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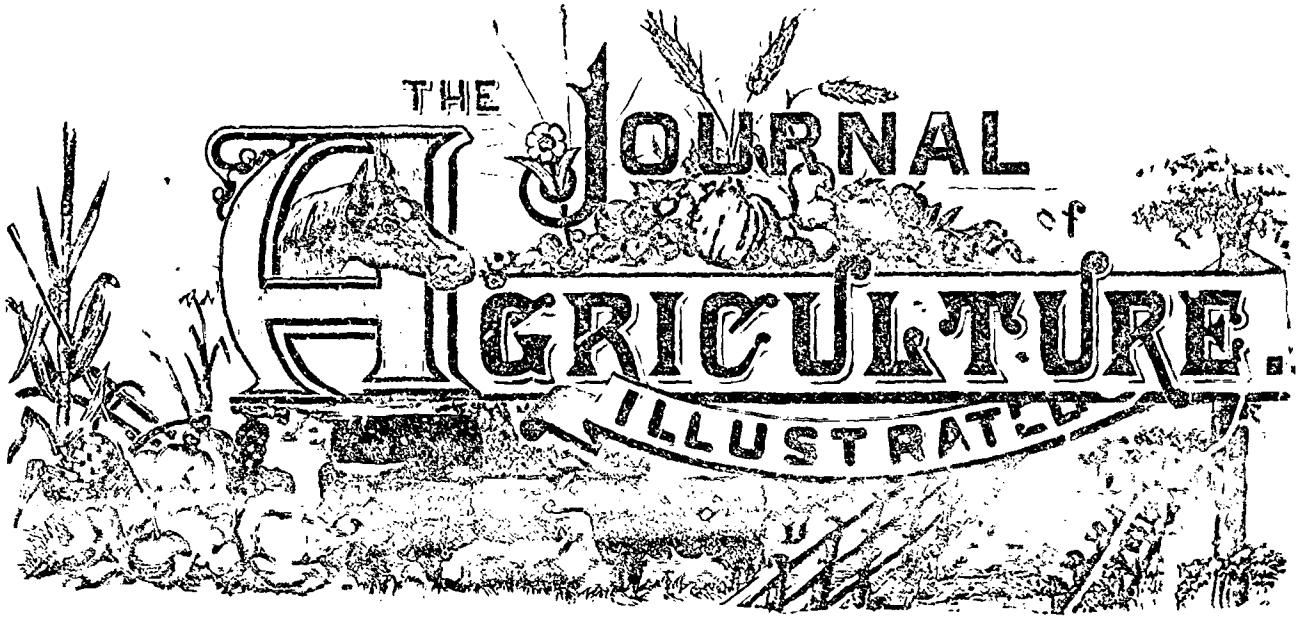
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**NOTICE.**—The subscription to the *Illustrated Journal of Agriculture*, for members of Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, as well as of Farmers Clubs, in the province of Quebec, is 30c annually, provided such subscription be forwarded through the secretaries of such societies.—**EDITORIAL MATTER.** All editorial matter should be addressed to A. R. Jenner Fust, No. 4 Lincoln Avenue, Dorchester Street West, Montreal—or to Ed. A. Barnard, Director of the *Journals of Agriculture, &c.*, Quebec.

OFFICIAL PART.

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The Eleventh Convention of the Dairymen's Association of the Province of Quebec.

The eleventh meeting of the above association will be held at Ste. Thérèse de Blainville on Tuesday and Wednesday the 13th and 14th of December, and not on the 14th and 15th as erroneously stated in the last number of the Journal. "General Frotté." This French coaching stallion seems to have had a most successful season in 1891. He served 49 mares and they all stood to him, 47 foals being still in existence and doing well. More about this successful sire in our next.

COPY of a report of a Committee of the Honourable Executive Council, dated 29th September, 1892, approved by the Lieutenant Governor, November 17th, 1892.

No. 638.—On the nomination of members of the Provincial Council of Agriculture.

The Hon. Commissioner of Agriculture and Colonisation, in a memorandum, dated the twenty-ninth of September, 1892, recommends that the Orders in Council, No. 400, of September 2nd, 1883; No. 611 of December 13th, 1890, and No. 322, of June 2nd, 1891, appointing the present members

of the Council of Agriculture of the Province of Quebec, be revoked, and that the said Council of Agriculture be in future composed of the following persons:—

Hon. A. C. P. R. Landry, Senator, Beauport.  
 Hon. John McIntosh, Agronome, Waterville.  
 Hon. H. G. Joly de Lotbinière, Agronome, Lotbinière.  
 Rev. M. T. Montminy, Curé of St. Georges, Beauce.  
 F. avien Dupont, Notary, St. Liboire.  
 Benjamin Beauchamp, M. P. P., St. Hermas.  
 Milton McDonald, M. P. P., Acton Vale.  
 Joseph Girard, M. P. P., St. Gédéon.  
 Joseph de la Broquerie Taché, Notary, Quebec.  
 I. J. A. Marsan, Professor, School of Agriculture, l'Assomption.  
 Robert Ness, Freeholder, Howick.  
 Thimothée Brodeur, Freeholder, St. Hugues.  
 Charles D. Tylee, Freeholder, Ste. Thérèse de Blainville.  
 Henry S. Foster, Agronome, Knowlton.  
 Rev. M. E. Dauth, Curé of St. Léonard.  
 Dr. Wilfrid Grignon, Freeholder, Ste. Adèle.  
 Basile Lamarre, Freeholder, Longueuil.  
 Rev. L. O. Tremblay, Director of the School of Agriculture, Ste. Anne de Lapocatière.  
 A. A. Ayer, Exporter of butter and cheese, Montreal.  
 Ora P. Patten, Freeholder, agent, Montréal.  
 Andrew J. Dawes, Agronome, Lachine.

Certified.

(Signed) GUSTAVE GRENIER,  
 Clerk of the Executive Council.

**Notice—Gratuitous distribution of plans of barn-byres and of pamphlets on drainage.**

The Hon. L. Beaubien, Commissioner of Agriculture and Colonisation, requests us to inform our readers that, by addressing the Secretary of the Department, plans of barn byres and pamphlets on drainage may be obtained gratuitously.

**Notice.—Herd-books**

Dr. Couture, 49 rue des Jardins, Québec, is the secretary of the herd-books and stud book of Canadian cattle and horses, and of the swine and sheep registers recently opened by the Council of agriculture.

In future, all requests for registry in the above books as well as all letters, documents, &c., connected with them, should be addressed to him.

All letters requiring an answer must contain a 3-cent stamp.

ED. A. BARNARD,  
 Sec. Coun. Agriculture,  
 Director of the *Journals of Agriculture*.

**Agricultural Clubs.—Important Notice.**

The agricultural clubs already in existence and those shortly to be instituted, are requested to apply to the secretary of the Department of agriculture, who will forward to them, gratuitously, for the use of their members, certain pamphlets on agriculture, and all the information on that subject that the department is able to afford them.

H. G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,  
 Pres. Council of Agriculture.

#### NITROGENOUS MANURES.

The consideration of this subject is of primary importance because nitrogenous manures are more essential than any other kind of manures to the farmer who wishes to obtain from his land its maximum yield of crop. They are, besides, the most expensive manures which the farmer has to purchase; not that nitrogenous manures alone, in whatever quantity they may be applied, will produce a maximum return in crops; they will not, because although nitrogen is the most essential, and at present the most expensive, food which plants require, still it is not the only food required, and if a crop has not available supplies of phosphoric acid, potash, and lime in quantities adequate to the full growth of that crop, no amount of nitrogenous manuring will remedy the deficiency in the other plant foods. As Liebig expressed it very many years ago in his "Law of Minimum," it is that plant food which is present in least quantity in a soil that regulates the maximum amount of crop which that soil will produce; for if a soil be deficient in any one substance—nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash, or lime—it will not give its full possible yield of crop until that deficiency be remedied. I have often met men who ought to have known better ask for evidence of the use of nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia when applied without any other manure whatever.

Both nitrate of soda and ammonia salts will give much greater yields than no manure at all. Thus on the average of fifteen years' permanent wheat growing at the Royal Agricultural Society's experimental farm at Woburn, Beds, the plot receiving annually a dressing of 200 lbs. ammonia salts (equivalent to 50 lbs. ammonia per acre) gave 25.1 bushels of dressed corn and 24 cwt. of straw per acre. The plot receiving a dressing of 275 lbs. nitrate of soda (also equivalent to 50 lbs. ammonia per acre, gave an average yield for the fifteen years of 24.9 bushels dressed corn and 25.4 cwt. straw per acre. The yields on these plots compare favourably with the unmanured plot, which shows an average of 16.2 bushels of wheat, and 16.8 cwt. straw per acre. I think that the necessity of nitrogenous manure is even better shown by the fact that the plot receiving a full dressing of mineral manures only just beat the one receiving no manure at all by half a bushel of wheat on the average of the fifteen years.

In the case of the permanent barley plots at Woburn, the difference is even more marked. Here we have from the unmanured plot a yield of 24.6 bushels of barley, and 14.1 cwt. of straw. With 200 lbs. ammonia salt per acre we get 37.7 bushels of barley, and 21.4 cwt. of straw; and with 275 lbs. nitrate of soda per acre we have 38.6 bushels of barley and 23.2 cwt. straw.

These results show conclusively the value of nitrate of soda and ammonia salts, even when used alone, and used, too, upon land where the same crop is grown continually year after year.

The influence of nitrogenous manuring is even more marked in ordinary rotations. A friend of mine, in dressing a field of swedes with nitrate of soda left a strip six yards wide down the center of the field without any nitrate dressing. The result was shown by a considerable decrease in the yield of roots over this strip of land as compared with the yield in the rest of the field. The barley in the following year received 1 cwt per acre of nitrate of soda all over the field, but along the strip where nitrate had been omitted the preceding year the barley at harvest was not so high by full six inches, and even in the third year on the seeds the position of this strip was distinctly marked by the appearance of the crop. And now having shown the great value to the farmer of artificial nitrogenous manures, let me consider in detail the sources of

these manures and their relative value and suitability for different purposes.

**Nitrate of Soda.**—This manure must be considered first because it is now the commonest and cheapest form in which nitrogenous manure may be bought. Another great advantage in the use of nitrate of soda is that it also contains its nitrogen in the only form in which it can be taken up by plants—in the form of nitrate—for so far as our present knowledge goes it is only in this nitrate form that crops can take up the nitrogen which they require. Hence it is that nitrate of soda is a quick-acting manure, being very soluble in water it is taken up by plants readily if a shower of rain succeeds a top dressing with this salt and its stimulating effects are almost immediately seen. That nitrate of soda acts not only as a food but as a stimulant there can be no doubt. It forces the crop to take an increased amount of mineral matter out of the land, but the increased crop far more than compensates for the expense of applying mineral manures the following season. It is owing to the quick stimulating effect which nitrate of soda exerts upon a growing crop that a dressing of it is so valuable as an antidote to the attacks of the turnip-fly, or of the beet-fly, which is much too prevalent this season. Such a dressing causes these root crops to grow rapidly beyond the power of the fly to destroy them, for, especially in the case of turnips, it is only when the plants are small and as it were, at the beginning of their growth that the attacks of the fly are so deadly.

Nitrate of soda does best with meadow grasses, with Italian ryegrass especially, and with cereal crops. Mangels, too, need it, and indeed there is probably no field crop which will not benefit at some period of its growth by the judicious application of this manure.

Nitrate of soda is chiefly obtained from Peru and Bolivia, and after purification it is put upon the market.

**Sulphate of ammonia.**—The sulphate of ammonia of commerce is obtained from the ammonia liquor of the gasworks. It is the most valuable nitrogenous manure known, if we except the muriate of ammonia, which is obtained from the same source. Sulphate of ammonia when pure, contains 25.5 per cent, of ammonia, but an average sample will contain about 1 per cent. less. It is useful as a top dressing in the same way as nitrate of soda, but does not act so quickly as the latter, because the ammonia which it contains must be transformed into the nitrate condition before a crop can make use of it.

This transformation is effected by means of the nitrifying bacteria of the soil, the study of which is an extremely complex and difficult one. However, it had been demonstrated that the microorganisms which take part in the work of nitrification exist in most soils in great numbers, and are of two kinds. The action of bacteria of the first kind is to convert the nitrogenous matter in the soil, whether it exists in the form of ammonia salt or as nitrogenous organic matter, at first into an intermediate acid called nitrous acid, and it would appear that these particular bacteria cannot carry the change further. There is, however, a bacterium of another kind present which has the power of completing the transformation and converting the nitrous acid into nitric acid by some process of oxidation. Hence, where the two kinds of bacteria are present together in a soil (as they generally are) the two changes will go on simultaneously.

It is generally said that sulphate of ammonia does better in a wet season than nitrate of soda, because the former is not so easily washed out of the soil as is the latter, but for the last fifteen years at Woburn the nitrate has the advantage. Of the permanent wheat plots that getting mineral and nitrate gives an average increase of 2.3 bushels dressed corn and 4.7 cwt. straw over the plot receiving the equivalent

amount of ammonia salts and mineral manures. Similar results are obtained from the permanent barley plots, here the figures being 1.9 bushels dressed corn and 3.4 cwt. straw.

Arranged in tabular form, the results can be compared much more easily. The mixed minerals consisted of 200 lb sulphate of potash, 100 lb. sulphate of soda, 100 lb. sulphate of magnesia, and 3½ cwt. superphosphate. These quantities were used year after year, not from any idea that they were all wanted in such quantities, but to ensure that there was no essential mineral constituent deficient in the soil. Note that 200 lb. ammonia salts contains the same value of ammonia as 275 lb. nitrate of soda.

EXPERIMENT ON PERMANENT WHEAT AND BARLEY AT WOBURN.  
AVERAGE OF 15 YEARS—1887-1891 INCLUSIVE.

Plot	Manure per Acre.	Permanent Wheat.		Permanent Barley.	
		Bush. Dress'd Corn	Cwt. Straw.	Bush.	Cwt. Straw.
1	Unmanured .....	16.2	16.8	24.6	14.1
2	200 lb ammonia salts .....	25.1	24.0	37.7	21.4
3	275 lb nitrate of soda.....	24.9	25.4	38.6	23.2
4	Mixed mineral manures.....	16.7	17.5	23.2	12.6
5	Mixed minerals and 200 lb ammonia salts.....	31.1	30.0	42.1	24.8
6	Mixed minerals and 275 lb nitrate of soda.....	33.4	34.7	44.0	28.2

**SQUITCH.**

“**Squitch**, or couchgrass, is one of the closest friends a farmer has. The poorer the farmer gets, the greater will be the number of his friends of this class. The poorer the squitch is, the harder will it be for the farmer to get rid of it. Good, healthy, fat squitch is comparatively easy to exterminate, especially when it grows in good long pieces, a foot or more long; but that nasty, short, thin, half-starved stuff is an abominable nuisance. If a piece only half-an-inch long is overlooked, it will take root and spread away like anything. Just let a piece of squitch get its head under the soil, and it will burrow away like a mole and spread in all directions. It is wonderful what vitality there is in a piece of dried and withered-looking squitch. Though to all appearances quite as dead as the proverbial mutton, just let it haug its head and the dried-up stuff grows away like a willow. The great question is how to get rid of it. The cultivator is far preferable to the plough, as it pulls it up and does not cut it like the coulter of the plough. I have seen land so full of squitch that the coulter could not cut it, and the plough had to be stopped once in eighty yards or so to take it off, but I have seen this only once or twice, and then the land was in a fearfully dirty state.

“The great thing is always to keep it on the top. Cultivate the land once or twice if necessary, but always clear away all that is on the top before you plough up more. When the cultivator has got it up, then harrow it well, first with heavy (medium) harrows, and then with light harrows, and then, as a finish, run the chain harrow over it, as by the last process it knocks all the soil from about it, and leaves it in cigarette-like rolls. The next step is do to it exactly the same as you do to a cigarette—namely, convert it into smoke and ash! This is the safest plan, and, when it is being burned, see that it all is burnt, as if this burning is carelessly done the out-

skirts of the fires are left alive, and then a new stock is left to grow again.

"Some people say, 'plough it under deep, and it will smother it.' But this is a risky plan, and one that can never be really relied upon. The only safe plan is to get rid of it either by carting clear away or by burning, and, as the Irishman said, 'Be careful where you put the ashes.' For my own part, I clearly prefer burning to carting away, as the ash contains some useful manure, whereas if you cart it away it deprives the land of that benefit. One way of finishing off is to carefully pick by hand the drills when they are first drawn up, and then again when the manure is put in the drills and the drills are covered up to go over them again by hand. By this means you get very nearly all the squitch that is in the land. This plan may be objected to as being costly, but it is well worth the trouble, as I have found from my own experience.

"Many people neglect to clean the headlands, but this is suicidal, as it leaves a stock which will quickly cover the land as when it is ploughed again for a corn crop during the plough turnings on the headlands small pieces catch on to the coulter and are carried into the field, and these take root and cause endless trouble the next time the land is green-cropped. Besides the headlands, the hedegrows in the field form a nursery for it, for often the grass is not mowed round the hedges till late autumn, by which time the seeds are all shed and are sowing the field afresh.

"Vetches are often sown on squitchy land, as they are said to 'smother' it; if this be so, 'good luck to the vetches'! But there is no plan to be compared to that of getting it out of the land. Why should the land waste its strength in growing crops useful to man and beast?

"I have mixed the squitch I have carted off the land green, with lime, and it makes excellent manure for grass land, but the heap requires turning over two or three times to ensure it being properly killed, and this costs money. The only way is to burn! burn!! burn!!!

"It has been said that by putting it into the drills intended for potatoes, and then putting the manure on to the squitch before the potatoes are set, we can kill it; but it is a risky way, as, unless the potatoes are very heavily covered with soil, the squitch will force its way through, and will fatten upon the manure intended for the benefit of the potatoes. Many people think that Italian ryegrass is a great cause of squitch in land, and if this be so it is very hard on us, considering the heavy prices we are charged for grass seeds; but I have never come across any reliable proof of this, and should be only too pleased to hear of any experiments that may have been made as regards the statement.

"Autumn cultivation, if the weather be suitable, is the best way of cleaning land, as then we are not so pushed for time as we are in the spring, and we can get the squitch more easily out, as it will have grown nearer the surface during the summer, for we must always bear in mind that squitch is naturally a surface-growing plant.

"In some parts of the country they fork over the stubbles and get the squitch out, but this is costly, and it is very difficult to get it out entirely by this means. The only way to really clear the land of squitch is to burn it; all other ways are merely pretences. Dead men tell no tales, and so dead squitch leaves no roots, especially if it has been well burnt first. Of course, if we could afford to follow a field during the summer we should have a far better chance of thoroughly purifying it, but as fallow fields furnish no rent, we are unable to follow this plan in these days of agricultural depression. In cleaning land, besides the weeds we have to fight with, there is always another enemy (?) we have to contend with, and that is the weather. You cannot clean land of weeds in wet weather, unless the weather be right, you may employ

a score of men and horses, but you can never get your land clean.

"In conclusion I would say, keep getting the squitch to the surface, and when it is there burn it."

### CORN FOR FOWLS

There should be no controversy about the value of corn for feeding poultry. Mr. Crosby and Mr. Beale look at this matter from different points of view, and climate, as suggested by Mr. Beale, must be taken into consideration. Corn is not well understood by the English people; for in a prominent agricultural work, Stephen's Book of the Farm, it is, or was in an early edition, stated that fowls could not swallow this grain, which was therefore unfit for feeding to them. I have been keeping poultry sometimes extensively, nearly a thousand old and young at one time, and corn has been the only grain food. I have never had any cholera or other common diseases in my flocks, but I have always measured the food and strictly avoided overfeeding. By such and other precautions in regard to healthful environments, fowls may certainly be fed on corn as the single grain food.

No doubt there must be a proper balancing of the food to ensure health of any animal, but the hen must consume a large amount of the heat or force (synonymous term) of the food in the production of the large number of eggs she lays. The white laborers of the South ("poor whites," as they are commonly called) live on corn, and this in a hot climate, and as a rule they dispose of very little surplus heat by work, but yet they are healthy and long-lived. It is a fact to be deplored that the Europeans are not better acquainted with this staple grain of ours, or able to accommodate themselves to its peculiar but *not disagreeable* flavor, for it is a better balanced food (1) for fowls than the barley commonly fed in England, taking into consideration the large quantity of fat in the eggs they produce. Yet it may not be a suitable food altogether in England, while it is the very best for the American hen. But I think even in England it would be found, when fed in proper rations, consistent with its dietetic character, an excellent staple grain not only for the fowls but also for the horses. This, however, may be impracticable, as the grain cannot be grown there, and of course cannot displace the home-grown "corn." (2)

HENRY STEWART.

Country Gentleman.

### HOW TO DRESS A CAPON.

A capon should be dressed very different by from other fowls, as the manner in which it is done seems to identify these birds with others in our markets.

A capon's head is never cut off nor should his throat be cut on the outside.

The bird should be stuck in the back part of the throat and allowed to bleed from the mouth, care being taken to keep the blood from soiling the feathers as we shall see that many of them are left on the bird. Begin as soon as possible after sticking to pluck the feathers using extra care to prevent tearing the flesh.

It is tender and fat under it and tears easily. So look out. Leave all the feathers on the legs half way up the "drumstick" all the tail feathers together with those, say, two inches up the back from the tail covering the oil vent, the bunch of long feathers found on the hip or just below it.

(1) It is very disagreeable to some people. I cannot bear it.

A. R. J. F.

(2) i. e. oats.

Leave on all the wing feathers from end of wing up to first joint and all the feathers from the head back to the breast, including the long hackle feathers which are very handsome in a capon.

Leave the head on as it has a very peculiar look or appearance, and seems to distinguish the capon more than any thing else.

Cut around the vent carefully and draw out the entrails, using care to strip off and push back the abundance of fat that will be found upon them. Nothing else is removed. The crop must be empty by keeping food and water from the birds twenty four hours, previous to killing.

Wash the head and mouth clean of all blood and the feet and legs of every particle of dirt, and the job is completed. The reason so many feathers are left on is that it is the custom to do so, and the reason for its having become a custom is that the plumage of a capon is unusually profuse, long and brilliant and is supposed to make the bird look more attractive. But the real distinguishing feature of a capon aside from its plumage, size, legs and feet, is the bird's head.

No one can mistake a capon after once having observed that head.

It is hard to describe just how it looks, but it has something the shape of a hen's.

No comb of any size, wattles very small and a sort of hairy feather grows out on top of the head, standing up separate from the others.

The white head has a sort of snaky look.

The birds should be packed in a clean box lined with white paper, with heads down, and when they are ready for market they are sure to bring the owner a big sum of money and will pay him as large a profit as any hen he has on his place.

If any of your readers will send me postage, I shall send them directions how to make a caponizing Table.

GEORGE Q. DOW.

North Epping, N. H.

### TOMATOES

Single-stem training, says the Ohio Bulletin No. 5, gave twice as much yield per square foot as ordinary culture, with somewhat earlier results, and it greatly decreased injury from rot. Although requiring too much labor for field culture, it is fitted for early market or for home use.

Perfectly right is this statement. We all know what a late, moist spring was that of 1892, a spring highly favorable to growth of leaves and stem, but, on that account, hostile to the production of fruit. Yet my tomatoes, grown on a single-stem as usual, in a very shady backyard in Dorchester St., Montreal, ripened fruit by the 3rd August. Planted at distances of 18 x 18 inches, the 16 plants—that was all I had room for—gave me 48½ dozen tomatoes, all of which ripened, except five yellow beasts on a plant that had crept in unknown to me.

A. R. J. F.

Canadian Stock can compete.

(SPECIAL to the Star.)

"Ottawa, October 15.—Prof. Saunders continues to receive gratifying assurances from the live stock association in the United States that Canadian-bred registered stock will be allowed to compete for the special premiums offered at the World's Fair. The latest body which has intimated the eligibility of Canadians in the special class with which it deals is the Hampshire-down Breeders' Association."

I begin to think there are no Hampshire-downs in Canada.

A. R. J. F.

### A BUYER'S NOTES

BY JOHN A. McDONALD.

(Read at the Montmagny meeting of the D. Ass.)

Mr. President, Gentlemen.—In venturing to address a few remarks to the convention, I will endeavour to bring before your notice a few facts concerning evils at present existing in the management of the Dairy Industries of this province, which might very well be abolished, and also to improvements which might be made, the attention to which might tend to advance the dairying industry in the province.

During the past season I have had ample opportunity to compare the western dairying with that of our province, having visited cheese factories in the Ingersoll section of Western Ontario, also some in Northern New York State, and having made quite a number of trips through the province of Quebec; and I must confess that there are many improvements, which might be copied by us from our fellow-dairymen of the West.

At the beginning of last season I had the pleasure of visiting six or seven factories in the Ingersoll section, and while there, I made cheese in a factory owned by a Mr. Sweet.

To begin with; the factory buildings are very much superior to those in our province, mostly of them being very substantial in both size and appearance, and being clap-boarded on the outside, and painted.

The making room, I found to be very large, and made perfectly comfortable and warm, being well lined, and all the equipments were first class in every way, and kept faultlessly clean and in order, nothing at all being wanting for the manufacture of first class cheese.

The curing room is entirely separate from the making room, being some ten feet away. The cheese are taken from the making room to the curing room, where the temperature can be regulated at from seventy, to seventy-five degrees in the warmest weather, or at any time. In this way they escape all the steam from the making room, and heat from the boiler, which so often injures the cheese in this province, causing them to get over-heated before they are cured, and go off flavour on the shelves before they are ready to ship. The curing rooms were double-boarded, papered and clap-boarded, and most of them lath and plastered on the inside, in fact, as comfortable as a dwelling, which enables them to regulate the temperature all the year round; a feature which is well worthy of your notice.

The milk is weighed and inspected by the maker as it comes in, and any milk that he considers not fit to make a first class cheese, he at once rejects, and sends home; and the patron may take it to a neighbouring factory, only to find that it will be rejected there. That is a standing rule among the factorymen there, that when one maker rejects any milk, no one else will accept it; the patrons in consequence take the best of care with their milk, using aerators, and in general taking the utmost pains to send first class milk to the factory.

I was present at the reception of the milk at Mr. Sweet's factory in Ingersoll one morning during the last week in April, before the cows had been turned out to grass. I examined every can of milk as it came in, and did not find one can tainted out of 7,000 lbs. of milk.

The cheese maker visits every one of his patrons at least once every week, sometimes twice; and should he find any one of them neglecting his duty as regards the cleanliness of his cans, (keeping them near to his whey tank, or anywhere where they might be subjected to the odours of his farmyard, and be liable in any way to foul the milk), he will at once tell him, that unless the matter is attended to at once,

he will reject their milk. In this way he secures first class milk.

In Northern New York State, my experience was not up to that of my Western Ontario trip, but still I found their factories ahead of some of our factories in this Province; but I would urge you to take pattern by our Western Dairymen, and not be content with trying to equal them, but go in to excel them, and this can only be done by strict attention to the matters that I have made reference to.

After having visited the Ingersoll section, I cannot be at all surprised that their cheese could be looked on with so much more favour than ours, and command a better price; the reason is before you, and it is for you to remedy the present state of affairs. You have the pastures and the cattle; and you only want the care and attention to your milk and factory which the Westerner gives, and there is no reason why you should not equal him in quality.

It is discouraging to cheese buyers to have to buy through this Province to compete with Western cheese, and when the fault is often put on to the buyer's shoulders it really lies with the factorymen.

So much for improvements which may be made; now a word or two in reference to our Inspectors and their work in this Province.

During the past season I have bought cheese all over the province of Quebec, and visited every section where they had an inspector, with one exception, that being Chicoutimi: I was through the Eastern Townships, and there I found a great improvement. The patrons had done their utmost to take good care of their milk, and the result was easily seen by their carrying off the prizes at the Fair at Sherbrooke, which was open to the Dominion; this is different to what it was in the Townships two years ago, when their cheese had a very bad flavour, which seemed hard to get over. I think the greatest improvement in the province can be noticed in the Townships, and I consider it due in a great measure to the work of the inspectors; this seems to be more the case when comparisons are made with the cheese from Rimouski, &c., where they have no inspectors; the cheese from there being poor; some factories turn out fairly good cheese one day, and very poor the next; altogether they are very uneven; which shows the need of instruction. The want is also felt badly on the north shore below Montreal, and all the way along the line on the north shore between Montreal and Quebec. The marked improvement in the sections where the inspectors have been at work, is sufficient proof that their work has been fruitful; and those sections which have no instruction are so very much behind, that it behoves them to secure the instruction they so much need.

Having spoken so much in favour of the inspectors, now, a word or two to the contrary. In some cases, I think the inspectors have over-stepped their limit by interfering between the buyer and the seller. I had one case myself of this, which cost me some four or five hundred cheeses through the season. It occurred in the case of an inspector having an interest in three factories, the cheese of which I had bought early in the season, and on going to see them at another time to buy them I found them to be not first class cheese, and told the President of the factory so; but the inspector having pronounced them to be first class my opinion went for nothing, and he would not sell the cheese to me, thinking that I was trying to buy them under false description, and as a consequence, I lost the cheese for the rest of the season. At the same time, my verdict was perfectly right, and that of the inspector entirely wrong; that is an evil which comes from an inspector mis-representing the cheese and pronouncing them first class, when he knows perfectly well that they are not so: should any such case occur to me again, I shall most

certainly make a complaint against the inspector so offending, as no good can possibly come of such work. Our inspectors are not paid to hide faults, on the contrary, they are supposed to find them out, and not only that, but take off their coats and go to work to remedy them, and give such instruction to the maker, that will enable him to get rid of the faults in his cheese. There is too much of the gentleman about some of our inspectors, who drive up to a factory, get out of their buggy and inspect the cheese, pronounce them first class, and drive on, many a time passing over faults, where they should stand by and see them remedied.

I notice that in cases where the inspector took off his coat, and went to work, that the result was very much ahead of the factories visited by our gentleman inspectors.

Of course I do not consider the judgment of the inspectors infallible. I had the good fortune to be present at a meeting of three inspectors, and some cheese makers. The General Inspector being present, also the district inspector, and an inspector from the Ottawa Experimental Farm, the latter inspected the milk, and between them they made the cheese. I was present in the morning and saw the milk, and I pronounced it very fine. I was back in the afternoon, and was asked to give my opinion on the curd, which I did, namely, that it was not finest, having too much acid, they admitted the fault, though each blamed the other for it, and of course no one would admit it; this may have been a case of too many cooks spoiling the broth, and may not occur every day.

I trust that my remarks may be received in the spirit that they are given in, namely, that of furthering the dairy interests of the province of Quebec and I shall be pleased if they bear good fruit amongst the patrons, makers, and inspectors.

With all good wishes for the success of the dairymen in the province, as represented by the gentlemen present, I have the honor to remain,

Yours very truly,

JOHN A. McDONALD.

#### First-Prize Cross-Bred Steer at Birmingham Show

We re-engage from the *Mark-Lanc Express* this portrait of what our contemporary calls "a very nice beast, a grand example of early maturity"—"the capital grey roan cross-bred, Little Wonder, with which Mr. Robert Wright won the championship of the Oakham Show, the reserve for champion steer at Norwich, and which was first in its class at Birmingham." No further information as to the animal's breeding is given here; but the *London Live-Stock Journal* says he was got by a "polled" bull (whether red white, Aberdeen-Angus or Galloway, the reader is left to guess) out of a Short-Horn cow, and weighed "15 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb." at 2 years and 11 months. "He is almost faultless at his rumps," the writer adds, "and particularly nice over loin and crops."

#### DE OMNIBUS REBUS.

This is the last number of the fourteenth volume of the *Illustrated Journal of Agriculture*. I have been associated with it from the very commencement, and I can honestly say that I have done my best to help to make it the means of spreading a more general knowledge of what *good farming* really is than previously existed in the province of Quebec. I say "a more general knowledge", because no one knows better than I that there are, both in the Townships and on the Island of Montreal, many men who work their farms as well as any agriculturist in the British Isles. But there is, no doubt, a visible improvement, taking the province as a whole,

in the present state of our farming when compared with what it was in 1879, when the first number of the Journal was published, and if I could persuade myself that my efforts had helped on the good work in any degree, I should feel that I have not lived in vain.

*Nitrogen accumulators.*—I see that some advocates for green-manuring still persist in recommending rye and buck-wheat as fit subjects for ploughing down. This is by no means the advice of the great German experimenters. They say, and not without advancing satisfactory proof, that no other plants than the *leguminosæ*, such as clover, pease, vetches, &c. are of any use for this purpose.

*Agricultural schools.*—The Dairy-school at St-Hyacinthe is about opening its doors for the reception of pupils. I am glad to see that this school is not mixed up with any literary college, but is to stand alone on its own merits. Doctor Hoskins still holds with me that a successful union of the classical and agricultural college the world has never seen and, until the millennium arrives, never will see. I must repeat what Doctor Hoskins said some few months ago: "The example is all against it; the influence is all against it. The subtle atmosphere of the one will permeate and vitiate the other. It is impossible to reconcile the two. With the feeling among the instructors, and the pretensions of the classes in the literary department, the industrial students will inevitably be driven away."

*Mangels.*—Those who are intending to grow mangels in the spring will do well to attend to the following points:

1. Sow new seed, if you can get it. Senator Guévremont, of Sorel, would not take my advice on this subject, but sowed stuff he had had by him for two or three years, and the consequence was that, after waiting six weeks, he had to sow the piece with white-turnips.

2. If your crop fails from insect-ravages or any other cause, pray do not waste your time by transplanting. It never answers, even in a dripping summer, and if the plants do happen to take, the roots are always hard and stringy.

3. Sugar-beets are doubtless superior in quality to mangels; but an acre of mangels contains a much greater amount of nutrients than an acre of sugar-beets and the mangels are much easier to harvest, therefore, grow them in preference.

4. When you hear from the States' agricultural stations, as I have heard, that manuring land with fresh farmyard dung diminishes the yield of this crop, do not pay attention to the statement. If by this is meant that well managed fermentation improves dung for any root crop, that is quite a different thing.

5. If you do not roll down your land, whether on drills or on the flat, after ploughing down fresh or any other dung, the hollowness of the soil, when the manure becomes thoroughly rotten, will leave the roots of the plants without a firm foothold, and, failing moisture, the leaves will of course wilt and the plant be unable to accumulate nourishment.

6. The *orange-globe* mangel is the best in quality of all the varieties of mangels: globe, long-red, long-yellow, ovoid, &c., but, in most soils, the yield of the long-red is so much superior to the yield of the others that I prefer it. I fancied that the Sorel sard would just suit the orange-globe; suit it better than any mangel or any swede; but I found, by experience, that the swede would give at least ten tons an acre more than orange-globe mangels, and at least six tons an acre more than the long-red, so I and my friend M. Séraphin Guévremont agreed that no more orange-globes should be sown.

7. Plough in your mangel-leaves. They are not worth cart-

ing away; but if you have a flock of sheep, I do not say that they should not be turned into the field after the roots have been harvested. In both cases, do not leave the foliage in heaps, but scatter it abroad.

*Malting-barley*—Canadian barley is still quoted in my English papers at from 18s to 20s a quarter, equal to 50 cts a bushel, while it is worth here, about 55 cents. As long as the English maltster persistently (and *malevolently* according to some people) refuses to accept grain, however good in weight, if it be not suitable to his purpose in colour and condition, so long will our barley harvested and dressed as it now is, occupy an inferior position on the great English market. I have a sample of the Manitoba barley exhibited by the C. P. R. at the September show at Mile-end. It is as "white as a hound's tooth"; whereas, a maltster prefers "a colour sample". And there was a largish proportion of *peeled* grains among it; whereas, a maltster wants the *acrospire*—which would become, eventually, the plumule, or green shoot, but for the kiln—to come nearly up to the end of the grain opposite to the end from which it started. Lastly, there were at least 7% of broken grains in the sample, and broken grains, as I have been dining into people's ears for years, grow mouldy on the floor, and, when turned into beer, create in it a queer sort of sub-fermentation that prevents it from ever becoming brilliant, and, in the long run, turns it hard or sour.

Newark-on-Trent, is one of the largest malting towns in England. Not far from Burton, much of the finest barley grown in the Eastern-Counties, Hertfordshire, Essex, &c., is sent thither for conversion into malt for the Basses, the Allsops, &c. Messrs. Gilstrap, Carp, & Co., one of the principal firms at Newark, offer, in the *Agricultural Gazette*, prizes of the value of \$250 to the farmers whose barley, bought by them direct, is delivered in the best condition as regards dressing and *freedom from broken and peeled corns*.

The prizes are offered for barley bought from the farmers direct, because, when bought of dealers, there will probably be a mixture of barleys grown on different soils and cut at various states of ripeness, which grain—I must repeat myself, please—will not grow equally on the floor.

The difference in price between diverse samples of barley on the English market is something prodigious. Good grain, weighing about 52 lbs. the imperial bushel, can be bought for about 70 cents; first rate malting barley, from the Eastern-counties, or from the Silesia, from Moravia, &c. is worth \$1.20, and will soon fetch \$1.30.

*Permanent-pastures.*—A correspondent of the French edition of the Journal, whose name and place of abode are not given, enquires: what grass-seeds are likely to answer for establishing a permanent pasture "on a heavy soil, very hilly, and subject to strong winds and severe frosts?" I do not envy the owner the possession of the land he mentions, and I am not, sanguine as I usually am, hopeful of being of much use to him, as he seems to have tried several times to lay down grass on this soil and to have failed every time. Still, as I have been asked to solve the difficulty, I can only say that if the following seeds do not answer, I do not think any other mixture will have a better effect:

*Per arpent.*

- Pacci's perennial ryegrass. .... 1 peck;
- Orchard-grass..... 2 bushels;
- Cowgrass (perennial red-clover).. 5 pounds;
- White clover..... 2 do

This mixture *may* do, if the land is properly prepared for the seed. I should either make a summer-fallow, as a preparation, or grow some hoed-crops on the piece; in each case, the land must be heavily manured with farmyard dung, and,



if the expense be not grudged, a dressing of Indian bone-meal might be added: say, 500 lbs to the arpent and harrowed in just before seed time. In the following spring, the land having been grubbed, on the furrow of the previous autumn, and reduced by repeated harrowings and rollings to a fine tilth, the seed may be sown, preferably *without a grain-crop*, and covered about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch deep by chain-bush, or grass-seed-harrows, followed by a light roller.

I would not allow a scythe or mower to touch the grass the first year, but graze it *level* with young cattle. A dressing of dung should be given in the autumn, and, the moment the land is dry enough the next spring a stroke of the chain- or bush-harrow, followed by a HEAVY roller, would do untold good. No sheep should be admitted, and the grass should be fed down level by the stock: if some patches have a tendency to run to seed, they should be kept mown, as grass, however perennial by nature, has always a tendency to die if it is allowed to mature its seed.

I wonder if this correspondent could manage to get a few pounds of the wild vetch (*pois sauvage*) so conspicuous, with its blue flowers, in most of the meadows on the slopes of the hills below Quebec. It evidently loves heavy land, and I should judge it to be persistent in its habits, so I fancy half a peck of it to the arpent would not make a useless addition to the above mixture.

In my country, we should set about the treatment of a piece of land like the one in question in a very different way. We should burn 40 or 50 large loads of clods to the acre, and sow rape, with a few bushels of bone-dust, the rape, fed off by sheep eating cake and grain, would be followed by turnips, with more bones, and after these two crops consumed where they grew, barley and seeds would follow. But there is no use in talking of such treatment here, though Dr. Hoskins, in his paper, the *Vermont Watchman*, is doing his best to encourage the system in his State, and Mr. Bennett, a large landed proprietor in New England, as my readers saw in the October number of the Journal, is about throwing six farms into one for the purpose of stocking them with Hampshire down sheep to be treated with rape and other green-meats after our English fashion.

*Canada-pease.*—Dr. Hoskins observes, in the *Vermont Watchman*: "The little boomlet that the Canada pea underwent seems not to amount to much. No doubt pea-meal is a fine cow-feed, particularly for butter-cows, but Canada peas need a Canadian climate to grow them profitably in, and the Middle-States are not in it?"

If the Canada pea, which is a delicate white pea, does not suit the Middle States, I should advise the farmers of that country to try one of the varieties of English peas, such as the Maple, the Partridge, or the common gray pea we use for hogs during the last three weeks of fattening. These sorts are all hardy, and if sown in February, in England, ripen by the end of July. They yield, to the best of my judgment, some 25 % more than the white pea, *ceteris paribus*; weigh quite as much per bushel, and, though they will not melt into soup, like the best specimens of the Canada pea, they are by no means inferior to it in digestible nutrients.

Do you know that I attribute a great deal of the almost universal healthiness of the French Canadian farmer and his family to the constant use of pea-soup? If any of my readers suffer under that evil-temper-productive complaint of constipation, let them submit themselves to a regimen of pea-soup, made with whole, not with split, pease, and he will soon find his trouble alleviated. I am certain that, just as unbolted ground oats cause diarrhoea in hand-fed calves when mixed with their milk, so the skins of the pease, which should never

be skimmed off, by exciting *peristaltic* motion, act as a preventive of constipation.

Even here, in the province of Quebec, it is not easy to get really first-rate soup-pease. The Sorel pea will not melt, but at Berthier, just over the St Lawrence, they grow capital melting pease, just as in England, where the bley of parts of Kent will not malt, and the Essex barley, grown just over the Thomas, makes on the same geological formation the *London-clay*, the finest malt in the country.

Two pints of pease, soaked for twelve hours; a little green mint; two large onions, fired; a stick of celery cut up fine;  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb of fat salt-pork; and three quarts of water; *qultoped* for three hours, with more boiling water added as the soup thickens, will, if carefully watched to prevent burning, please most palates. If celery is scarce, the powder sold as "celery-salt" will do nearly as well. No objection to the addition of carrots, parsley, &c., but the soup *must not be strained but skimmed*. No salt, as that in the pork will be enough, but pepper may be added "to taste"; not that horrid white scented stuff, but good *black* pepper. A few fried *dices* of bread, nicely browned, with a very little sprinkling of dried mint, both added in the plate, add much to the flavour of the soup. Soft water, please, hard won't do at all, any more than it will do for tea or coffee, and the addition of soda to hard water, which some injudicious people practise, spoils everything.

*Pleuro-pneumonia in England.*—All my readers are by this time aware that, owing to the detection of pleuro pneumonia in certain cattle imported into England from Canada, the entrance of live-stock from Canada into England has been forbidden by the Board of Agriculture of the Mother-country. In technical phraseology, Canada is "cheduled".

A hard case, no doubt, is this, but if all those who are crying out so lustily about it knew how very hard was the case of those farmers in Britain who in past times suffered from the attacks of contagious diseases on their cattle, they would, I think, lower their tone a little. As for giving notice beforehand of the intention of the Board to close the ports, I do not see how more than the 20 days' warning could have been expected. There was the disease; it had to be guarded against; and, as shiploads of cattle were on their way from the supposed infected country, I presume to say that the authorities would have justly been blamed had they allowed more time to elapse before issuing the orders in question.

I speak as one who suffered severe losses from contagious diseases among my cattle in 1849, and again in 1852. In the former year, a cow, bought in Smithfield market, introduced pleuro-pneumonia into my herd. I lost, to the best of my recollection, 9 cows and seven heifers, and about 95 pigs that were nearly fat: about \$2 000 worth on a farm of 180 acres, equal to about \$11 an acre, which was just two years' rent of the farm.

In 1852, I bought at Peterborough fair, 37 three-year-old bullocks for fattening. They were put into a railroad truck that must have been contaminated by cattle with the "foot-and-mouth" disease, for two days after their arrival on my farm, they were all down with the above foul disorder, and, though none of them died, they lost an average of \$10 a head to say nothing of the cost of the veterinary surgeon's attendance.

My friend Mr. Carr, of Stackhouse, W. Riding, of Yorkshire, a breeder of Booth shorthorns, was utterly ruined by pleuro getting among his herd; his losses in two years amounting to over \$75,000!

Another friend, Mr. James Webb, of Calcot, Berkshire, bought, as the commencement of a herd, eight shorthorn cows and a bull from Mr. Leny, a great Kent breeder, pleuro attacked them almost immediately after their arrival at Cal-

eat, and all but the bull died: loss about \$7,000! Fortunately, these beasts were from the first kept away from the herd of ordinary milch cows on Mr. Webb's farm, or else they would probably have followed in the same road.

The instances are only trivial, but I note them as having happened within my own circle. The losses suffered by English farmers in general from contagious diseases during the last fifty years amount to many millions of pounds sterling: can any reasonable person, then, wonder that the British authorities should act peremptorily when even the most distant probability exists of a renewal of these frightful calamities?

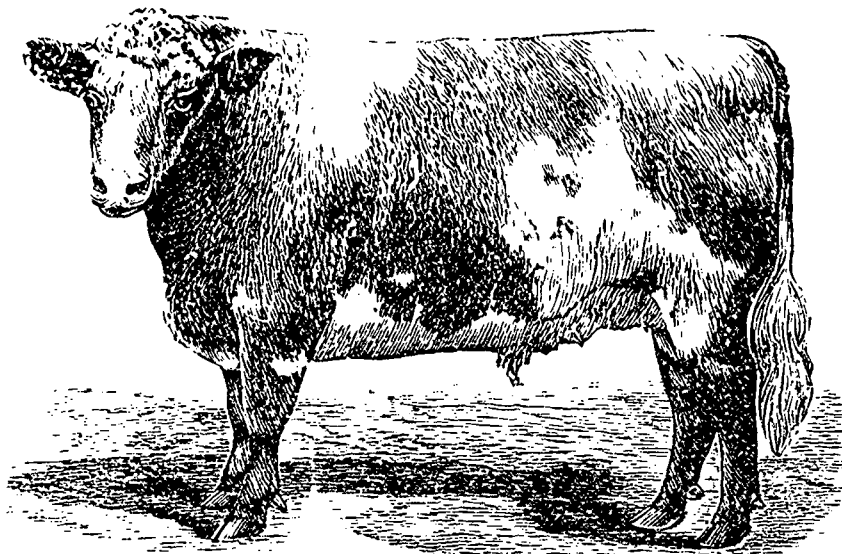
Canada's sheep trade with Britain is said to be a failure this season. Shippers have sustained heavy losses.

*Mutton.*—The *Vermont Watchman* has a paragraph in its last issue, (October 26th, on the fact that "the market for choice mutton is widening yearly." "The writer", it continues, "knows many people who a few years ago would not eat

their mutton, and more particularly, if they will persistently pay the same price for a pound of meat from a worn-out ten year old long-wool ewe, that they pay for a fresh two year-old short wool wether, all I can say is that I do not pity them if they never find out what good mutton really is.

I see that what is scientifically called a "Hippophagous", or horse-eating society, met the other day in the States, to dine on a variety of dishes, each made entirely from some part of a horse. The same thing occurred in London some years ago, by the bye, at which the *filets* from Lord Ossulton's 2<sup>d</sup> year old cabhorse (not a hack cab horse, by any means but a splendid powerful beast, gray in colour and worth, in his youth, anywhere between 250 and 300 guineas), were said by the best judges to be the most tender, delicious meat they had ever tasted.

Well, why does not some enterprising butcher, like the Messrs. Brown of Ste Catherine Street, advertise a dinner composed of dishes made from the various parts of a pig, two



FIRST-PRIZE CROSS-BRED AT BIRMINGHAM SHOW.

mutton at all, but now prefer it to any other meat. They had never tasted first-class mutton, and were sickened by the taste of the inferior article."

Well, I do not wonder at people being disgusted at the taste of "the inferior article". Only last month, my butcher, Mr. Winch of St. Catherine Street, sent me the loveliest saddle of lamb. It was dressed to perfection, with all the gravy in it, and just cooked enough. It cut a good deep thickness, and—it was uneatable. An early male lamb, uncastrated, that had, I dare say served half a dozen ewes! Not the tradesman's fault at all, but the farmer who neglects to castrate small lambs dropped early by the 1st September, and lets them run loose among his ewes, deserves corporal chastisement.

We often hear of mutton that has a "woolly taste". This arises, in most cases, from not stripping the pelt off the moment the sheep is dead; for sometimes a butcher will stick a dozen or so and leave them half an hour before stripping: I have seen it happen on a Friday afternoon at Sorel.

Neglect to thoroughly wash out the interior of the sheep after emptying it of the paunch, &c, is often the cause of bad flavoured meat. If people will not look into these defects in

year old Shropshire wethers? The tickets might be placed among "the 400", and the Managers of the principal hotels might be invited to sit as judges. Joking apart, some means ought to be taken to remedy the lamentable ignorance of the flavour of good mutton that exists among our people. On the London market, the best Downes are always worth 3 cent a pound more than the best Scotch bullocks. Here are the last quotations:

October 10th, 1892.

			s. d.
90 to 95 stone = 700 lbs. to 760 lbs.	Scotch.	4 10	\$1.15
7½ to 8½ "	" = 60 lbs to 65 lbs	Downs.	5 10 -- \$1.40
And I must add 8½ "	" "	Canadian.	4 2 -- \$1.00

Is it not sad to see that the value of Canadian sheep in the first market in the world is less than the value of an English sheep of the same weight by nearly \$4.90?

Create a taste for good mutton here, and it will not be long before all the rubbish we send to England will cease to exist, as it will no longer pay any one to breed or feed it.

*Sweet or sour milk for pigs, &c.*—I see that Professor Cooke, of the Vermont station, has shown slightly better re-

sults from feeding with sour than with sweet milk, but the animals on which he tried the experiment are not mentioned. I should not like to give sour milk to calves, but I dare say pigs would thrive on it. At all events, the celebrated Arthur Young, the "Plain Suffolk Farmer", advised the souring of all pig-food before administering it to the animals, and, to secure that end, built a number of tanks round his pig-pens sufficient to ensure that no food was ladled out to the pigs till it had fermented for at least three weeks. Practically, in all home-farms attached to large country houses in England, the wash of the house is run from the scullery into a large puncheon, on wheels, which is removed only when full, by which time all the contents—vegetables, crusts of bread, bits of meat, &c.—are sour enough, and this, mixed with pollard and a little barley-meal is given to the pigs as long as it lasts. I speak from experience when I say that the pigs, young and old, do well upon it, though I do not think Arthur Young's idea of the tanks holding a three weeks supply was ever largely acted upon.

*Milking trials at the London Dairy-show.*—A curious thing occurred at this exhibition: An Aberdeen-Angus cow, (1) which breed is not supposed to be good milkers, gained 140.8 points, the best Jersey having only 93.3 points! As usual, the shorthorns were at the head of the show, barring the accidental polled-Angus, but the Guernseys ran the shorthorns very close. The best Jersey was 27 points behind the worst prize winning shorthorn. The scale of points is, to my mind, very well calculated to show the real merit of the cows. One point is given for every ten days since calving, deducting the first 20, and making 18 the maximum; 1 point for each pound of milk yielded per day; 20 points for each pound of fat; 4 points for each pound of solids other than fat in the milk; with 10 points deducted in cases where the butter-fat amounts to less than 3 per cent.

The wonderful yield of the Polled-Angus is the highest that has ever been known at this show since it was started. The following is a list of the prize-winners:

SHORTHORNS.		Points.
1, and Thorley's, Mr. Errington's Lily.....		132.3
2, Mr. Hornby's Pride of Finohley.....		129.8
r, and Errington's, Messrs. Rumball & Son's Lily.....		120.0
JERSEYS.		
1, Mr. Baxendale's Chesnut 2nd.....		93.3
2, and Thorley's, Mr. Brutton's Fairy Elf.....		89.0
r, Miss Standish's Beauty.....		83.1
GUERNSEYS.		
1, Mr. Christie-Miller's Mountain Maid 2nd.....		125.8
r, Express Dairy Company's Ladybird 2nd.....		75.2
AYRSHIRES.		
1, Mr. Holm's Snowdrop.....		99.8
r, Mr. Holm's Rosie.....		78.9
KERRIES		
1, Express Dairy Company's Killarney.....		88.2
2, Lord Ashburton's Mavourneen.....		82.5
r, Mr. Roumicu's Topsy.....		50.1
MIXED CLASS.		
1, and Thorley's, Mr. Spencer's Aberdeen-Angus, Black Bess.....		140.8
2, Mr. Spencer's Dorothy.....		131.3
r, Mr. Spencer's Modesty 2nd.....		122.8

(1) This cow turns out to be a shorthorn cross!!!

A. R. J. F.

At the same meeting, a large display of cream-separators was made by Messrs Lister, of Dursley Gloucestershire, whose agent in Canada is our energetic friend, Monsieur J. de L. Taché, secretary of the Dairy-men's Association of the Province of Quebec.

In all, they had some forty-two separators on their stand. The hand machines were kept at work nearly the whole day long, mostly worked by a young lady, to whom it appeared quite easy, requiring no great effort to work them. Several improvements in these machines have been made during the past year. As in former years, Messrs. R. A. Lister & Co. were again supplying the Dairy Farmers' Association with their cream for the butter-making competitions, so that their power machines were kept busily running during the whole of the day. When one examines the mechanism of the "Alexandra" separator, the extreme simplicity of its construction, and especially the ease with which the steel bowl can be cleaned, one is not surprised at its great popularity; and whilst in some separators the steel bowls are made up of a large number of loose parts, all of which require cleaning, in the "Alexandra" there is only one piece, which can be as easily cleaned as a teapot.

*English and Canadian cheese.*—I must be forgiven if I was a little proud at seeing, in the quotation of the cheese-market in England, sometime during the past month of October, that Canadian cheese sold for 48s a cwt. (112 lbs) and single Gloucester for 56s. From what I hear, our Vale of Berkeley men are determined not to be beaten, and, if they really give their minds to it, the splendid grass-land that surrounds them ought to make them superior to all comers. But, alas! they are plunged into such a deep rut of routine, that I fear it will take them years to get out of it.

*Exportation of horses.*—Monsieur Bouthillier, in his article on the horses at the September exhibition at Mile end, lashes out vehemently against the paucity of thoroughbred stallions, and asks, implicitly, how can we expect to have first-class horses to export to England for the saddle, if our farmers and farmers' sons prefer lolling lazily in a 4 wheeled buggy, to cantering pleasantly along on a well-bred young one with its shoulder in the right place? We shall never have good riding-horses to export until this is altered.

Monsieur Bouthillier kicks, too, at the American trotting-horses; wherein he agrees with me and with Dr. Couture, who thus expresses himself in the January number of the Journal—1892:

"War to the knife against trotters. They are either fit for the plough, the cart, the carriage, *nor the saddle*;" and it is for riding purposes that we should breed, if we have any intention of making our in the English market

*Low prices for stock in England.*—Now is the time to buy breeding-stock in England. Prices have not been so low for many years. They were low enough in October 1891, but, this year, Hampshire-downs ewes were sold at the autumn fairs for 2½ dollars a head less than last year. Oh, Mr. Green-shields, when you have time to think of anything else but your arduous labours in your profession, do cast your eyes over the herds of Dairy-shorthorns and the flocks of Hampshire-downs, and gratify your patriotic instincts by importing a few of each as a specimen of what I have been trying to win favour for during the last fourteen years.

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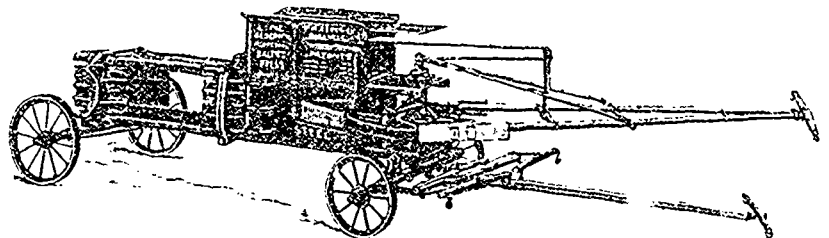
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