

no reason why a colt should be prevented simply on the score of age from securing a place which his merits would otherwise give him. As he is just as likely to turn out a good breeder as a bad one, the judges adopt the safest course in not looking into the future at all. A somewhat similar incident occurred in the cattle class at the late Toronto Industrial, in which an exceedingly meritorious Holstein yearling heifer was placed first in a sweepstake over a number of developed cows that were very strong in good qualities. Merit must be recognized in the show-ring, independent of age, if justice is to be done, but at the same time it might with justification be made the balancing point between two animals otherwise equally good. Other qualities being equal the developed animal should receive the award over the youngster, but if the qualities of the latter surpass those of the elder, by all means acknowledge the merit by a favorable decision.

Hogs as Money Makers.

"Even allowing two dollars as purchase money for each pig, I can make pork with whey and shorts for three cents per pound," said an extensive dairyman to us just recently. He raises Berkshires and Yorkshires, and of course only expects such returns through summer feeding. The above assertion others will find endorsed in their experience. Whey from cheese factories, or skim milk, fed with shorts, is cheap feed, and given to the right sort of pigs will yield good pork and a large profit. Fed to "elm peelers" it runs to hair, snout, and legs, the least valuable of all parts of a marketable hog. Any farmers near a cheese factory with whey in abundance, are making the mistake of their lives if they do not purchase a pure bred boar and raise grade pigs to turn that whey into money. We have no breed in particular to advocate, as all have certain distinct qualities of their own, but we would urge those with facilities at hand to place their order with a reliable breeder for a vigorous young boar. The raising of pigs is within the reach of all, as the outlay is small and the returns quick and large. Fifteen or twenty dollars sunk in purchasing a pedigreed boar will pay those handsomely who have common facilities for pig raising.

The Suffolk Punch.

The fact that the Suffolk Punch is not meeting with that degree of favor in this country which their qualities should insure them, has always been a matter of surprise to us, and this has doubly increased through conversation with Mr. Frederic Smith, of Rendlesham, Suffolk, England, the secretary of the Suffolk Association, who informed us that they were making rapid progress in the United States, as we surmised from the large shipment of eighty head that Mr. Smith had in charge for a number of stockmen there. It will be remembered that the famous prize-winner, Wedgewood 1749, which appeared in our April number, was bred at Rendlesham, the home of more Suffolk winners than any other stud in Great Britain.

The most common cause, it is by no means a reason, of this indifference towards the merits of the Suffolks is in a small measure due to the fact that other breeds of horses were here before them, but that surely is not complimentary to stockmen, who may be truly classed amongst the most progressive in the world. We are of the belief that the reason lies in the truth that few recognize the merits that the Suffolk

Punch possesses. The most striking and peculiar merits of the Suffolk are to be seen in their marvellous purity of breeding, that has given them a wonderful uniformity of color and conformation; their iron constitution, which has added greatly to their value for breeding purposes, and insures docility and longevity; the hard, firm bone of their legs, and freedom from feathering which increases their utility in many districts; and further, their quick, smooth trot and rapid-gaited walk that has made them so valuable for *dray purposes and general use on the farm.*

Several importations have been made to Canada, and as far as we can learn they have given excellent satisfaction, as it has been found that they cross well on our native mares. We are quite certain that as the qualities of the Suffolks become more universally known there will be a much greater demand for them than at present. It appears to us that for the conditions of our North-Western Territories, no other breed would give better satisfaction to breeders.

Water Supply for Stock.

Without an unlimited supply of pure water no stockman can hope to make a complete success of raising stock. During winter it is quite within the range of possibility to carry cattle through winter on a very limited supply through the agency of succulent foods, and in fact many feeders prefer to have their charges get almost all the water they require through extensive feeding of turnips. At Kinnoul Stock Farm stables, under the guidance of Mr. J. G. Davidson, we inspected thoroughly their system, which we shall endeavor to describe for our readers for their comment, full or partial adoption. A short way from their extensive stables is a small creek fed by a number of small springs originating in a shallow ravine. A small sand and gravel bridge thrown across the ravine holds back an abundant supply of water for winter and summer. A windmill on the top of the stable pumps from the pond made by the bridge a supply into a large tank in the stables, which is placed at such a height as to send the water by gravitation to all parts of the stables and also to the adjoining fields. In the stables the pipes are laid four feet in the sand and the uprights rise opposite each pair of mangers, and each is supplied with separate stop cocks. In each manger there is a small box so arranged that when the water is turned off from the watering boxes the water standing in the upright pipes drains out into the sand, thereby preventing the freezing up of the tap pipes in winter. The tank is made of metal. Trouble was experienced at first with the pipes freezing that convey the water from the tank, but Mr. Davidson has surmounted that difficulty completely by placing loads of fresh stable dung immediately under the tanks and around the pipes, as the heat and fumes from this keeps the frost out in coldest weather. In the field troughs they do not use sinkers or cut-offs as their supply of water is practically inexhaustible. A small stream about the thickness of a pipe-stem runs continuously so that the water keeps sweet and clear in hot weather when it is most needed, and the overflow does not amount to much, as the stock are coming and going all the time, and there is an approach to running water in this manner which is relished especially by sheep.

There has been considerable doubt in the minds of many as to the real utility of windmills. For such work as this it has proven to be a success. There are other methods, through the use of cisterns and hydraulic rams, of which we shall have something to say later on.

Let there be Light in the Stables.

The major objection to basement stables arises from the fact that it is a difficult matter to secure economically an unlimited supply of light. It is matter worthy of discussion as to how far it is desirable to have lighted stables for certain purposes. If brightly lighted it means a lessening of the warmth, and the question may be looked at from another point of view which recognises that a certain amount of darkness has a very favorable influence on fattening animals. It acts no doubt through tending to keep them more quiet and contented. Poultry fatteners have perhaps carried this idea more into practice than any others, and it certainly is worthy of consideration by those seeking like results with different animals. It may be said that darkness induces a morbid growth, but that may be met by the assertion that, fattening in itself is an unhealthy tendency in animals, and is unknown in nature. It is common for those discussing this subject to cite, as an instance of the beneficial influence of sunlight in stimulating growth, the fact that the playing of the sun's beams upon fruit affects favorably their size, flavor, and general appearance; but it is to be remembered that plants are directly dependent on the sun for their vital force. Mellowed light conduces to the comfort and aids in isolating cattle from disturbing influences, and in that way it has an effect upon the economy of fattening.

However much it may be desirable to seclude and darken the quarters of fattening stock, it is really the height of folly to subject breeding or working animals to similar conditions. It must be at once admitted that the common tendency is in that direction, and the great majority of horse-stables show this defect in their arrangement most markedly. Taking a horse from a dark stable into a bright glare of sunlight reflected from snow, will go far to account for the shying and bolting of many, if it does not even result in a pronounced and permanent defect of the eyesight. Horse-stables should be well lighted by all means, and it may be done without giving rise to draughts if care is taken in choosing the position of the windows. Horses or cattle used for breeding purposes must have the very best circumstances for maintaining their health and vigor, and light certainly has more or less of an effect on these.

Breeding for Early Maturity.

If we enquire closely into the various improvements that have been made in the many breeds of cattle, horses, sheep, and swine, we will find that early maturity has been one of few desirable features that all the first breeders had in mind. Bakewell, with his Longhorns and Leicester sheep, gave this special prominence, and the same may be said of the Collings and Booths, and to their successful efforts the Shorthorn of to-day owes the prestige that they possess on account of their remarkable development in this direction. Why it is within the present century that an English authority expressed wonder that Hereford oxen were slaughtered at the early age of six years, while now half that time and less sees them on the butcher hooks. The "blackskins" have progressed wonderfully in this direction, as have also the Devon and Sussex. It is not so very long ago since sheep were only put upon the market when two years old, while now they attain the same weight in less than half that time, and the same observation applies to swine. The fact that early maturity is one of the most influential factors in lessening the cost of production has given rise to this strong effort to secure it