for the purpose specified, and call it in if it is being improperly used. If the money is spent for anything insurable, insurance is effected to further secure the loan. It is designed especially for those who need only modest sums—\$25 to \$50 or \$80. Farmers and others who borrow large amounts can usually arrange for the same by mortgage or through established banks of discount. The agricultural credit bank does a business that ordinary banks do not usually touch. As it succeeds in a small way its operations can be extended. It also offers all the advantages of a savings bank or a co-operative bank to those who wish to invest their small savings from time to time in a way to earn four or five per cent. interest without risk.

**POSSIBILITIES.**

I have always been sanguine of the future of farming in British Columbia, and never more than at the present time, notwithstanding the reverses of the past few years. The conditions are not less favorable than ever. The opening up of the mines of themselves will afford an outlet for all kinds of farm produce at paying prices. Our farmers will not have a monopoly of this, but will work under healthy competition. When the lands revert from the hands of speculators into the hands of users; when the terms of payment and the rate of interest will enable a settler to pay and yet live; when the farmers have easy communication to markets, and the lands now lying idle are brought into cultivation by means of clearing of land by machinery; when mixed farming becomes general and special attention is devoted to the growing of fruits best adapted to the market and for industrial purposes, to the growing of hops, flax, sugar beets, tobacco, and other special products for which the Province is adapted; when the surplus of products (especially fruits) becomes so great as to force the farmer to seek a market in other lands; when industrial products can be manufactured cheaply enough to compete with those of England in the markets of China and India and Australia; when, in short, the Province becomes fully developed and its resources are utilized to their greatest extent, the position of agriculture among other industries will be pre-eminent, and what now occupies a very secondary place in the Provincial economy will be established as the basis of our wealth and possess a permanency which cannot be shared by any of the other natural resources of the future of which we now speak so hopefully.

**Gold Medal Buttermaking.**

BY MRS. MARVIN BURK, DURHAM CO., ONT.

Any dairyman can make butter, but very few can make the finest quality. To do so the greatest care must be given to all the details—good healthy cows, feed that will not taint the butter, and pure water.

The stable in which the milking is done should be whitewashed and frequently cleansed by a free sprinkling of lime. Great care should be taken in milking that no impurities from the hands or udder get into the milk. The milk should be strained immediately after milking, and when carried to the creamer strained again.

The deep-setting system I consider the best. Let the milk stand twelve hours in summer and twenty-four in winter. Keep the cream in a large covered can, with the cover put on loosely. Every time fresh cream is added the whole should be thoroughly stirred with a stick that will reach to the bottom of the can. Be sure to wash the stick every time, that it may be clean and ready for use. The cream should be kept in a temperature of 60°; at which, if there is milk from thirty cows, it will take three days to ripen or look like thin batter. It is then ready to be churned.

In summer the churning temperature should be 60°; in winter, 68°. When the butter has come like very small peas it should be rinsed down, the buttermilk drawn off, a pailful of cold water thrown in and drawn off, then several more pailfuls of water and a handful of salt should be added. After allowing it to stand a few minutes the butter must be taken up, put on a butter board, and the finest dairy salt sprinkled over it (I use Windsor). Then work till you think the grain is right. At this point practice is the only guide.

The careful observance of these instructions will always insure the highest price for the butter.

[NOTE.—It cannot be called "telling tales out of school," though Mrs. Burk, with characteristic reserve, gives our readers not the faintest inkling of her achievements, for us to say that the product of "Spring Creek Butter Farm" in 1895, at leading exhibitions, was awarded twenty-six first prizes and a gold medal, and in 1896 a similar record, besides other awards "too numerous to mention," as the local reporter says about the minor list of presents at the village wedding.—EDITOR.]

The practical agricultural news of the day you'll find in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE—and more of it than in any other way for so small an outlay.

### How She Won the Lord Mayor's Cup.

Miss Eliza Baynes, winner of the Lord Mayor's cup in the principal buttermaking competition at the last London (Eng.) dairy show, says the appliances used were a pair of Scotch hands, a disc churn, Cunningham butter worker, sieve, thermometer, squirt and scoop. These she thoroughly scalded and scoured with salt, then well rinsed with cold water. Each competitor was given 20 lbs. of very thick cream. "After taking the temperature, which was 57 degrees, I added a little cold water, which brought it down to 56 degrees, at which I commenced churning. After ten minutes my cream thickened, when I at once added some cold water, and after turning again for a few minutes I found the butter had come. I then poured into the churn half a bucketful of water at a temperature of 45 degrees, and after a few swift turns of the handle found the grain of the butter was about the right size. I was then able to draw off the butter-milk and water through a sieve. I washed the butter with water at a temperature of 44 degrees, which came out fairly clear. I then strained the brine into my churn at a temperature of 42 degrees. Of course, all these waters were prepared before I commenced churning. Having allowed the brine to remain in the churn for a few minutes, with the scoop and sieve I removed the butter from the churn to the butter worker, taking care not to crush the grains together, but to have them all as separate as possible. I next worked the butter very slowly, so as to get out the moisture with the least possible injury to the grain. When I considered it sufficiently worked, I made it up in eight 1 lbs. and three ½ lbs. According to the printed instructions, I made one pound into a plain roll, another into a plain brick, the remainder being marked in different fancy patterns. I placed it all on the board, covering well with damp muslin, which was then quite ready for judging. I thoroughly cleaned and scoured all the utensils, and reported my work to be finished."

### "How American Farming Strikes a Canadian Traveler."

In dwelling for a short time on this topic I will refer almost entirely to the Illinois farmer, for the reason that I am satisfied that he is the typical American tiller of the soil in more respects than any other in any State of the Union. However, a few remarks may not be out of place concerning the people farther South. From my observations I conclude that the Southern farmer is rather primitive in his modes of farming, has not that energetic and enterprising spirit which characterizes the true Yankee, but is more of an easy-going personage, a brilliant entertainer, but a rather poor manager. I have seen farmers in the South, who kept but a couple of cows, allow the calves to run with their dams, and when milk was required for the family go forth with

#### A TIN CUP AND A PITCHER

to milk the cow, holding the cup with one hand and vigorously pulling away with the other until the cup was full, transfer the contents to the pitcher and proceed again. While this is the rule in some districts, of course it is the exception in others, but I believe the same languid, unenergetic feeling prevails throughout the Southern region.

Farther north things take on a different hue. The fertile brain of the Americanized English, Scotch or German has been active. Here in Illinois, the Prairie State, is to be found the most progressive people in the United States. The country, as a rule, is fairly level, broken and interspersed by sparsely scattered timber ridges and muddy streams. The soil is all that can be desired. Here for hundreds of years the prairie grass, which grew so high that the herdsman was obliged to stand up on the back of his mustang to see his steers feeding, has fallen and decayed until the first three or four feet of soil is almost entirely composed of decayed vegetable matter, and thus it is that immense corn crops may be grown year after year on the same land. I have seen soil which has brought forth good crops of corn for more than twenty years, and yet it appears to be as abundant in plant food constituents as ever. But this continual cropping must eventually be felt unless measures are taken to supplant the enormous drain. Even in Central Illinois the corn crop fails, chinch bugs are troublesome, wet weather often checks growth at a critical time, but if the soil does not produce a crop of useful vegetation it will certainly bring forth noxious weeds in great abundance. Large pasture fields grow up so thickly and high with ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) that a horseman can hardly force a passage. Weeds are numerous and grow equally as well as the corn.

#### CORN SHUCKING.

Many make a profession of shucking. They become very expert at the business and in some cases are able to shuck and crib one hundred and fifty bushels in one day. These are exceptional men, however, the common run being from sixty to eighty bushels per day.

Much of the corn grown in this State will be fed this year, as the price is very low, from 17c. to 20c. per bushel. Steers are fed in bunches of from twenty-five to one hundred in feed lots out of troughs. They are fed all they will eat of corn in ear. A half-grown hog is put in to follow each steer, so that nothing is lost. Steers fed in this way put on from two to three pounds per day. Young cattle are still on the grass without other feed and

are doing well. Most of our Ontario farmers are contented to live and labor on one or two hundred acre farms. This is not so with the wide-awake Yankee in the West. He must have enough land and stock that his work is always pushing him and not he his work. When he makes he gains much easily, when he fails he loses as easily as he makes. He is not contented, always striving for the almighty dollar.

Again, well-kept surroundings, neat fences, well-hung gates and doors are not in every case indicative of thrift and prosperity. In the majority of cases the progressive farmer has not the neatest outbuildings and fences—things have a "ranchy" appearance.

I have been told that we are more economical in Ontario, and, verily, I believe it. In this respect the Eastern farmer approaches more nearly our habits.

J. WILSON KNIGHT, B.S.A.

Moweaqua, Ill.

### Handling Manure on the Farm.

(From a Farmers' Institute address (Dec., 1896) in Eastern Ontario, by John McMillan, M. P.)

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.)

I am convinced that the loss of manure would pay the interest of many of the mortgages on farms in Ontario. Our experience has taught us that it is best to mind well our manures and not allow horse manure to be heaped in too large quantities; if you do it will heat. Manure from hogs is cold, but from horses, hot. We formerly put our manures in a yard, but now under cover, and we find that two loads of manure kept in a shed is worth three taken from the yard. It loses much in yards by the liquid part running away after a rain. Our plan of late years has been to take the manure out to the field and spread it evenly as fast as it is made. Too much care cannot be taken to save the liquid manure, as it is more valuable than the solid. This is seen by actual analysis. We also find that manure from box stalls is the best. We spread our manure evenly if the snow is eight or ten inches deep and on undrained land, but on hilly land or when snow is over a foot deep we would recommend not taking it out. There is scarcely any loss by spreading. If it rains, the moisture from the manure enters the soil and the land acts as a filter and the fertilizing substances are retained in the soil. Green manures analyzed when fresh and when dried are found to be the same in fertilizing elements. Manure should never be allowed to fire-fang. It may be prevented by spreading a little land plaster over it occasionally. It is a mistake to put manure in piles and allow it to heat, either in the field or in other places. There is always a loss. Do not leave manure in your barnyards during the summer—take it out and use it. It is found by careful experiment that manure loses considerable strength by being allowed to remain in heaps or piles or in barnyards. In some tests as much as two-thirds of the fertilizing substances have been lost. It is better to put up in tidy piles in the yard if you cannot scatter it on the fields.

#### POINTS BROUGHT UP IN DISCUSSION AND FROM QUESTIONS.

Work manure into the surface of the soil with a spade harrow for spring crops.

Plow land in the fall for next spring's root crop. Use all your ashes on the farm, as they are a very useful fertilizer.

Out your straw and use for bedding. It saves the liquid manure by absorption and works better on the land.

Plow down second crop of clover in early fall for next year's corn crop. Spread the manure over it in winter. Use spade harrow to work it in, but do not plow.

Excellent results were obtained by not plowing corn ground after removing the corn. Leave it till next spring, cultivate well both ways, sow with oats and seed down, and you will get a fine crop and a good catch of clover.

Corn takes considerable strength from the soil, otherwise the crop would not be so large; but most of it is returned to the land—not sold, like grain or many of the products of the farm,—so that in reality it does not impoverish the soil.

#### Cold Storage Facilities.

The Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, and Prof. Robertson, Dominion Dairy Commissioner, have been visiting different parts of the country and explaining the advantages that would follow the establishment of cold storage facilities at our leading commercial centers. The movement has been received at Toronto and elsewhere with much favor. It is satisfactory to note that this city has been promised the facilities, and it is to be hoped that enterprising business men in other cities will take hold of the matter and not only secure what assistance they can from the Government, but give their financial support to the scheme. There is no one thing that will help the farmers and shippers of fruit and produce, and increase the commercial importance of the cities, so much as the establishment of such a system all over the country and on the steamship lines. Our trade with Great Britain is bound to increase as soon as these advantages can be enjoyed; and the general prosperity among producers will be proportionately augmented.—*The Christian Guardian, Toronto.*

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquiries must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

#### Legal.

##### RAILROAD COMPANY'S RIGHTS.

J. H. T., Peterboro' Co., Ont.:—"A part of a railroad extending some miles has not been used for railroad purposes for twenty or thirty years. Can it be held by the company, or does it fall back to its original owners?"

[The railway company no doubt purchased the full fee simple estate in the land; and if so, they are the owners just the same as any other party until they lose it by adverse peaceful possession for upwards of ten years, or by any other legal transfer.]

#### Miscellaneous.

##### APPLES FOR ST. JOHN RIVER, N. B.

St. Hilaire, N. B.:—"What varieties of apples should be cultivated in this section? Are Pewaukee and McMahan White good sorts?"

[I fear that I cannot give very definite nor possibly very reliable information with regard to the varieties of fruits best adapted to the soil and climate of the valley of St. John River. From my knowledge of the locality, I think it would be advisable to grow early sorts, as late winter varieties would scarcely develop to perfection in your comparatively short summer. I would advise among apples: Tetofsky, Red Astrachan, Duchess, Wealthy, Longfield, and McIntosh Red. McMahan White is a very vigorous variety, bearing large, handsome yellowish-white apples; yet I do not think that it would be a desirable sort to cultivate there, as it requires considerable summer heat to bring its fruit to the most desirable condition and to give it color. Pewaukee is a late winter sort, and also a valuable variety; yet I think if grown there would not take on as much color as in a Western country, therefore would not be attractive.]

J. CRAIG, Dominion Horticulturist.  
Central Experimental Farm.]

##### ENSILAGE FEEDING FOR DAIRY COWS.

J. A. J., Middlesex Co., asks:—" (1) Which will give better results in feeding dairy cows, ensilage or dry corn fodder? (2) For feeding with ensilage or corn fodder, with hay and straw, would you prefer oats, bran, or shorts?"

[ (1) Results of experiments in feeding ensilage and dry corn fodder vary considerably, but on the whole ensilage has probably given rather more favorable results. Ensilage is rather more convenient to feed, and fewer roots are necessary than when feeding corn fodder, but well-cured corn fodder is excellent feed for cows, and when fed judiciously will give very satisfactory results.]

(2) As oats are very cheap at present, it would be advisable to use them freely, though the ration would no doubt be improved by adding from one quarter to one half their weight of bran or shorts, if the latter can be bought at a reasonable price. Shorts have a slightly higher feeding value than bran, but for cows their values may be regarded as approximately equal.]

G. E. DAY, Agriculturist.  
Ontario Agricultural College.]

##### COMPOSITION OF PEA BRAN.

B. J. MACDONALD, Wellington Co., Ont.:—"What is the analysis of pea bran?"  
[Pea bran contains 12.3 per cent. of water, 3.0 per cent. of ash, 8.0 per cent. of albuminoids, 43.7 per cent. of fiber, 30.5 per cent. of other carbohydrates, and 2.5 per cent. of fat.]

##### CURE FOR HOG LICE.

R. R. S., Leeds Co., Ont.:—"Would you kindly publish an easy and effective means of destroying lice on swine?"

[Neat's-foot oil is certain death to all matured lice. A second application should, however, be given as soon as the nits are matured. The favorite places for the insect is behind the ears, along the back and on the back part of the hams. Wherever there is a louse apply a little oil with a brush or rag, and the pest will soon disappear. Together with this the sleeping-quarters should be thoroughly sprinkled several times with coal oil or crude carbolic acid and water.]

#### Cold Storage Plans.

To encourage the owners of creameries to provide the cold storage accommodation which is so desirable, the Canadian Government grants a bonus of \$50 to every creamery which provides and keeps in use a refrigerator room, according to the plans and regulations, during the season of 1897; \$25, 1898; \$25, 1899; in all \$100. The quantity of butter to be made from April 1st to Dec. 1st shall not be less than 15,000 pounds. Records of temperature must be kept and reports made to the Agricultural and Dairy Commissioner, Prof. Jas. W. Robertson, Ottawa, from whom complete plans and specifications may be had on application.

It has been recommended for a cow choked with a potato or an apple to elevate her head and pour a good quantity of water down her throat. This will expand her throat, and at the same time cause her to cough, when the obstruction will be ejected.



THE HOUSE ON THE MARSH.

A Romance.

BY FLORENCE WARDEN.

(Continued from page 506.)

As he turned to say this, I noticed a sudden flash of horror pass over Mrs. Rayner's pale features and disappear in a moment before her husband could see her face again; and I thought I saw on Sarah's dark face a look of intelligence when the order was given her, as if she too knew something about the expected visitor. I hope I am not very inquisitive; but in a quiet country-house to which some suspicion of mystery is attached, one cannot help noticing even trifles.

I tried not to think any more about it, but I did not succeed very well until I sat down in the empty schoolroom to my evening task of translating a page of Markham's English History into German. When the translation was finished, I had still to read a chapter of Guizot's French History; but that was pleasant, easy work, and might be enjoyed in the garden. I had seen the stranger as I was crossing the hall after tea. He was a small, slight man, with a fair mustache, who might be old or young; and, although he wore only a gray travelling-suit, he gave one the impression of being very well dressed indeed. I had forgotten all about him long before I made my way, with a heavy volume of history in my arms, to the pond, near the prettiest, readiest corner of which I had made myself a nice little nest. I read my Guizot until the light began to fade, when I heard voices that seemed to be coming toward me from the house.

The speakers seemed to be coming along the path. Whoever they might be, I would wait until they had gone by before I went in. I could not see them, nor could they see me, I knew. When they came a little nearer, I recognized Sarah's voice; the other was that of a man of a class much higher than her own. Could it be the stranger? He was talking familiarly and seriously with her; I could tell that before I heard any words. Sarah was speaking in a tone of bitter complaint, and the first words I heard were hers.

"I won't stand it much longer—and so I tell you."

"Tell him, my dear Sally—if you dare. And now oblige me by speaking a little lower, for there is nothing like trees for carrying tales."

She began again in a lower voice, and from the occasional words I heard—for I could not help listening—I gathered that she was angry because some unknown "he" paid too much attention to some unknown "her." But I could guess who they were. Sarah, it was well known in the house, had an admirer, a man some years younger than herself, who lived a long way off—in London, I think I heard it said—and who paid her visits at irregular intervals. Mr. Rayner took great interest in this love-affair, and derived much amusement from it; he had somehow discovered that the admirer, whose name was Tom Parkes, was inclined to pay more attention than was his wont to the kitchen-maid, Jane; and it was Mr. Rayner's opinion that there would be very little left of Jane if she encouraged the fickle swain's attentions.

So Sarah was giving vent to her jealousy in an earnest and intimate conversation with her master's guest. It seemed a very strange proceeding. I knew that men in the position of gentlemen do treat women of a lower class with more consideration than is necessary when they are young and pretty; but Sarah's face was more repellent than attractive, and I was glad I could not see it as I heard her fierce words more plainly.

"Look what I've done for him; think how I've worked for him!" she said. "He would never be where he is now if it wasn't for me. Does he think his new fancy will plan for him and plot for him, and risk—"

"Hush, hush—don't speak so loud! Where's your old discretion, Sally?"

"Let him look for discretion in Miss Baby, with her round face and her child's eyes. Does he think he can make use of her? Nonsense! It wants a woman that's strong in her head and strong in her limbs to do the work he wants done, and not a soft little chit like that!"

"Depend upon it, however useful she might be, he would never compare her services with yours, Sally. He is only amusing himself with this little simpleton," the man said, soothingly.

But she interrupted him in a tone of half-suppressed savagery that made me shudder, out of her sight though I was.

"Amusing himself, do you say? Only amusing himself! Looking at her, talking to her, because he likes her—loves her," she hissed, use of her, but because he likes her—loves her," she hissed, "as he has never loved any of his poor tools, though they were handsomer a thousand times than this wretched creature."

"If I had a thousand times more than that, I'd spoil her beauty for her, and for him, if I hanged for it!"

The man spoke again, this time very gravely.

"Sally, don't do anything foolish," said he. "Jim isn't a fool, and he knows how to repay services like yours, though he may be a trifle harsh sometimes. Why, he might have thrown you over with the rest when—"

I could hear no more; they had gone too far. I waited till their voices had died away, and then I dashed through the plantation and the hall, up to my room, locked the door, and sat down appalled.

What a terrible tragedy in the servants' hall we were likely to have if things went on like this! If Mrs. Rayner had been only a woman, not a statue, I would have confessed all to her; but, as she was, it would do no good. It was not the sort of thing I could tell Mr. Rayner, and there was no way of letting him know without telling him. There was nothing for it but to hope that little Jane would be wise and leave off for it, but that Providence would bring Sarah provoking Sarah, and that Providence would bring Sarah herself to a better mind.

But what a dreadful woman to have in the house! And why had the stranger spoken of Tom Parkes as "Jim?"

CHAPTER VII.

The next morning I woke up with that strange feeling of oppression which is caused by something unpleasant heard the night before. I soon remembered what it was, and tried to shake off the recollection of the talk in the plantation and of Sarah's vindictive tones. I looked at her searchingly as she came in demurely to prayers with that Tom Parkes, or Jane, and I could not help thinking that, might be excused in "Jim," as the stranger had called him, might be excused in preferring the simple little kitchen-maid Jane to that forbidding-looking shrew.

That evening, after tea, when, my translation finished, the time came for Guizot, I remembered, with a pang of conscience, that I had left that nicely-bound book out in the damp night, forgotten in my hasty flight. I hurried through the plantation, eager to see whether the unlucky volume in his hand, I got within a few yards of my nest, I saw Mr. Rayner there before me, standing with the unlucky volume in his hand.

If I had been conscience-stricken before, when my guilt was known only to myself, what did I feel now that it was discovered? I had not the courage to face him, but turned, and was sneaking back toward the house, when he called me—

"Miss Christie!"

I might have known I should not escape his sharp eyes and ears. I went back slowly, murmuring, "Yes, Mr. Rayner," and blushing with mortification. It was only a trifle after all, but it was a most vexatious one.

"I am very sorry, Mr. Rayner," I began, in a low voice which almost threatened tears; "I brought that book out here to read yesterday evening, and I forgot to take it with me when I went in. I know it was most inexcusable carelessness—indeed I will never bring one of the library-books out again."

"And why not, Miss Christie?" said he, suddenly dispelling my anxiety by looking up with his usual kindly smile. "I am sure Guizot is dry enough to stand a little moisture, and if you were to throw him into the pond, you would be his only mourner, for nobody takes him off his shelf but you. But what makes you spoil your young eyes by plodding through such heavy stuff as this?"

"I am so ignorant," said I humbly, "and I want some day to be able to teach girls much older than Haidee, so that I have to read to improve myself. And I don't read only dry things. This morning I found time to read nearly the whole of yesterday's paper."

"Well, that was dry enough; there was nothing in it, was there?"

"Yes, there was an account of another murder in Ireland, and a long article on the present position of the Eastern difficulty, and the latest details about that big burglary."

"What burglary?"

"Haven't you read about it? A large house in Derbyshire, belonging to Lord Dalston, was broken into last Wednesday, and a quantity of valuable things stolen. They say they've got a clew, but they haven't been able to find any of the thieves yet."

"And they won't either. They never do, except by a fluke."

"Well, I hope they will catch this one."

"Why, what harm has the poor thief done you? You have nothing to fear from diamond-robbers, because you have no diamonds."

"I believe you have more sympathy with the thieves than with the policemen," said I, laughing.

"I have, infinitely more. I have just the same admiration for the successful diamond-robber that you have for Robin Hood and Jack Sheppard, and just the same contempt for the policeman that you have for the Sheriff of Nottingham and Jack's jail."

"Oh, but that is different!"

"Oh, yes, it is very different, I know!" said Mr. Rayner maliciously. "Robin Hood wore Lincoln green and carried a picturesque bow and arrow, while Sheppard's costume, in colored prints, is enough of itself to win any woman's heart. And then the pretty story about Maid Marian! Jack Sheppard had a sweetheart, too, hadn't he?"

"Well, Mr. Rayner, they're very appearance, which you laugh at, shows them to be superior to the modern burglar."

"Have you ever seen a modern burglar?"

"No; but I know what they look like. They have fustian caps, and long profuse upper lips, and their eyes are quite close together, and their ladyloves are like Nancy Sikes."

"Then you don't sympathize with a criminal unless he is good-looking, nicely dressed, and in love with a lady of beauty and refinement?"

"Oh, Mr. Rayner," I cried, "I don't know what the real Robin Hood and Jack did; but the Robin Hood and Jack Sheppard of the novels and poems that I can't help liking and admiring robbed only rich people who could afford to lose some of their ill-gotten wealth."

"But all wealth is not ill-gotten," interposed Mr. Rayner mildly.

"It was then," I went on hastily—"at least generally. And Robin Hood didn't rob the good rich people, only the bad ones; and most of his spoils he distributed among the poor, you know."

"I think," said Miss Christie; "I must destroy your edifice of argument at a blow," said he, shaking his head mournfully.

"I happen to know something about this Lord Dalston whose house was broken into; and he is a very bad rich person indeed, much more so than the roughly. He ill-treated his favorite Robin Hood treated his sisters' fortunes, neglected mother, stole and squandered his own money, and now we have a passion the left eye of one of his own grooms, had out-embizzed money before he was twenty-one, and now owes heavy debts to half the big tradesmen in London. So that he is something like a thief. Now, if you were logical, there were dozens at your work over it. I'm planning the robbery of this wicked rich man's property."

"I see," said I, "and in love with a pretty, lady-like girl, you ought, if you were logical, to admire him as much as you do Robin Hood, and more than you do Jack Sheppard."

"Oh, Mr. Rayner," said I, joining in his laughter, "how absurd! In those days the laws were unjust, so that even good men were obliged to break them; but now that the laws are just, upon the whole, fair, it is only wicked people who obey them."

"Then you don't like wicked people, Miss Christie?"

"Oh, Mr. Rayner, of course not!" said I, agast at such a question, which he asked quite seriously before you decide too hastily.

"Ah, you must know," said he, "that you don't like wicked people, Mr. Rayner?" I gasped.

"I nodded gravely; and then I saw that he was amusing himself with my horror-struck expression.

"You wouldn't like all of them, any more than you dislike all the good people you know. But you will find that those you do like beat the good people, and shouldn't like them at all. I wouldn't speak to a wicked person if I could help it."

"And what would you do if, in the course of your career as a governess, you found yourself in a family of whose morals you could not approve?"

"If I found myself among very dreadful people, I should just run away back to my uncle's house, where my mother lives, on the first opportunity, without saying anything to any one till I was gone, and without even writing to say I was coming, or lest my letter should be intercepted. I should be so horribly afraid of them."

"Well, child, I hope you will never have to do anything so desperate as that; but the profession of teaching has its dangers for a beautiful woman, and I had never heard them till you spoke of it."

The last words gave a shock to me. I was without an applied to me before, and for a moment I was without an answer. He had been sitting on my seat, and I had been standing with my back against a young oak tree, a few feet from him and nearer to the pond. He got up and came toward me to start a shrill little cry as from out of the ground caused him to start. It came from the lips of his baby-daughter Mona, who, ragged, dirty, and withered-looking as usual, had silently taken her place in the long grass a little way from us, and who now, placing in her father's approach, had given vent to her extraordinary dislike of him in her usual undutiful manner.

For one moment I saw in the dusk a look pass over Mr. Rayner's face which made me catch my breath; it reminded me instantly of his tone on that Sunday night when he had caught Sarah in the garden, and, quickly as it passed and gave place to a light laugh, it had frightened me and made me long to escape. Mona was an excuse.

"Oh, you naughty little girl to be out so late at night—and without a hat! Sarah must have forgotten you and come with me. I must take you in now. Be a good girl and go to Sarah in the hall; then I went into the house, and gave her the dissipated volume of Guizot that had been out all night among its more sober brethren.

CHAPTER VII.

The country air, which had brought unwonted roses to my cheeks while the weather was fine and dry, affected me very differently when, in the first days of September, the rain fell daily in a steady, continuous downpour that soon swelled the river and turned part of the marsh from a swamp into a stagnant, unwholesome lake. The air round the house seemed never free from mist; the moss grew greener and thicker on the pillars of the portico, and bright green stains grew broader and broader down the side of that wing of the house where Mr. and Mrs. Rayner's room was.

I often wondered why they slept there; I knew by the doors and windows that the ground-floor of that wing contained two rooms, a large and a small one. My own was in the same wing, but on the story above; and over mine was a turret that looked out high above the trees, but which was not used, so far as I knew. Hasty slept on the ground-floor, in a cot in the dressing-room next to her parents' bedroom, I knew, while the nursery and servants' room and several spare-rooms were on the upper story besides my own. Why did not Mr. and Mrs. Rayner make one of these their own, and lift themselves out of the reeking damp which must be poisonous to delicate Mrs. Rayner? I showed the change more quickly than any one, being less used to the change more fragrant Haidee soon followed suit, and grew more wan and listless than ever, until the luster of her large blue eyes and cheeks frightened me and drew me to the child as her strange reserve had prevented my being drawn before.

The weather had been so bad that for two Sundays we had not been able to go to church at all. So we knew nothing of what was going on in the parish for two whole weeks. We did not have to wait until the church-porch gathering on the following Sunday, though; for on the second day after the weather had at last grown fine again, when we were all in the drawing-room reading the morning papers over our coffee, we heard the sound of a horse's hoofs coming down the drive. Mr. Rayner threw open the window and stepped out on to the broad space of gravel before the front of the house.

"Hallo, Laurence, come in; the ladies will make even more of you than usual."

"Can't come in, thanks, Mr. Rayner—I'm too much splashed; the roads are awful still. I've only come with a note from Mrs. Manners to Mrs. Rayner."

"Nonsense! Come in, and come in."

So he tied up his horse, and generally sent Mrs. Manners to Mrs. Rayner, and I confess I heaved a sigh of relief. I had heard what a flimsy sort of errand had brought Mr. Reade, that perhaps—that perhaps—some other silly motive had helped to bring him, too. But my own half-acknowledged fancy was disappointed. Not only did Mr. Reade devote all his conversation to Mr. and Mrs. Rayner, but when I made a remark, he did not even look at me. I confess I was piqued; I certainly did not want Mr. Reade either to look at me or speak to me, but surely common courtesy, especially to a dependent, demanded that he should not ignore my presence altogether. So I thought I would take a small and impotent revenge by ignoring him, and when Mr. Reade's horse, I followed out of the window to look at him, but ran into the house for some sugar and fed him, and talked to him in a language which he seemed to understand, though I could not.

I walked away to gather some flowers for the tea-table, as it was the day for renewing them.

I was near the bottom of the drive, pulling off some small branches of copper beech to put among the flowers, when I heard Mr. Reade's horse put behind me. I did not even look round until he called out, "Good-afternoon, Miss Christie"; and then I just turned my head over my shoulder and said softly, "Good-afternoon," and went on with my task. Presently I heard him utter impatient ejaculations, and I looked and saw that he was fumbling with his whip at the fastening of the gate.

"How stupid he is not to get off and open it with his fingers!" I was frowning with impatience, when he suddenly looked up and his eyes met mine. There was nothing for it then but to open the gate and go and open the gate for him myself; so I walked up the drive very reluctantly and opened it wide without a smile.

"Thank you, thank you—so much obliged to you! I wouldn't have given you so much trouble for worlds. If only your brute would stand still!"

"Pray don't mention it. It is no trouble at all," I said idly, occupied in keeping my armful of flowers together.

And he raised his hat and rode off at a walking pace, while I shut the gate and turned and disappointed feeling—I could not tell why; when again I heard hoofs behind me and the latch of the gate go, and, glancing round, I saw Mr. Reade on horseback inside the gate.

"I must apologize for returning so soon, but I find I have lost a stone from my ring, and I think it must have dropped out while I was fumbling at the gate just now."

Politeness obliged me to help him. He fastened his horse's reins round the gate-post and showed me the ring, and I saw the hole where there was a stone missing. Suddenly it flashed through my mind that, while we stood under the shed on that Sunday in the rain, I had noticed the very same hole in the very same ring, and I was just going to tell him that it was no use for him to look, for he had lost the stone much longer than he fancied, when another thought, which brought me color swiftly to my face and made my lips quiver with my heart beat faster, flashed into my mind and stopped me. And the thought was that Mr. Reade must know how long ago he had lost that stone, at least as well as I did. And from that moment I would not condescend to pretend to look about any longer; but I would not condescend to pretend to look every now and then at his master, and thought how foolish he looked huffing about so carefully for what he knew he should not find; when he looked up, red with stooping, and caught me smiling, and he had to bite his lip in order not to smile himself as he walked up to me.

"I can't find it. It isn't of any consequence; I shan't look any longer," he said.

"Oh, but it would be such a pity to lose such a large stone, Mr. Reade!" I said, boldly. "I'll tell the gardener to hunt for it, and Sam the boy, and—"

"No, no—indeed it doesn't matter. She has sharp eyes; she might spend an hour or two hunting," I murmured confidentially, while he protested.

"You don't look nearly so well as you did a fortnight ago, Miss Christie, and I expect it is the damp of this place. You might as well live in a cave, you know, as in that house in a rainy season," he added, dropping his voice. "Don't you find yourself that your health is affected by it?"

I hesitated.

"It is damp, I know; but it isn't half so bad for me, who am strong, as it is for Mrs. Rayner or for little Haidee."

"But they can't help themselves, poor things, while it lies in your owing power whether you will put up with it or not."

"You mean that I ought to go away?"

"No, no, I don't mean that," said he hastily.

"But that is what you advised me to do," said I, looking up surprised.

"Did I? Ah, yes! But, now that you have grown attached to—to—the place—and—Mrs. Rayner—"

"No, indeed, I haven't," I interrupted. "I don't like her at all."

"Well, to Haidee, or the baby. You must not talk as if you didn't want to leave the place," he said, with such abrupt earnestness as to be almost rude.

"I like the house, and I like Haidee, and Jane the kitchen-maid, and Mr. Rayner," I said quietly.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

## THE QUIET HOUR.

## The Three Torch-Bearers.

Three Children in a vision did I see  
Threading the crowd that thro' a city rolled;  
Torches unlit they bore, and ceaselessly  
Asked fire to kindle flame in sooties cold.

They sought the Altar of the Unknown God—  
Its whitened ashes could not yield a spark;  
To Vesta's shrine the weary way they trod;  
But dome and hallowed precinct all were dark.

Towards Salem's towers the eastern sea they sailed,  
But desecrated Zion mocked their prayer.  
To proud Benares many a mountain scaled—  
But found no lamp to light the people there.

"The nations crave the light: yet still they lie  
Shadowed by death in tower and marble street;  
No sword can win them, and no gold can buy  
The beacon guide for tired and erring feet."

Thus they complained, and from the arch of night  
An angel came and beckoned; and the three  
Followed with anxious haste his radiant light  
O'er many a rocky path and misty sea.

He led them to a gleaming palace gate;  
The doors flew wide, and lo! upon a throne  
One like the Son of Man exalted sat,  
And round His head a dazzling nimbus shone.

"Light of the World am I," He gently said;  
And at His word upon the Children's sight  
The cressets flashed to flame, and round them shed  
An incense cloud of praise, a stream of light.

He waved His hand: "Now fare you on your way;  
So shall the earth with faith, hope, love, be bright;  
Changing its cloud of darkness for the day;  
I will be with you still; I am the Light."

The vision faded as the morn drew near:—  
And ever true are visions of the morn;  
I heard the bells of Christmas loud and clear  
Hailing the happy day when Christ was born.

The Christ!—The Sun of Righteousness is He;  
And, ever since that Light of Light was given,  
The world is guided by the torches three—  
To trust in God, love man, and hope for heaven.

## After Christmas.

The great question when one receives a gift of any kind is, "What will he do with it?" The beautiful or valuable object, the privilege, the friendship, whatever is given or received, becomes at once a new opportunity. Many a great gift has become a snare and a temptation; many a noble beneficence, instead of aiding, has degraded those for whose good it was planned; many a privilege has been slighted or abused. There have been many to whom the angels' song of peace and good-will has been a perpetual music in the heart, and out of whose vision the new star blazing over Bethlehem has never faded; there have been many, also, to whom the heavenly chorus and the star have been but passing impressions. The song and the star have been, and the great fact of divine love which they reveal stands forever written in the deepest history of the world; but to some life is as bare and heaven as mute as before the birth in the manger. The gift is freely offered, but it is forced upon none; the thirst-quenching stream flows silently through the busy earth, but only they who drink of it are refreshed. The great sin of humanity is neglect or misuse of opportunities and gifts; the Christ is crucified, the truth is denied, the blessing is ignored. What we all need is not more resources, but wisdom to use those we already possess. The men and women are few who realize the depth and power of their own natures, or who understand and value adequately the possibilities which surround them. Most of us go through life blind and dumb; flowers bloom and birds sing, and earth is fruitful and heaven fair, and we bemoan the narrowness of our means and the lack of variety and interest in our surroundings. The days come to us veiled, in Emerson's fine image, and we have not wit enough to see how beautiful they are, and how laden with gifts, until they are receding in the distance. While hosts of people were talking about the Christ and longing for His coming, He came, and passed their way so that they could have touched Him, and they did not know Him! The divine truth, for which the whole world had waited, not only came to men, but dwelt among them and touched them, as a man lays his hand on his fellow, and they did not recognize it! Strange and terribly significant, that blindness of the Jew and the Roman! But are we not equally blind? Do we know our gifts when they urge us to growth, as the light and the warmth solicit the seed? Do we shelter the Christ when he comes our way? And when He has passed, do we break for others the bread of life which He has left in our dwellings? After Christmas—what?

## For Christmas Day.

"Unto us a Child is born—unto us a Son is given."  
(BY A. K.)

No beacon star burns in our sky  
Whilst softly sleeps the silent earth,  
As when a thousand years ago  
It knew the Blessed Christ-child's birth.

No pure maid-mother bends above  
Her baby, laid in manger bare;  
No wise men journey from afar,  
Star-led and bearing presents rare;

No serried ranks of angels stand,  
To sing their praises from the sky;  
No God-sent wonder give us sign,  
As on that holy night gone by.

Yet Christmas peace broods o'er the earth  
And Christmas love fills hearts of men,  
And Christmas joy wakes everywhere,  
At His glad coming—now as then.

## MINNIE MAY'S DEPARTMENT.

MY DEAR NIECES,—

In view of the lovely Indian Summer weather we had so late in the year, it seems difficult to believe that another Christmas is close upon us. Again shall we celebrate the Holy Christ-child's coming. Again shall we look back upon past Christmases with that feeling of comparison which generally comes upon most of us at these anniversaries. There are usually some changes—too often that saddest of all changes—some dear one gone who was with us last time. But, dear girls, I am not going to write you a sad letter at this twice blessed of all seasons. Grave thoughts will naturally come to us all, but thankfulness and joy should be our dominant feeling.

I often think of how the good old customs are gradually dying out—customs of which you young people know but little; but just ask your parents and grandparents and they can tell you of old-time usages which are unheard of now. I am sure the former generation must have had a fine lot of fun at Christmastide. How one can picture the sitting round the Yule-log fire. To think, too, that this same Yule-log has an ancient superstition! The Anglo-Saxons worshipped the sun, and believing that the lengthening of the days in December meant that the sun was smiling upon them, they burnt huge sacrificial logs, as the blaze was typical of the sun's warmth and approval.

What tales, too, of superstition and romance could be told by holly and mistletoe! Well, some of the old customs have survived in a way. We do not look upon them with reverence, and for the same reasons as the ancients did, for gradual civilization has done away with such reasons, but some of us still hold to them and love them for "Auld lang syne."

I wonder if any of you know what "waits" are? Again ask the elders; they will know if they are Old Country folk. In England, a few nights before Christmas little bands of street musicians go about discoursing music, often of a most melancholy character. Formerly the "waits" meant something totally different. Here is one explanation found in an old dictionary: "The 'waits' (signifying 'watch') were minstrels or musical watchmen who attended great men and sounded the watch (that is, calling the hour). They have for many years degenerated into wandering musicians who give notice of the approach of Christmas." I can tell you, girls, that a very creepy, weird sensation pervades you when you are roused at two or three on a winter's morning by the sound of some wretched flute or fiddle, or cracked voices wheezing a Christmas carol, and you feel somewhat inclined to grumble at "old customs" when they assail you in this wise. Once I had a strange experience. I was in London (the old), and one Christmas eve, or, rather, Christmas morn, was awakened by "waits" of a very different character. A quartette of horns played some part songs most beautifully. The peculiar sensations which beset me I can scarcely describe. A sort of awe seemed to fall upon me, and I lay and listened with a full heart until the sweet music ceased. I discovered afterwards that the quartette was composed of four gentlemen who lived on that street and always celebrated Christmas in that way. The remembrance of that night has never faded from me and always brings back thoughts of so much that is gone into the deep oblivion of the past.

I wonder if Santa Claus will ever quite die out! All the children now are getting so old and wise that I am afraid they will soon teach even the tiny tots to look askance at us when we enlarge upon the wonderful capabilities of the dear old gentleman. I suppose that many of my nieces are puzzling their brains over presents. Yes, it is a difficult matter in so many cases to choose just the right thing, but always bear in mind that the spirit of the gift should ever be the chief aim. Often a little gift made by yourself is valued far more than something which costs ten times as much money, but where there are many presents to give it is not always possible for a busy girl to make them all herself. In such cases a little tact should be exercised so that the recipient may feel that a personal interest has been shown in the choosing of something especially suitable. All these things serve to keep alive in our hearts that peace and good-will which should ever be a characteristic of the Christmas season.

Now, dear nieces, I send you all loving wishes for a bright Christmas and glad New Year.

MINNIE MAY.

## Christmas Is Coming—Prepare.

"Christmas comes but once a year,  
And when it comes it brings good cheer."

"Meat and drink comforteth the stomach; a comforted stomach enlargeth the heart; an enlarged heart expandeth the soul; an expanded soul seeketh higher things: Wherefore, if you would rise, partake ye all of good cheer."

How many burdened housewives dread the coming of Christmas, with the extra work it entails. Would it not be possible for such to disregard the traditions of our grandmothers and omit a few of the rich plum puddings and pastries and serve something simpler which the children also may be allowed to enjoy. Make the dinner-table look just as pretty and cheery as possible with flowers and your daintiest dishes. If you have no flowers use your finest house-plant for a centerpiece, draping the pot with a delicate shade of China silk or crinkled paper.

A young housekeeper considers the preparation of the Christmas turkey her hardest task, and for such full directions are here given:

*To Clean and Truss a Turkey or Fowl.*—Pick dry, being careful not to break the skin, and remove pinfeathers with a knife. Singe the hairs off with a lighted roll of twisted paper over the stove. Cut off the head; cut the skin down the back of the neck, and loosen it from the bone. Cut the neck off close to the body, leaving skin enough to fold over on the back; loosen the windpipe and crop, which, if empty, can be drawn backward with the intestines, being careful not to cut the skin of the breast. Cut through the skin of the leg about half an inch below the joint and break the bone; then pull the sinews out one by one with a strong skewer or a wire nail. Remove the oil bag and cut a small opening to remove the intestines, liver, heart, gizzard, lungs (which lie close to the ribs), and the kidneys (close to the backbone), and wash the inside thoroughly with cold water and wipe dry inside and outside.

*To Make the Stuffing.*—Rub fine bread crumbs from the inside of the loaf, season with salt, pepper, powdered thyme and summer savory. Stir with a fork while you add one-quarter cup of butter melted for each cup of crumbs. If to be served cold add an egg slightly beaten. Fill out the breast to look plump, when the skin of the neck is fastened to the back with a skewer, and put the remainder in the body. Sew or skewer through the opening close, then put a long skewer through the thighs and another through the wings, so the ends will stick out on both sides. With the middle of a long string tie the legs together and bring up close to the tail. Bring both ends of the string over the back, cross it from side to side, winding it around the ends of the long skewers and tie over the back. This leaves the breast free from strings and yet holds the legs and wings close to the body.

Place the bird on a rack in a large dripping pan, brush over with soft butter, and dredge with flour. A piece of beef suet may be laid on for a while and serves to baste with. Have the oven hot at first and baste with the hot fat often; this forms a complete crust over the surface and prevents the escape of the natural juices. If the gravy is in danger of being burned, a little water may be put in the pan after this crust has been formed, or a separate pan of hot water may be set in the oven beside it.

Before serving, remove all skewers or strings, put a little frill of white paper around the ends of the drumsticks and keep hot on a large platter while you make the gravy. If there is too much fat in the pan, remove some of it, and to the remainder add an equal quantity—by measure—of dry flour, cook a minute, stirring carefully, and add hot water, a little at a time, still stirring all the time. The giblets and neck may be put on to cook in cold water, and use this in making the gravy. Lay around the platter small moulds of jellied cranberries and potato croquettes, alternately, and use a little parsley to garnish.

*Jellied Cranberries.*—Cook 1 quart of carefully sorted and washed cranberries, with  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint water, 20 minutes; add 1 pint sugar, and cook 10 minutes; pour into little dariole moulds or small egg-cups to cool.

*Potato Croquettes.*—To 1 pint of hot potatoes, mashed through a ricer, add 1 tablespoon butter,  $\frac{1}{2}$  saltspoon white pepper, a speck cayenne,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon celery salt, a few drops of onion juice, 1 teaspoon chopped parsley, and the yolk of 1 egg. When slightly cool, shape into smooth round balls or rolls, roll in sifted dried bread crumbs, dip in beaten egg, and roll in crumbs again. Fry in smoking hot lard to a golden brown, drain, and serve hot.

*A Plain Mince Pie.*—One cup of cooked meat, 2 cups chopped apples,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup raisins,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup jelly or marmalade, juice of 1 lemon, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 teaspoon salt,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon cinnamon,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon allspice,  $\frac{1}{2}$  nutmeg. The meat may be remnants of steak or other cooked beef, stewed until tender, and chopped fine. The lemon may be omitted if an unsweetened jelly be used. Mix all thoroughly, and bake between two crusts.

Will the progressive farmer, who "never can think what to get his wife for a Christmas present until too late," please think earlier, and consider that for his own use he eagerly buys any and all kinds of labor-saving machinery, while his delicate, overworked wife is allowed to worry away with the stove that smokes, the back-breaking iron pots and teakettle of her grandmother's time—fit only for giants to lift. She rolls her pastry with a glass bottle, and does not own a saucepan or modern convenient utensil of any kind, unless the leaky two-quart basin, in which she cooks all her fruit, may belong to this happy class.

Now, be "generous" this year, and make her happy, not with showy trinkets, but with some useful labor-saving utensil, such as a meat-mincer (costing about \$2), a grating machine (about \$1), suitable for grating suet, cheese, nuts, etc.; a nickel-plated or agate teakettle, a set of agate saucepans, a beautiful large agate preserving-kettle, or a whole set of wooden mixing spoons, egg beaters, jelly moulds, lemon squeezers, and other little things too numerous to mention and too convenient to do without.

*Custard Pie.*—Take a quart of hot milk, six eggs well beaten, about a cup of white sugar; make a good rich crust and line two soup plates, put in the mixture and bake, using white of egg for top.

**A Royal Christmas in Westminster Hall.**

BY THE AUTHOR OF "CURIOSITIES OF LONDON."

There is not, perhaps, in the world, and certainly not in England, a more magnificent relic of the "profuse hospitality" of former ages than the Great Hall at Westminster, originally added to the ancient palace of Edward the Confessor by William II. Hence Pope calls it

"Rufus' roaring hall."

Its walls were heightened, and its noble British oak roof was added, by Richard II. Here were held the coronation, Christmas, and other great feasts of our sovereigns, the guests numbering thousands of all ranks. Edward I. was here proclaimed king, and for his coronation feast the Hall was whitewashed! Richard II. celebrated the completion of the Hall with "a most royal feast" (at Christmas be it remembered) of 26 or 28 oxen, and 300 sheep, and fowls without number, several days; and by a strange turn in the "wheel of vicissitude," here, in the very Hall which Richard had reared to such magnificence, was the weak king solemnly deposed and sentenced to perpetual imprisonment. In 1478 King Edward IV. kept Christmas here with great pomp, wearing his crown and making pre-

sounding, the fools are disporting among the crowd of servitors, who are bringing in the peacock, the boar's head dressed with holly, bays, and rosemary; and countless other dishes. The tables are garnished with dainty devices, called subtleties, made of paste, jelly, or blanc-mange, placed in the middle of the board, with labels describing them, and various shapes of animals were frequent.

We part from this picture of the Christmas of three centuries and a half since, as from one of Time's stately pageants which bring the picturesqueness of the past into vivid contrast with the less fervid hospitalities of the present; reminding us that although Westminster Hall may be void and gloomy on the coming Christmas Day, greater enjoyment than was yielded by the prodigal heaps of luxury once consumed within these walls is now scattered through the length and breadth of the land, and the rational wealth of Christmas is thus brought home to every man's fireside. Such is "the moral" of "A Royal Christmas in Westminster Hall."

**The First Christmas.**

"Sleep, baby, sleep," the mother sings,  
Heaven's angels kneel and fold their wings.  
Sleep, baby, sleep.

With swathes of scented hay thy bed  
By Mary's hand at eve was spread.  
Sleep, baby, sleep.

And yet he gave me toys galore—  
The Santa Claus of long ago.

Ah! if he'd only come again  
As once he came in days of yore,  
Ere boys grew into somber men  
And maidens voted dolls a bore,  
The world would have no dreary eras  
And life no dull *adagio*  
He cometh not from yonder shore,  
The Santa Claus of long ago.

ENVOI.

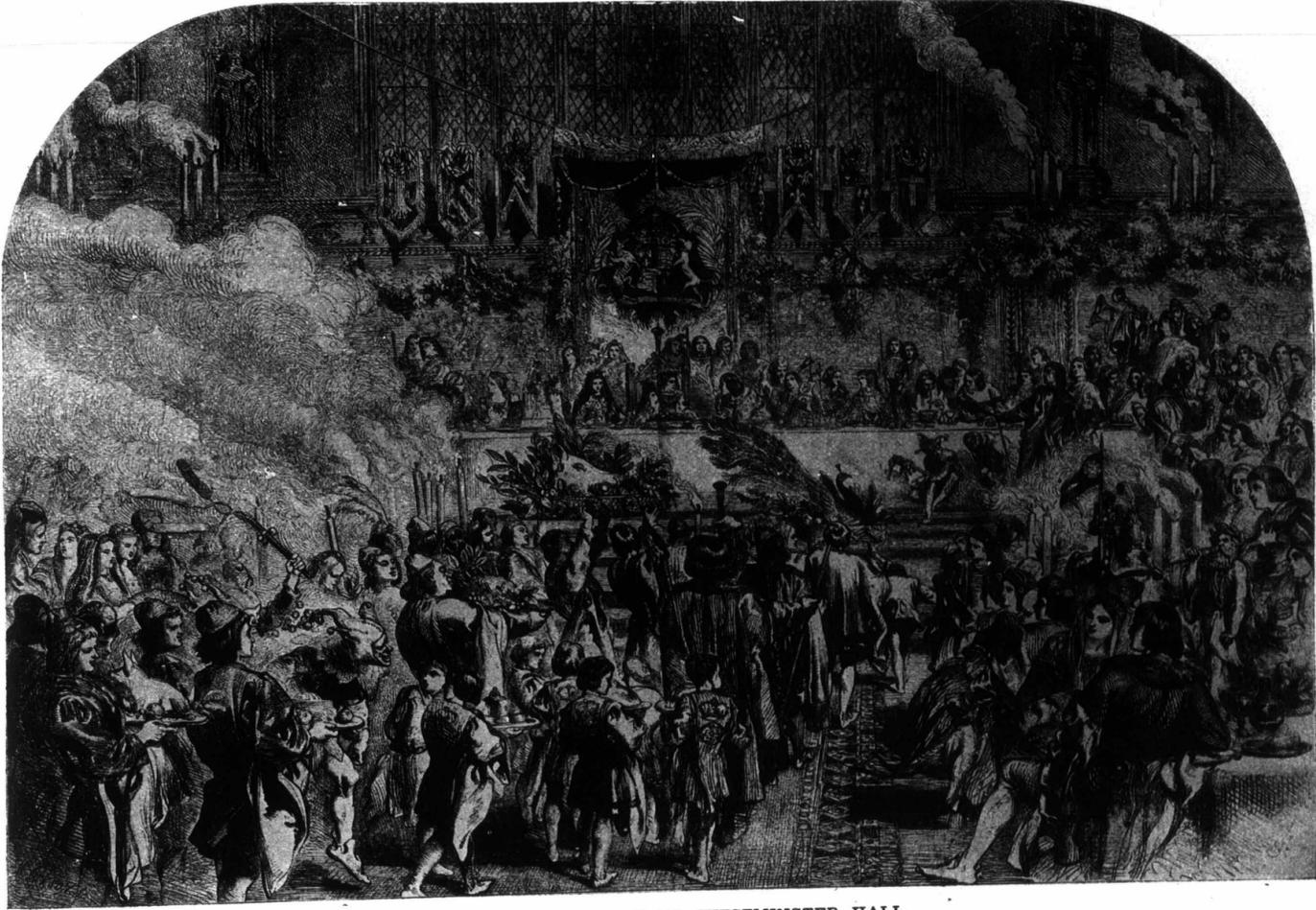
What profits that a man deplores  
Since earth is not a heaven below?  
He cannot come as heretofore—  
The Santa Claus of long ago.

—C. C.

**THE CHILDREN'S CORNER.**

**Santa Claus' Joke.**

"I'd like a nice doll, please, dear Santa Claus!  
And pray don't forget  
To bring a nice set  
Of china to mamma, because  
She's biggest and best, you can see.  
Bring brother some toys,  
That won't make much noise,  
And remember a dolly for me!"  
"Remember a doll!" exclaimed Santa, when  
He'd spelled this epistle all thro',  
"How well I remember  
This time, last December.  
A beautiful doll all in blue,  
A magnificent doll she was then



A ROYAL CHRISTMAS IN WESTMINSTER HALL.

sents to his household. King Richard III., although his reign was short and turbulent, kept two Christmases in great state in Westminster Hall—as in 1483, when, says Philip de Comines, "he was reigning in greater splendor and authority than any king of England for the last hundred years;" and next year, when he solemnized this festival with great pomp and splendor, encouraging the recreations usual at the season, presiding at the customary feasts, and so attentively observing even the most trivial matters that a warrant is entered for the payment of "200 marks for certain New Year's gifts bought against the feast of Christmas." The festivities continued without interruption until the day of the Epiphany, when they terminated with an entertainment of extraordinary magnificence given by the monarch to his nobles in Westminster Hall—"the king himself wearing his crown," are the words of the Croyland historian, "and holding a splendid feast in the Great Hall, similar to that of his coronation." Such a royal Christmas has Mr. Gilbert pictured from authorized sources. He has chosen the upper end of the Hall, showing the great stone table with the king and queen seated beneath a canopy of state, emblazoned with the royal arms; the dais wall is hung with tapestry, and wreathed with Christmas evergreens; and the banners above are surmounted with laurel crowns. Here is a blaze of light from the huge wax torches; the sports are rife, the trumpets are

At midnight came the shepherds, they  
Whom seraphs awakened by the way.  
Sleep, baby, sleep.

And three kings from the East afar  
Ere dawn came, guided by a star.  
Sleep, baby, sleep.

They brought thee gifts of gold and gems,  
Rich orient pearls, pure diadems.  
Sleep, baby, sleep.

And Thou, who liest slumbering there,  
Art King of kings, earth, ocean, air.  
Sleep, baby, sleep.

"Sleep, baby, sleep," the shepherds sing:  
Through Heaven, through earth, hosannas ring.  
Sleep, baby, sleep. —I. A. Symonds.

**Santa Claus of Long Ago.**

To-night, within my lonely den,  
My fancy fain would have me soar  
Beyond the now and back to then—  
The happy, childish nevermore;  
The tales I used to linger o'er,  
The little nursery all aglow.  
And once again my dreams restore  
The Santa Claus of long ago.

His world was far beyond my ken.  
For mine was just the nursery floor.  
He came, they told me, after ten,  
And never through the curtained door.  
I cannot tell you what he wore;  
I never saw his form, you see;

With real golden hair,  
Behind the arm-chair  
She's lying, with never a limb.  
Tears make my eyes dim  
To see her head broken and bare.  
If she'd had proper care,  
She'd be cozily sleeping in bed  
With a smile on her face,  
Legs and arms in their place;  
But instead,  
She's neglected, as no doll shall be  
Again, never fear!  
For that lassie this year  
Gets no dolly, at least not from me!

"I'll remember her doll," and Santa Claus smiled;  
"I declare, I have made quite a pun!"  
With needle and thread,  
He stitched on a head,  
And replaced the lost limb, every one.  
"It's the best I can do!  
To give anything new  
To so terribly careless a child  
Would be wasting my stuff,  
This is quite good enough.  
There are toys for her brother,  
And for the dear mother  
A set for her five o'clock tea.  
Perhaps 't would be better  
To answer this letter,  
Tho' business is pressing with me."  
As quick as a wink  
He seized pen and ink,  
"I've done as you asked me to do,"  
He hastily wrote  
In a brief little note,  
"And re-remembered a dolly for you."  
—Elizabeth R. Burns.

**Twins.**

BY CAROLINE E. CONDIT.

*Polly.*

There's such a lot that Santa Claus  
Must tend to when he begins,  
I feel a little anxious, 'cause  
He might forget we're twins.

S'posen' he'd peek in at our bed  
'Bout 'leven or half-past ten,  
And say, "There's Dolly Brookses' head,  
And—Dolly Brooks again!"

And then he'd pull our stockings down,  
And shake his head, and say,  
With such a dreadful stingy frown,  
"She can't fool me that way!"

*Dolly.*

Poor Polly wouldn't have a thing,  
How *terrible* that would be!  
For every single toy he'd bring  
He'd 'spose would b'long to me.

Polly! let's take our picture-books  
Before we go to bed,  
Marked "Polly Brookses" and "Dolly Brookses,"  
And hang them overhead.

Then, when old Santa comes our way,  
He'll smile the biggest grin,  
And tiptoe 'round the bed, and say,  
"What have we here? Ah, twins!"

**Santa Claus.**

Did you hear Santa Claus last night?  
I think it's very queer,  
We lock our doors as tight as tight,  
And yet, just once a year,

Somebody finds his way inside,  
It's always Christmas Eves,  
And I'd just like to show you now  
The things that someone leaves.

It's only when you're good, you know,  
That Santa Claus'll come,  
And then he'll bring just what you want—  
I had a sword and drum.

And little Jack, he had a ball  
And singing top that'll spin.  
I meant to keep awake last night  
Till Santa Claus got in.

We don't have chimneys at our house,  
At least, inside, I mean,  
Not fire-places, and such things,  
And so it would have been

Just like some folks to give it up  
And let our presents go,  
Because he couldn't find a place  
To come right in—but no;

Folks might do that, but Santa Claus  
He loves us children more,  
And so he finds a way—I b'lieve  
It's through the cellar door.

*Night.*  
"Dangling in the fire-place,  
What a dismal row!  
Long, and lean, and empty  
Down from top to toe;  
Yet the children gaily  
Off to dreamland go."

*Morning.*  
"Pump and overflowing,  
What a jolly row!  
Wishing 'Merry Christmas!  
Down from top to toe.  
Not a vacant corner, where  
Another gift might go.  
Ah, the faith of children,  
How it shames our own!  
Will our Heavenly Father  
Give for bread a stone?  
Or His tender mercies  
With grudging hand be sown,  
If in childlike confidence  
We trust His love alone!"

**Getting Ready for Santa Claus.**

BY CORA WHITTLESEY GREGORY.

It's hard to be a little boy  
And always to be good:  
To never track in mud or snow,  
And never spill your food.

And not to take the biggest piece  
When cake is passed at tea,  
And when mamma asks: "Who broke that?"  
To say right out: "'Twas me."

And not to call her "Baby!"  
When your little sister cries:  
But then, a boy can really do  
"Most anything he tries."

And 'specially now when Santa Claus  
Is watching every day  
To see if when it's Christmas Eve  
He'll care to come your way.

Nurse says: "You can't fool Santa Claus!"  
And what nurse says is so,  
And if you're naughty, he won't come,  
And he'll be sure to know.

**For the New Year.**

I see not a step before me;  
God hangs a mist o'er my eyes;  
And so each step in my onward path  
He makes new scenes arise,  
And every joy he sends me  
Comes as a strange and sweet surprise.

I see not a step before me  
As I tread on another year;  
The path is safe in God's keeping,  
The future his mercy shall clear,  
And what looks dark in the distance  
May brighten as I draw near.

It may be the coming future  
Has less bitter than I think;  
The Lord may sweeten the water  
Before I stoop to drink.  
Or if "Marah must be Marah,"  
He will stand upon the brink.

So I go on not knowing;  
I would not, if I might,  
I had rather walk in the dark with God  
Than walk alone in the light.  
I had rather walk with Him by faith  
Than walk alone by sight.

**UNCLE TOM'S DEPARTMENT.**

**Puzzles.**

All matter for this department should be sent direct to ADA ARMAND, Pakenham, Ontario.

**1-CHARADE.**

Hail to the merry Xmas time  
Coming with its cheer,  
All is TOTAL except to bid  
Farewell to the good old year.

Ninety-six must pass away  
As other years have flown,  
And memory brings fond regrets  
For pleasures that are gone.

When the good ship ADVOCATE  
Sailed in ninety-two,  
A merrier band of puzzlers  
Ne'er comprised a crew.

Lots of merry rhyme and verse  
Made our corner gay.  
"Daisy Anagrams," too, came  
From our cousin Ada. A.

Alas! how many changes  
Have taken place since then.  
All those clever veterans  
Have laid aside their pens.

'Tis at the Yule-tide season  
One longs for voices dear;  
Methinks that crew of ninety-two  
Might send a line to cheer

Their captain's kind, forgiving heart—  
He'll take you to his breast.  
So make this Christmas a COMPLETE ONE  
And FINAL of happiness.

Then gladly we'll welcome ninety-seven.  
May PRIMAL and hope dawn with it newly  
And Xmas bright and happy be  
Is the prayer of your most truly,  
LILY DAY.

**2-REBUS.**



LILY DAY.

**3-ANAGRAM.**

In the Fall "in ovens" round  
Total often may be found;  
So, if you would like to eat  
That which is juicy and sweet,—

Leave the village, leave the field,  
Where the culture makes the yield;  
Hasten to the Northern lands,  
Frequented by Indian bands.

Where the cool, refreshing breeze  
Rustles the leaves "on vines" and trees,  
There, maybe, you will obtain  
What is starting was your aim.

C. ROBINSON.

**4-CURTALMENT.**

Oh! Annie P. Hampton,  
Where do you stay?  
Has our friend, Mr. Edwards,  
Scared you away?

See, now, what rewards  
Miss Clara will get;  
For being so diligent,  
And not taking the "pet."

Look! Lily Day has come back,  
A visit to pay.  
She is not like you,  
For she FIRST stay away.

She has come back to us  
To make us for the past,  
And to get Uncle Tom's prize,  
Which, of course, must be LAST.  
J. S. CRERAR.

**5-CHARADE.**

Merry elves around us play,  
Winter is not far away;  
Nipping is the air and keen—  
Jack Frost is quite plainly seen.

Bridged with crystal are the streams,  
Waking us from autumn dreams;  
Let us try our steely flght  
On the clear expanse to-night.

Snowflakes in the cloudy sky,  
Fluttering from their pillows high,  
But repeat the children's strain;  
"Oh! December's LAST again."

TOTAL month of fun untold!  
We delight to feel the cold,  
For thy sharp and bitter sting  
Makes our hearts more blithely sing.

And thy breath upon our cheek  
Lend a flush that artists seek;  
Makes our blood in rapture go  
Racing through from head to toe.

But we joy the most in thee,  
Thinking of our Christmas glee,  
And the holidays it brings,  
And the loads of Christmas things.

Cousins take this cheer of mine!  
May December bless you PRIME!  
And the seasons greetings, too,  
Merry Christmas, friends, to you.  
CHAS. S. EDWARDS.

**6-ENIGMA.**

My FIRST and my SECOND of teeth have some,  
Tho' of legs you'll find my FIRST has none;  
Yet TOTAL is known to the farmer's son  
And disliked by nearly every one.

What is it?

CLARA ROBINSON.

**7-CROSS LETTER ENIGMA.**

My FIRST is lumber, but not in wood;  
My SECOND is in family, but not in brood;  
My THIRD is in promise, but not in bond;  
My FOURTH is in ocean, and also in pond;  
My FIFTH is in sea-cow, but not in shark;  
My SIXTH is in palace, but not in park;  
My SEVENTH is in shamrock, but not in heather;  
My WHOLE is a country where there's very hot weather.  
J. S. CRERAR.

**Answers to November 16th Puzzles.**

1-Parental-paternal. 2-Merry-go-round. 3-Men may live fools, but fools they cannot die. 4-Crock, rock, cork, roe, or, o. 5-Raven.

**SOLVERS TO NOVEMBER 16TH PUZZLES.**

Clara Robinson, J. S. Crerar; also, J. S. Crerar and Ada M. Jackson for Nov. 2nd.

**Courtesy.**

Oftentimes we fail to realize the influence of a kind word, a bright smile, or an attentive action. An old white-haired gentleman recently said that he would always remember with what pleasure he once received a smile and a few courteous words from a young lady on one of the crowded ferry-boats. He had asked for directions as to how he should go on reaching the other side, expecting the brief, somewhat cold answer which strangers so often receive. But the young girl's frank smile and the ready way in which she gave him minute directions made him feel, as he afterwards said, as though he had met a friend.

It is hardly likely that we shall be ready with kind words and considerate acts when the opportunities come as suddenly as they must come in railroad cars or on street crossings, unless we are habitually thoughtful of the feelings of those around us. People may safely judge us by our conduct on these unexpected occasions.

A few days since a middle-aged lady was coming out of a store in one of our large cities. The rain was pouring in torrents and the wind was blowing a gale, so that she found some difficulty in attempting to open the storm-door and at the same time raise her umbrella. Suddenly the door was pushed open by a strong arm, the umbrella raised and placed in her hand, and, with a polite lifting of his hat, a young man passed on before her.

If young people would stop to think how many traits of character may be shown by a single word or action, the kind deeds and gentle words would become more frequent in our busy everyday life.

**Charades.**

With the coming of the long winter evenings, our young people always desire something new, and we give some novel charades that will help to enliven an entertainment or social evening.

The following is the title of a popular and well-known poem to be given in one act. One represents a shoemaker and is supplied with hammer and tacks. Each one taking part in the charade comes to him, while he makes a pretense of driving a tack into the heel of their shoe, which can be done without their removal. What is it? All will probably guess some time before anyone thinks of "Lucille" (loose heel).

The name of the author of the poem may be represented by one of the company lying on the sofa and apparently dying, but the friends, instead of manifesting grief, are shrieking with laughter, and doing all sorts of jolly things, which plainly illustrates "Meredith" (merry death).

One of Longfellow's poems, "The Rainy Day," is easily given by a number of persons walking about the room carrying umbrellas and otherwise protecting themselves from the rain.

The slang phrase, "A chilly day" or "A cold day," is also easily rendered by the company's donning all the wraps obtainable, and then shivering around in a seemingly half-frozen condition.

"High tide" and "Low tide" are illustrated by tying a handkerchief around a very tall man's neck, and another one around his ankle; or if none of the company are tall enough, the handkerchief may be tied to some objects in the room; for instance, to the gas jet or chandelier, and to the rung of a chair.

Illinois is another funny charade. One of the players assumes a severe illness, and during his sufferings the other persons taking part enter the room, laughing and talking in loud tones, beating on tin pans, pounding the floor, and doing all in their power to make a noise which gives the three syllables "Ill" and "a noise."

"Cantelope" is another word that makes a good charade, and offers excellent opportunity for some amusing conversation. A couple enter the room, giving every indication of being an eloping pair. But just as they are ready to carry out their plans the girl's father appears upon the scene, seizes his daughter, and takes her away with him, which puts a stop to further developments, as they very evidently "can't-elope."

"An Ancient Philosopher" is another that will create any amount of fun when known, but there are few who will guess, although it is very plain when once it is known. A number of young girls standing in a row represent "Cicero" (Sissy-row).

As a companion to the above may be given "Hero," a number of boys in a row (he-row).—Clara Sensibaugh Everts.

**An Unwelcome Caller.**

Jack Frost came to the window-pane,  
And softly tapped with his icicle cane.  
"Excuse me," I said, "the doors are tight,  
And I'd rather you wouldn't come in to-night."  
So he scratched his name all over the glass,  
And the baby sneezed as she heard him pass.  
—Youth's Companion.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.) Following are the current and comparative prices for the various grades of live stock:—

Table with columns for CATTLE, SHEEP, and HOGS, listing various grades and their prices. Includes sub-sections for 'Present Prices' and 'Top prices two weeks ago'.

The top price for cattle so far this year, \$5.90, was the highest since September, 1895, when \$6.00 was paid. The highest price last year was \$6.60, in March. In June, 1892, fancy heaves sold at \$9.30, the highest in over a quarter of a century.

Table showing historical price data for cattle from 1887 to 1896, with columns for the year and the price.

Here is an extract from the current cattle market:— The half fat cattle sold at \$1 to \$1.25, with good, ripe, fat cattle at \$1.75 to \$2.25, which latter, in connection with the abundance and cheapness of corn, makes a hard situation to understand.

Texas fed cattle sold at \$3.75 to \$4.40, and these cattle are now expected to cut considerable figure in the trade from now on.

The country hog packing houses are mostly idle, as they cannot make anything at present prices for hogs and contract product. That throws more hogs in sight at the big points.

Hogs are heavy in average weight. Superintendent Burdick, of the Chicago Packing Company, says they killed 2,700 hogs one day recently which averaged over 370 lbs., which is the heaviest average weight for so large a day's "buy" that he ever remembered going through the house.

The sheep market has lately been in fair shape. Sales included some choice fed Western sheep at \$3.50, and a good many were sold at \$3 to \$3.40.

There has been great suffering among the range cattle in Montana, the Dakotas, and Wyoming for so early in the season. The heavy snow was preceded by a wet, which made it difficult for the cattle to get food.

The horse market continues quiet, with liberal offerings. There has been a gradual advance in prices for the past three weeks, until the \$10 per head advance the second week in November is nearly lost.

According to a British Government report, the importation of American cattle into England is steadily on the increase. For the first five months of the current year it was 175,000 head, as compared with 112,000 for the same period of last year.

From this it appears to work out more profitably to transport the live cattle. They are carried on parts of the ships that would otherwise be unoccupied.

British Imports of American Cattle and Meat.

According to a British Government report, the importation of American cattle into England is steadily on the increase. For the first five months of the current year it was 175,000 head, as compared with 112,000 for the same period of last year.

Toronto Markets.

The market has been very dull for the last two weeks; only two loads of cattle, from the Guelph Fat Stock Show.

Export Cattle.—A few head picked up at 3 1/2c. per lb.; a disposition to advance to 4c. for really good choice cattle.

Butchers' Cattle.—These sold slowly; quite a few went at \$2.40 to \$2.50 per cwt. One load taken to Montreal, 1,050 lb. average, brought \$28 per head.

Stocks and Feeders.—Prof. Day, of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, bought 20 head of very fair steers at \$2.50, \$2.80 and \$2.90 per cwt.

Butcher sheep are dull at \$2.50 per head. Export sheep sold at 3c. to 3 1/2c. per lb. for best choice.

Calves.—Light offerings caused a firm market. Choice veals fetch \$7 per head. A few good calves wanted.

Hogs.—Market steady; prices firm; a disposition to advance to 4 1/2c. Choice selections at 3 1/2c. to 4c. per lb. weighed off cars.

Eggs in limited supply. Choice selection of new laid, 30c. per doz.; packed, fresh, 20c. per doz.; limed, 17c. per doz.

Butter.—Very small supply. A large quantity of poor quality on sale, from 15c. to 20c. per lb.

Wheat firm, 800 bushels selling at 88c. per bushel; white, 87c. to 87 1/2c.; for red, 86c.; and 65c. for goose.

Hay.—Large quantity on offer. Prices eased up since last week. Twenty-five loads, at \$12 to \$14.

Wool.—There has been a decline in the price of green hides. The market prices are lower, and another decline is expected next week.

Wool is in good demand for export, and higher prices are now quoted. Practically the whole of the 1896 clip of fleece wool has been cleared out by American buyers.

Dressed Hogs.—Demand for dressed hogs is active, at \$4.75; for choice quality, weighing from 100 to 150 lbs., \$5 to \$5.10; single carcasses, \$5.25.

J. G. CLARK, Woodroffe Stock Farm, Ottawa, Ontario.

Three Clydesdale Mares. Weighing from 1,650 to 1,800 pounds, and their colts from 1 to 3 years old.

Choice Young Ayrshires of both sexes For Sale Cheap.

MUST BE SOLD

A few Imported Mares in foal to Grandeur. Also a promising yearling Hackney Colt. They will be sold very cheap.

QUEEN. D. & O. SORBY, - GUELPH, ONT. 6-2-y-om

1864. HILLHURST FARM. 1894.

HACKNEY HORSES. Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus cattle, Shropshire and Dorset-Horn sheep.

M. H. COCHRANE, 16-2-y-om HILLHURST STATION, P. Q.

F. BONNYCASTLE & SONS,

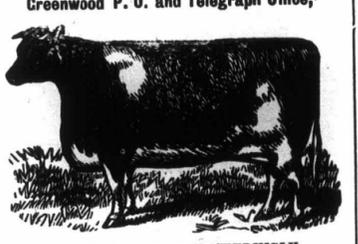
CAMPBELLFORD, ONT., Breeders of Shorthorn, Cattle, Cotswold Sheep; an extra lot of ram lambs, ewe lambs, and breeding ewes, also a very fine shearing ram.

SHORTHORN BULLS

I have six young bulls, got by Aberdeen (imp.); good ones. One is a full brother to the champion heifer at Toronto and Ottawa fairs this fall.

JOHN MILLER, Markham, Ontario. Stations—Locust Hill, C. P. R. Markham, G. T. R.

Arthur Johnston, Greenwood P. O. and Telegraph Office,



HAS FOR SALE AT EXCEEDINGLY LOW PRICES

17 EXTRA GOOD SHORTHORN BULLS 17

fit for service; also an equally good lot of Cows and Heifers, the best we ever offered.

Send for Catalogue and prices. Enquiries answered promptly. Clearmont Stn. C.P.R. or Pickering Stn. G.T.R. Our motto: "No business, no harm."

RIVER BOW STOCK FARM.

B. SNARY & SONS, Croton, Ont., Breeders of Shorthorn Cattle, Poland-China, Duroc-Jersey, and Chester White Swine, and Leicester Sheep.

THOS. ALLIN & BROS.

LAKE VIEW FARM, OSHAWA, ONT., Breeders of CLYDESDALES, SHORTHORNS, and SHROPSHIRE. Have 1 yearling bull and 1 two-year-old bull (sired by Duke of Lavender). Will go cheap.

HAWTHORN HERD

of DEEP MILKING SHORTHORNS. FOR SALE—Four young Bulls, three reds and one roan; also Heifers, got by Golden Nugget = 1 1/2c. and from AI dairy cows. WILLIAM GRAINGER & SON, Lonsdale, Ont.

THE GRAND VALLEY STOCK FARM

G. & W. GIER, Props., Grand Valley, Ont., Breeders of Short-horns and Imp. Yorkshires. We offer for sale young bulls, cows and heifers of choice breeding and good quality at very low prices; also choice young Yorkshires of both sex.

Shorthorn Bulls

Two Yearlings, Six Calves.

First-class Color. First-class Form. First-class Pedigree. THIRD-class Price.

Full particulars cheerfully given. Address: JOHN DRYDEN, BROOKLIN, ONT. 19-b-om

CARGILL HERD OF SHORTHORNS.

Six young Bulls, and as many heifers as you want, all bred in the purple. Come and see them or write. N. CARGILL & SON, Cargill Stn. & P. O. Station on the farm. 11-y-om

FOR SALE! 10 SHORTHORN BULLS

and a few heifers, nearly all from imported cows and got by an imported bull. JOHN ISAAC, Kinellar Lodge, - - Markham, Ont

H. K. Fairbairn, Theford, Ont.,

Breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. I now have for sale two good young bulls, 11 and 13 months old, of choice breeding. Will sell cheap, considering quality. 22-2-y-o

A. J. WATSON, CASTLEDERG, ONT.,

(ASHTON FRONTVIEW FARM), breeder of choice SCOTCH SHORTHORNS. Young stock of either sex, and choicest breeding, for sale at reasonable prices. Correspondence solicited. Bolton Station, C. P. R. 22-2-y-o

For Sale—SCOTCH SHORTHORNS

of both sexes; also a few BERKSHIRE Sows six months old. Prices right. Correspondence solicited. F. A. GARDNER, Britannia, Ont. 22-2-y-o

FOUR SHORTHORN BULLS from 4 to 16 months,

and COWS AND HEIFERS of various ages. Large English Berkshire Pigs ready to ship. A grand lot of Black Minorca Cockerels at \$1 each.

Correspondence solicited; inspection invited. MAC CAMPBELL, Northwood, Ont. 24-2-y-o

W. G. PETTIT, BREEMAN, ONTARIO,

BREEDER Shorthorns, Shropshires, and Berkshires OF . . . Offers for sale a choice lot, consisting of eight young bulls, 40 one, two and three-year-old ewes, sixteen yearling rams, and twenty ram lambs, and a choice lot of Berkshires. Big bargains will be given for the next thirty days, as I want to reduce stock before winter. 15-y-om

THE GLEN STOCK FARM

Our stock comprises Clydesdales, Ayrshires, and Shropshires. High-class Ayrshires a specialty. We are making a special offering of ten very promising young bulls, and a number of very choice cows and heifers of the heaviest and richest milking strains, any of which will be sold at very moderate prices. We also have Rough-coated Scotch Collies for sale, eligible for registry.

7-y-om WHITESIDE BROS., INNERKIP, ONT.

Thos. Drysdale, Allan's Corners P. O., Quebec,

Breeder of high-class Ayrshires, headed by Lord Sterling, winner at Montreal '95. Extra choice young bulls and heifers for sale. Farm 1 1/2 miles from Bryson's St., G. T. R. 4-2-y-o

AYRSHIRES FOR SALE.

Several good yearling bulls by Earl of Percy and Prince Leopold, also cows and heifers. My spring calves will be by the noted bulls White Prince, Sir Colin, and Earl of Percy. Prices right. F. W. TAYLOR, Wellman's Corners, Hoard's St. 4-2-y-o

James Cottingham, RIVERSIDE FARM, Ormstown, Que.,

Breeder of Ayrshire cattle. Herd is headed by the prize-winning bull, White Prince of St. Anne's - 6408 - Choice bred stock for sale at all times, including some very choice young bulls and heifers. 4-2-y-o

**NOTICES.**

In writing to advertisers please mention the Farmer's Advocate.

In another column Mr. D. W. McIvor offers a 160-acre farm at \$5.00 per acre. This farm is in Millbrook, 20 miles east of Winnipeg. It is noted as a splendid stock and farming district. As the amount asked is a low figure and terms of payment easy, any of our readers who contemplate mixed farming would find here an excellent location and a good chance to secure a farm.

Economical power and economical feeding are two of the great needs of the dairy and stock farmer to-day. The wind supplies one and the grain grinder is an indispensable requisite to the other—pumping water and making chop stuff while the farmer goes about other work. For special information on these important matters consult the illustrated advertisement of Messrs. Gould, Shapley & Muir, Brantford, Ont., in another column. Note particularly what practical men say about their windmills and grinders.

There is some plea from a humane standpoint for protesting against having horses tails docked, but none whatever for objecting to dehorning cattle, unless it be for the appearance of pure-bred herds. Within the last few years by almost common consent people have agreed that for reasons of profit and humanity, both to man and the animals themselves, cattle should be deprived of their offensive and defensive weapons, the horns. The terminated with their domestication. The most suitable instrument for performing the operation is the one that does the work quickest, cleanest, and with the least possibility of crushing the bone. All these claims are made by Mr. A. C. Brosius, of Cochraneville, Pa., for the Keystone dehorning clipper, which he manufactures, and advertises in our columns.

We have pleasure in drawing the attention of our readers to the cut of the handsome improved Davis cream separator, 1876 model, built in and for Canada by the John Abell Engine & Machine Works Company, Ltd., of Toronto, Ont. Mr. John Abell has been one of our advertisers during many years, and his machinery has a high reputation throughout Canada from one ocean to the other. The Davis is claimed to be the simplest separator on the market, having many improvements over the other styles of machines, and doing away entirely with the skim-milk pans or discs in the inside of the bowls, so reducing the amount of work in keeping them clean to the minimum. In place of cheap tin covers for cream and skim milk, those used on the Davis machine are made of spun metal, well-plated so as to make it impossible for them to rust. The ball-bearing reduces the friction to such an extent that the machine runs quite easily after getting up to full speed. It is self-oiling. Thick or thin cream can be made with change of one single screw. The Dominion Government purchased two of these machines last spring, and Professor Robertson was well pleased with them. The Abell Company has a very good catalogue, with cuts and descriptions of the Davis cream separator, which contains valuable hints on butter-making and which is sent free on application to any address.

**NEW SEEDS FOR FARMERS.**

Wm. Rennie, the Toronto seedsman, offers in another column a new field pea called "Odd fellow," very odd and distinct in shape, claimed to be entirely bug-proof as well as being a splendid yielder of good quality. The "Danish Improved" sugar beet also offered is the sort grown in Denmark by the world's famous buttermakers. All dairymen should try it. The last, but not in any wise the least, among the novelties is a new early potato, "Rose of the North," of Canadian origin, yielding at an enormous rate. As these novelties can only be procured direct from Mr. Rennie, we would recommend our readers to secure his catalogue for 1897, which tells all about the novelties of the season.

**A SPLENDID SCHOOL.**

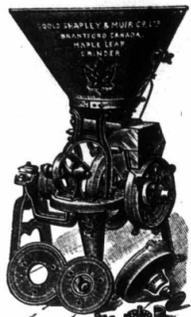
Every farmer's son should possess a thorough knowledge of notes, checks, drafts, points on commercial law, bookkeeping, and business customs. Such an education is very useful and can be acquired at a very moderate expense at the popular Central Business College, Stratford, Ont.—a school that is unsurpassed in its equipment and staff. The energetic principal, Mr. W. J. Elliott, is one of the hustling business men of Canada, and under his management the school has grown considerably. He is shrewd enough to surround himself with a strong staff of first-class teachers. Young men who wish to attend a school of this kind by going and spending three months in the C. B. C. we feel sure will be spending their time and money prudently and to great advantage.

**HARNESSMAKING AT BRANTFORD, ONT.**

We have pleasure in calling the attention of the readers of the ADVOCATE to the ad. in this issue (page 541) of one of the most reliable manufacturers of saddlery and harness in Ontario. Messrs. Jas. Smith, Son & Co., of Brantford, have been making harness for the trade in Canada for a great many years and claim to know all the ins and outs of the harness business. The practice in the past has been to place the goods in the hands of the saddlers throughout the country, who act as agents. This usage the firm still continue. Our readers cannot go astray in asking their saddler for Brantford harness. If the local saddler cannot furnish it the firm invite you to send direct to them at Brantford, where a large stock is kept ready for shipment. The goods made by "Smith," of Brantford, must not be confounded with so-called factory and machine work. Nothing, we are assured, is used in the manufacture of these harness but the very best of material—union oak leather from the leading tanners in Canada, reliable from the leading tanners in Canada, reliable from the leading tanners in Canada, reliable from the leading tanners in Canada. This firm do not employ cheap labor, but as they have a large output are enabled by the proper subdivision of labor to get the very best results, and as a consequence the saving in cost of manufacture is very large. The single harness to which they call attention in this issue are exceptional value.

**THE CELEBRATED BALL-BEARING MAPLE LEAF GRAIN GRINDER.**

10-inch reversible burrs of special design for general purpose and very fine work.



Can be driven with tread, sweep, windmill, water or engine power.

Capacity from ten to ninety bushels per hour. Every one guaranteed. Nothing like it! Nothing superior! Nothing equal to the wonderful Maple Leaf. Write for illustrated circular.

**TESTIMONIALS.**

**BOW PARK CO. LTD., BRANTFORD.**—The "Maple Leaf" Grinder purchased from you continues to give the best of satisfaction. We admit we had some serious doubts of its being able to do our work as we wanted it done, but it has, and is now doing it, notwithstanding the severe tests we have put it to do. With from four to five hundred of all kinds of stock to grind for, we have had opportunities to find out whether it would do good work or not.

**J. E. STOREY, SUPT. BOW PARK CO., LTD.**—The "Maple Leaf" Grinder which we purchased from you nine months ago has entirely surpassed our expectations. It will grind hard dry peas two (2) years old into a fine flour having no grit whatever. We have also ground a quantity of small seeds into a soft flour. I have no hesitation in saying to intending purchasers that it is a splendid machine, simple construction, and has the most durable plates I ever saw.

**DIPPEL BROS., WATERLOO TOWNSHIP.**—In reply to your letter of enquiry as to how we like the Maple Leaf Grinder. I may say that we have ground all the different kinds of grain, and the grinder proved equal to your recommendation in every respect. Without any particular rush we ground 170 bushels of oats in less than two hours, and 50 bushels of peas in exactly one hour, floured up in the best shape. The new plates are very durable, and certainly grind very fast. We recommend the "Maple Leaf" to any person requiring a grinder.



**OAK POINT STOCK FARM Ayrshires FOR SALE.**

I have now for sale a choice lot of young bulls and heifers of fine quality, and bred from best milking strains. Particulars on application.



**J. B. CARRIERS, Kingston, Ont.**

**AYRSHIRE CATTLE AND RED TAMWORTH SWINE**

A grand lot of each on hand, including a nice lot of in-calf heifers, and

**EIGHT BULLS**

six to eighteen months old. Write us now for bargains. Prices away down. Would exchange either Standard-bred stallion paper or good road stallion for Ford Angus or Galloway cattle, or Oxford Down sheep.

**CALDWELL BROS., Briery Bank Farm, Orchard, Ont** 23-1-y-om

**Prize-Winning AYRSHIRES FOR SALE.**

I have at present one of the largest and best herds in Ontario, which has been very successful in the prize ring. They are deep milkers and of a large size. Bulls, cows and heifers for sale always on hand.



**JAS. McCORMICK & SON, ROCKTON, ONT.** 20-2-y-0

**AYRSHIRES - AND - YORKSHIRES.**



The largest herd in the Province of Quebec; selected from deep milking strains. Also choice Yorkshires. Orders booked for young pigs.

**W. F. & J. A. STEPHEN, Trout River, Que.**

**ADVERTISE IN ADVOCATE**

Choice Ayrshires of deepest milking strains. Largest and oldest herd in Ontario. We have choice young stock of both sexes sired by Leonard Meadows, sweepstakes bull at Ottawa. Also choice Shropshires, and a fine lot of Berkshire pigs for sale. Visitors met at Queen's Hotel. Give us a call.



**Maple Cliff HERD OF... Ayrshires**

Are noted for their successful show-yard career. Choice quality and heavy milking families. A few exceptionally choice young animals of both sexes now for sale. Prices in keeping with the times. For particulars address

**ROBERT ROBERTSON, Prop., 16 2-y-om** COMPTON, QUE.

**GLENGARY STOCK FARM.**

My herd comprises the best strains procurable. Am now offering young bulls and heifers descended from the importation of the late Thos. Brown.



**JNO. A. McDONALD, JR., Williamstown, Ont.** 4-2-y-0

**Maple Cliff Stock Dairy Farm**

Ayrshire Cattle, Berkshire and Tamworth Swine.

FOR SALE.—Four Ayrshire bulls of different ages, sons of such noted animals as Nellie Osborne 5353, and Gold King 1332. They are good ones. Write for prices.

**R. REID & CO., Hintonburg, Ont.** 19-1-y-om One mile from Ottawa.

**LAST CHANCE**

To obtain a young JERSEY BULL from the famous Belvedere herd. As my whole herd now goes to Prince Edward Island, I have reserved for my customers

**Six Splendid Young Bulls**

Four months to eighteen months old. Sure prize-winners. Reasonable prices to immediate buyers. These are the best I have ever offered.

**MRS. E. M. JONES, Box 324, BROCKVILLE, Ont., CAN.**

**MAPLE CITY HERD OF... JERSEYS.**

For Sale.—At a bargain, that grand bull, Massena's Son (17608), who has made such a grand sweep in show ring, and whose dam made 392 lbs. of butter in one year and fifteen days, and 416 lbs. of butter in six months when 16 years old; to be delivered after 1st March; also two very fine young bulls, one by Massena's Son and one by Hugo Alpea of Oaklawn. Some choice Black Minorcas and Bronze Turkeys. Intending purchasers will be met at Chatham Station by giving a few days' notice of arrival. Address—

**WM. W. EVERETT, Box 552, Chatham, Ont**

**WILLOW GROVE HERD OF JERSEYS.**

Sweepstakes herd of 1894. Stock from imp. bulls and imp. and home-bred dams of St. Lambert St. Helier, and Signal strains.

Young of splendid individuality always for sale; also Plymouth Fowls. Eggs, \$1.00 per setting. Highfield St., G. T. R.

**6-2-y-om J. H. SMITH & SON.**

**D. H. KETCHESON**

MENIE, ONTARIO, BREEDER OF CHOICE A. J. C. C. JERSEYS (St. Lambert and St. Helier strains) and

**REG. SHROPSHIRE.**

A few fine shearing rams and ewes for sale at prices to suit the times. 12-2-y-om

**JERSEYS FOR SALE**

At the head of the herd is the grand young St. Lambert bull, Nabob, son of Nell's John Bull. Stock of both sexes and different ages, and of choice breeding, now on hand.

**JONATHAN CARPENTER, WINONA, ONT.** 12-2-y-om

**JOHN PULFER, BRAMPTON, ONT.**

Breeder of choice reg. and high-grade Jersey of fine quality. Also TAMWORTH SWINE. Young stock always for sale at prices that should sell them. 12-2-y-0

**A beautiful Jersey Bull Calf For Sale**

At a Bargain. Shred by Regal St. Lambert; bred by Mrs. E. M. Jones.

**oe F. BIRDSALL & SON, Birdsall, Ont.** 17-y-0



**JERSEYS FOR SALE.**—Young Cows and Heifers in calf, Heifer Calves and Bull Calves, richly bred, best testing strains, and good color. Also first-class Berkshire Boars and Sows, bred straight from imported stock. Come and see or write for prices.

**J. C. SNELL, - Snelgrove P.O., Ont.** R. R. Station, Brantford, G. T. R., and C. P. R. 8-y-om

**SPECIAL OFFER FOR DECEMBER.**

**LEE FARM REGISTERED JERSEYS.**

4 young Cows and Bull - \$300  
4 2-year-old Heifers and Bull, 250  
4 1-year-old Heifers and Bull, 200  
4 Heifer Calves and Bull, 150  
Well-bred, good colors. Short of feed. Must reduce stock. Address—

**E. PHELPS BALL, Lee Farm, Rock Island, P. Q.** 17-y-0

**GLEN ROUGE JERSEYS.**

**WILLIAM ROLPH, Markham, Ont.,** offers twelve Jersey Bulls and Heifers (pure St. Lamberts), out of tested cows. Grand individuals. Prices right. 22-y-om

**Ingleside Herefords.**

UP-TO-DATE HERD OF CANADA!

**Bull Calves OF THE RIGHT SORT For Sale.**

Address—**H. D. Smith, INGLESIDE FARM, Compton, Que.** 17-y-om

**"Gem Holstein Herd."**

**NAP! \$75.00 CASH**

Sir Archibald Mascot, No. 353, C.H.F. H. B., 4 years old 8th of October, 1895; was never sick a day; is very active, and a splendid stock getter, and is in every respect a first quality bull. We have used him as our stock bull with the very best results. Only part with him to change breeding. He was a prize winner three years in succession at Toronto Industrial Exhibition.

**HILLIS BROTHERS, BEDFORD PARK P.O., Ont.** Shipping Station, Toronto. 7-y-om

**A. HOOVER & SON,**

EMERY, ONT., BREEDERS OF

**Holstein-Friesians of the choicest blood**

and most fashionable type; selections from our herd won the herd prize at Toronto Industrial and Montreal in 1895. Herd now headed by the two-year-old Baron Witzys, who has never yet been beaten in the show rings of Canada. Stock for sale. Prices right. 10-2-y-om

**HOLSTEINS!**

WE now offer young stock that have won prizes, and calves from our show herd, from one month to one year old, whose dams have large records—any age or sex—FOR SALE, at very low prices to quick buyers. Also some Poland-China Pigs, 1 and 6 months old; same quality (the best).

**A. & G. RICE, Brookbank Stock Farms, CURRIE'S CROSS-ING, Oxford Co., Ont.** 13-y-om

**MAPLE HILL HOLSTEIN-FRIESIANS.**

FOR SALE—Yearling Bull, Sir Aaggie Barrington; fine dairy form, good color, and in good condition. His grandam, Imp. Kaatje DeBoer, is now making, in my herd, from 2 1/2 to 3 lbs. of butter per day, at 12 years old. The bull resembles her very much in form and markings. Price, \$40.00.

**11-y-om G. W. CLEMONS, St. George, Ont.**

**HOLSTEINS**

None but the best are kept at

**BROCKHOLME FARM, ANCASTER, ONT.**

Write me for prices if you want first-class stock at moderate figures. Holsteins in the advanced registry. Yorkshires all recorded.

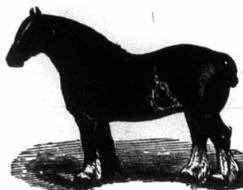
**12-y-om R. S. STEVENSON, Prop.**

**GUERNSEYS**

This is the Dairy breed for ordinary farmers. Large, vigorous and hardy, giving plenty of rich milk. Several fine young bulls for sale at very reasonable prices. A few heifers can be spared.

Address: **SYDNEY FISHER, Alva Farm, Knowlton, P. Q.** 17-y-0

# THORNCLIFFE STOCK FARM!



I have on hand the best young **GLYDEDALE** Horses and Mares on this continent. Bred from the well-known sires, Prince of Wales, Darnley, Macgregor, Energy, Lord Montrose, The Ruler, Carruchan Stamp, Knight Errant and other celebrities. My stock in the above lines were very successful at all the large shows last year. Call and examine our stock before purchasing elsewhere. Terms reasonable.

18-1-y-om

## SHROPSHIRE.

Orders can now be booked for Shearling Rams, Ram Lambs and Ewes, sired by the celebrated prize-winning English ram, Bar None. Also Rams and Ewes of this year's importation.



## SHORTHORNS!

### CHOICE YOUNG

### HEIFERS and BULLS

by the celebrated Cruickshank bulls

### NORTHERN LIGHT

—AND—

### VICE CONSUL



**ROBERT DAVIES, Proprietor. P. O., Toronto.**

## C. & E. WOOD, Freeman, Ont.

### Breeders of high-class LEICESTER SHEEP

Choice ewes and rams and ewe lambs for sale at very low prices, considering quality. Write us for prices and particulars.



### Special Prices for December.

The Belvoir flock has again proved its claim to be the best mutton flock on the Continent, repeating the victory of last year at Madison Square Gardens by winning 1st for best wether 1 year old (15 entries); 1st and 2nd, wether lambs (13 entries); 1st for best pen of 3 lambs, with six sheep.

I offer Shearling Ewes in lamb to imported a few prize-winning rams. These are not culls or trash. If you want such apply elsewhere. Also a splendid lot of

### BRONZE TURKEYS

Young birds weighing up to 25 pounds. Price, \$3 each, if taken soon.

## RICHARD GIBSON, DELAWARE, ONT.

### HILL HOME SHROPSHIRE

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Splendid young sows suitable for breeding at once; bred from my best sows. Carefully selected, and possessing quality. A few young pigs two to three months old that would make show pigs for next season. J. E. BRETHOUR, Hurford, Ont.

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Sheep Breeders' Convention.

The Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association convened in Guelph on Wednesday, December 9th, President Jas. Tolton occupying the chair. The attendance of interested breeders was greatly in excess of any previous year.

A committee was appointed to devise plans for selecting judges for county and township fairs, consisting of R. Gibson, Jno. Campbell, and D. G. Hamner.

The resolutions adopted by the cattle breeders regarding the appointment of Dominion Agri-culturist, revision of the tariff, railway rates, and quarantines were heartily endorsed by the sheep breeders, and the following gentlemen were appointed to wait upon the commission: Jas. Tolton, Walkerton; D. G. Hamner, Burford; Alex. Smith, Maple Lodge; and Jno. Campbell, Woodville.

The appointment of officers for the ensuing year then took place: President and Vice-President, Messrs. Jas. Tolton and D. G. Hamner being re-elected. Directors—Cotswolds, J. C. Snell, Snelgrove; Leicesters, Alex. Smith, Maple Lodge; Southdowns, Jno. Jackson, Abington; Shrop-hires, Richard Gibson, Delaware; Oxford, Henry Arkell, Arkell, Hamp-shires, John Kelly, Shakespeare; Lincolns, Jno. Gibson, Denfield; Dorsets, R. H. Harding, Thorndale; Merinos, W. M. Smith, Fairfield. General Director—Jno. I. Hobson, Mosborough. Auditors—Prof. Day, of O. E. F., and Andrew Whitelaw, Guelph. Delegates to Fair Boards—Toronto, Jas. Russell, J. C. Snell; Ottawa, J. Col. Blair, New Brunswick, Mr. Inches; P. E. Island, Mr. Bogier, Auditors—Jas. Russell, Richmond Hill; Mr. McCrae, Guelph. Directors—Shorthorns, Arthur Johnston, Greenwood; Herefords, Mr. Stone, Guelph; Polled-Angus, Mr. Bowman, Guelph; Galloways, Mr. McCrae, Guelph; Ayrshires, Jas. McCornack, Rockton; Holsteins, Mr. Clemons, St. George; Jerseys, Capt. Rolph, Markham; Guernseys, Hon. Wm. Mulock; Devons, W. C. Edwards, Rockland, Que.; O. E. Farm, Prof. Day. Representatives to Fair Boards—Toronto, Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, Prof. Day, of O. E. Farm; Ottawa, Jos. Yuill, Carleton Place, J. G. Clark, Ottawa; London, Richard Gibson, Delaware, Capt. Thos. Robson, Iderton.

Annual Meeting of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association was held at Guelph on December 10th, Mr. J. E. Brethour, President, occupying the chair. After the opening remarks of the President, the reports of the delegates to the Fair Boards were read and accepted.

The following resolutions were adopted: That the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association be asked to charge for space instead of per head. Also that the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association, in their annual meeting assembled, respectfully petition the management of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition to provide suitable accommodation for the swine exhibit at their show, the present buildings being totally insufficient to admit for the propagation of the animals, and anything but conducive to the comfort and convenience of visitors; and that this Association urge the directors to provide sufficient accommodation before the time for holding the next exhibition.

A letter from the Minister of Agriculture in relation to the tariff was submitted, and Messrs. Brethour, R. Gibson, Joseph Featherstone, M. P., and William Jones were appointed a committee to meet the tariff commissioners. It was suggested that a section should be added to the prize list in each class at the fall fairs for a type of pigs most suitable for the demands of the English markets. The suggestion was generally approved, and will probably be acted upon by the incoming year:— President, J. E. Brethour, Burford; Vice-President, Geo. Green, Fairview; Sec.-Treas., F. W. Hodson, Guelph. Directors—Yorkshires, G. B. Hood, Guelph; Berkshires, Thos. Teasdale, Concord; Suffolks, R. Dorsey, Burnhamthorpe; Chesters, R. H. Jones, Mt. Egin; Essex, Jos. Chinas, Fairview; Tamworths, Andrew Elliott, Galt; Duroc-Jerseys, Wm. Butler, Dereham Centre. Gen. Director, J. C. Snell, Snelgrove. Auditors, John I. Hobson and R. Snell, Snelgrove. Expert Judges: Yorkshires—H. J. Davis, Woodstock; Berkshires—Thos. Teasdale, Geo. Green; Suffolks—J. C. Snell, Snelgrove; Chesters—S. Coxworth; R. G. Snell, Snelgrove; Malcolms—McArthur, Lobo; C.R. Decker, Chesterfield; J. G. Snell; Chas. Young, Brookside; Wm. Jones, Mt. Egin; D. DeCourcy, Bornholme. Yorkshires—R. Gibson; Henry Daddles, Kossuth; Sharpe, Butterfield; Windsor; J. E. McGill, Hillsburg; Jos. G. Mair, Howick; A. G. Bendwell, Valleyfield, Que.; J. M. Hurley, Belleville; Geo. Gier, Grand Valley; R. H. Harding; H. G. Eyre, Harlem; Jas. Stephens, Trout River, Que. Chester Whites—Wm. Jones, Mt. Egin; J. C. Snell, Geo. Green, E. Brethour, D. DeCourcy, R. Dorsey, R. H. Harding, W. E. Butler, Sharpe Butterfield; G. B. Hood, Guelph; Prof. Day, of O. E. Farm; Thos. Teasdale, Concord; J. Y. Ormsby, Woodstock; and S. H. Todd, Wakeman, Ohio. Poland-Chinas—Thos. Teasdale, S. H. Todd, J. Featherstone; J. Snary, Croton; Jas. Main, Milton; A. W. Young, Tupperville; Geo. Green, Fairview; Wm. Smith, Fairfield Plains; Wm. Jones, Oliver Drury, Fargo; and R. Dorsey, Tamworths—W. H. Blair, St. George; Andrew Dunn, Ingersoll; J. H. Simmenton, Chatham; G. North, Marden; A. Elliott, Galt; F. Master, Haysville; A. C. Hallman, New Dundee; F. Shore, London; J. Nichol, Huber; D. G. Hamner, Burford; H. Caldwell, Orchard; J. E. Brethour; H. Caldwell, Orchard; W. Elliott, Hamilton. Duroc-Jerseys—Jos. Featherstone; Peter Lamarsh, Wheatley; Wm. Jones, R. Dorsey; J. C. Snell, Geo. Green, D. G. Hamner, Sharpe Butterfield, Thos. Teasdale, S. H. Todd, Jos. McGarrin, Chatham; R. H. Harding, D. DeCourcy, Essex—Sharpe But-

Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association took place in the City Hall, Guelph, Ont., on Monday, December 7th. Most of those in attendance were Shorthorn breeders. The chair was occupied by Mr. John I. Hobson, of Mosborough, President of the Association, who in his opening remarks referred to the quarantine regulations, as to whether they should further endeavor to obtain the recognition of our records by the Americans, and also touching on the quarantine existing between the two countries.

A letter was read from the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, asking that the revision of the tariff, lowering of railway rates, and quaring, be thoroughly discussed by the different associations, and that committees be appointed to wait upon the commission in the interests of the farmers and breeders.

A motion was then passed appointing Messrs. John I. Hobson, J. C. Snell, Arthur Johnston, and Mr. McCrae to form a committee to deal with these matters.

A resolution was also passed, that the committee ask for the reduction of rates and that bulls under one year should be billed at 1,000 lbs., under two years at 2,000 lbs., under three years at 3,000 lbs.

A motion was also passed, that it is oppressive for railways to demand a man to accompany stock on less than carload lots.

The following resolution was also filed: That, believing that contagious pleuro-pneumonia is not at present existing in either the United States or Canada, this Association is of the opinion that as long as these countries are free from contagious diseases cattle of all kinds should be admitted to either country without quarantine, but after careful and efficient veterinary inspection under such regulations as may be mutually agreed upon between the two countries; that the Government also urge on the Secretary of Agriculture the necessity of doing away with the present rule of the customs department in not acknowledging pedigrees recorded in the Canadian Herd Books, as the standard is equal to and in some cases higher than the American.

Another resolution was also adopted, that the Association memorialize the Minister of Agriculture in the Dominion Government, requesting him, when appointing an agriculturist for the Dominion, to appoint not only a practical farmer but also a man thoroughly in touch with and acquainted with the needs of the live stock raisers of the country, and that a copy of the resolution be at once forwarded to the Hon. Minister of Agriculture of the Dominion. The election of officers for the ensuing year was next proceeded with. John I. Hobson, of Mosborough, being re-elected; with J. C. Snell, Vice-President, and F. W. Hodson, Sec.-Treas. Vice-Presidents—For Ontario, Mr. Wade, for Manitoba, J. E. Smith; N. W. T. Geo. H. Gregg; Quebec, H. E. Smith; Nova Scotia, Mr. New Brunswick, Mr. Inches; P. E. Island, Mr. Bogier, Auditors—Jas. Russell, Richmond Hill; Mr. McCrae, Guelph. Directors—Shorthorns, Arthur Johnston, Greenwood; Herefords, Mr. Stone, Guelph; Polled-Angus, Mr. Bowman, Guelph; Galloways, Mr. McCrae, Guelph; Ayrshires, Jas. McCornack, Rockton; Holsteins, Mr. Clemons, St. George; Jerseys, Capt. Rolph, Markham; Guernseys, Hon. Wm. Mulock; Devons, W. C. Edwards, Rockland, Que.; O. E. Farm, Prof. Day. Representatives to Fair Boards—Toronto, Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, Prof. Day, of O. E. Farm; Ottawa, Jos. Yuill, Carleton Place, J. G. Clark, Ottawa; London, Richard Gibson, Delaware, Capt. Thos. Robson, Iderton.

The meeting then adjourned to meet again during the first week of February.

Montreal Markets.

Cattle.—The improvement noted in these markets in the last reports have unfortunately been of short duration. Receipts have been again far more than the market could stand, and the consequence has been a decided setback to any gain in prices made on the recent light offerings. The decline has been fully a cent per pound; very good cattle on this market making over the 30c. and the greater number ranging from 29c. to 29c. for very good heavy stock. One cent per pound has purchased no little stock, and even under that figure for one or two sorry specimens. The offerings have run up close to 800 and 1,000 head on each of the two market days in each week.

Sheep.—The numbers of sheep offering have not been sufficient to stimulate any demand for export account, and the market remains steady at former quotations—24c. for tops, 2c. to 2c. for butchers'. Lambs active and in good demand at outside figures for tops, 35c. to 4c. per pound. Live Hogs are coming in in lighter supply, the colder weather causing a fall off in numbers; 35c. to 4c. in the yards, 25c. advance contract lots in cars, for heavy fats and light carcasses respectively.

Dressed Hogs are offering freely in car lots at \$4.50 for over 200 pounds average; \$4.75 for 160 to 170 pounds average; small lots and single carcasses, an advance of 25c. to 30c. on these prices.

Hides.—The anticipated decline in beef hides has taken place on heavier receipts and a declining Chicago market; green salted, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, 7c., 6c. and 5c. per lb. respectively. Lamb skins, 6c. and upward, advanced 15c. to 75c. each.

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A Famous Victory.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE: A few lines about our great victory at Guelph, winning the Cooper cup last year, and this is at this time in order, as the cup now belongs to our property. We are indeed proud of our success, and especially so when we had so much to spare on this latter occasion. Some of your readers may not be aware that it was decided by six judges—three short and three long wooled sheep breeders, five of which were in favor of our shearing Lincoln ewe, and one for our Lincoln ewe lamb, which weighed 200 pounds at a little less than nine months old. Both of these sheep were by the great stock ram, Ribby Conqueror 503. We had a grade Lincoln shearing wether that could have won it if the other two had not been there—so said the judges. Having three sheep of this quality to show like this is a glorious finish to a very successful show season.

Size with quality will win every time both in cattle and sheep, but the quality must be there in every case. We admit that it is easier to get a little good one than a big good one, but if you have the big one, and have him right, the little one is not in it with him. A certain farmer has been writing that lambs should not be over 100 pounds at a year old. What will he say of our lamb at 200 pounds under nine months old? We never owned and have seen but half a dozen 100-pound lambs to-day. J. T. GINSON, Middlesex Co., Ont.

Live Stock Shipments of 1896 from Montreal.

With the sailing of the Reford steamer, Genona, navigation closed for the season from Montreal. In point of numbers the export cattle trade has been all that could be desired, but withal the season has not been a prosperous one to Canadian shippers. The total shipments reached 100,960 head, a slight increase over the season of 1895; the shipments of sheep being 80,671 head, very little over half of last season's shipments, owing to the embargo. The export of horses reached 10,087, a decline of almost 3,000 from the season of 1895.

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Montreal Markets.

Cattle.—The improvement noted in these markets in the last reports have unfortunately been of short duration. Receipts have been again far more than the market could stand, and the consequence has been a decided setback to any gain in prices made on the recent light offerings. The decline has been fully a cent per pound; very good cattle on this market making over the 30c. and the greater number ranging from 29c. to 29c. for very good heavy stock. One cent per pound has purchased no little stock, and even under that figure for one or two sorry specimens. The offerings have run up close to 800 and 1,000 head on each of the two market days in each week.

Sheep.—The numbers of sheep offering have not been sufficient to stimulate any demand for export account, and the market remains steady at former quotations—24c. for tops, 2c. to 2c. for butchers'. Lambs active and in good demand at outside figures for tops, 35c. to 4c. per pound. Live Hogs are coming in in lighter supply, the colder weather causing a fall off in numbers; 35c. to 4c. in the yards, 25c. advance contract lots in cars, for heavy fats and light carcasses respectively.

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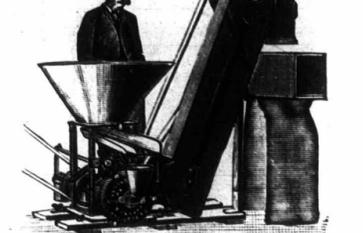
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The Vessot Improved Grain Grinder....

(PATENTED).



Awarded Gold Medal and Diploma at World's Fair, Chicago, 1893. First prizes at Canadian Expositions.

OUR LITTLE CHAMPION GRINDER, run by horse power, especially for farmers' use. OUR LARGE-SIZED GRINDERS

FOR MILLS grind twenty to sixty bushels per hour as fine as desired. Always guaranteed. Our mills are greatly improved, being made low down. Elevator and bagger added when desired. A sieve or screen protects the plates from sticks or stones. The plates can be instantaneously parted or brought together again while in motion by a simple lever attachment. Price list unchanged. Last year's mills sold at great reduction. We also make an improved Corn and Cob Crusher. Send for circular. Information cheerfully given.

VESNOT & CO., Sole Manufacturers, JOLIETTE, P. Q. Canada.

4 Scotch Shorthorn Bulls for Sale

Ten to thirteen months old, from Duchess of Gloster, Lovely, and Nonpareil dams, and sired by imported King James. Also a few Partridge Cochins for sale, \$1.50. 15-1-y-o H. I. ELLIOTT, Danville, P. Q.

The "Advocate" and Advertisers both Endorsed.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE: GENTLEMEN,—Having seen in the ADVOCATE your reference to the Folding Sawing Machine, I purchased one, and must say it is the greatest labor saver I ever saw, as one man can saw more wood with it than two men with a cross-cut saw and do it easier.

As I saw their advertisement in the ADVOCATE, I knew it must be reliable, as it would not be accepted unless it were. I like the ADVOCATE better every year, as it is worth three times its cost. I remain, Yours truly, King's Co., N. B. T. H. CASSIDY.

GOSSIP.

In one week recently Mr. A. J. King, of Toronto, Ont., shipped over 225 tons of turkeys, geese and chickens to Liverpool. One English buyer took 15,000 birds.

H. I. Elliott, of Danville, Que., adds to his advertisement in this issue an offering of fine Partridge Cochins cockerels at a price which should be taken advantage of. His Shorthorns are of noted families and of good individual character.

J. G. Clark, Ottawa, Ont.—"I have added to my Yorkshires the grand young boar that won first honors for J. E. Brethour at Toronto Industrial, and expect to have a fine lot of youngsters for the spring trade from him. The stock are all looking well."

We here call attention to the advertisement in this issue of Mr. Mac Campbell, Northwood, Ont. His offerings are young Shorthorn bulls, Berkshire pigs, and a breed of fowls which have for considerable time been growing in popularity for general purposes on the farm.

A Nova Scotia correspondent writes us that the Hackney stallion, Kilnwick Fireaway, sold by Graham Bros. to the Nova Scotia Government last year, has recently been sold to Dr. Jakeman, of that Province. This is the second time this horse has changed hands since going down by the sea.

We take pleasure in calling the special attention of our readers to the advertisement of Caldwell Bros., "Briery Bank Farm," Orchard, Ont., who make some extra offerings in Ayrshire cattle and Tamworth swine. They also wish to make an exchange of stock; this will interest some farm readers particularly.

The neat new Lock Grip Wire Fences sold by the Toronto Picket Wire Fence Co., now to be seen on the Guelph Experimental Farm, have drawn forth many words of commendation from the many visitors that have visited that institution within the last twelve months. Not only is it cheap, but it is also durable and neat.

Mr. Wm. Clark, of North Wiltshire, P. E. I., writes in a fine spirit of his Leicester trade in 1896. His sheep went into winter quarters in exceedingly fine form on Nov. 22, after a heavy fall of snow. We judge from his note that the sheep industry is looking up in the Maritime Provinces, for he sold out of ram lambs entirely and returned quite a number of orders unfilled.

E. P. Ball, Rock Island, Que.—"Please find enclosed copy of change of ad. Your readers will notice that I have quoted low prices, but they are not culls by any means. I am short of fodder and stables crowded. We showed our herd at the leading fairs in the Province last fall, winning the herd prize four times and the same for bull and cow year ago, and prizes on the young stock were equally as good. I am confident that there are many prize winners in the lot advertised. Times are hard and I have placed a low figure so that all may have a chance of improving their dairy. Bulls are not akin to heifers. Here is certainly an offer to start a young herd cheap."

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