

the most careful attention. I know a horse that during the summer season has an ordinary coat, that in the fall, despite all possible attention and care, will grow long and curl, until it very strongly resembles the coat of a well-cared-for water spaniel, the most peculiar coat I ever saw on a horse. This occurs every fall with this horse. There are a few individuals with this or somewhat similar characteristics, and, of course, all that can be done in such cases, if we insist upon having a short coat, is to clip. "WHIP."

Trotting and Pacing Champions.

By reducing the record to 1.58½, Lou Dillon, the first of the two-minute trotters, has established her claim to championship beyond all question or dispute, and has placed the mile record where none will assail it for some time to come. Major Delmar seems to have found his limit at 2.00, and Cresceus will hardly be able to make any serious inroads upon the trotting queen's exclusive circle. C. K. G. Billings is the owner of Lou Dillon, but to Millard Sanders must be given the credit of developing her great speed, as she was one of the most difficult of trotters to educate. At a jog she has a very ungainly gait, but at her best she is the wonder and admiration of the light-horse world.

Throughout the season the two pacers, Prince Alert and Dan Patch, shaved away at the pacing mile record, which stood for five years at 1.59½. This was Star Pointer's performance in 1898. Last year Dan Patch equalled this feat, and on August 19th succeeded in setting a new mark at 1.59. This record stood for about six weeks, when Prince Alert took a hand at world beating, and with the aid of a wind-shield and hoppers clipped two seconds off Dan Patch's time. This championship was short-lived, however, for on October 22nd Patch did the fastest mile ever worked in harness in 1.56½. With these records awaiting them in 1904, horsemen will have a most interesting struggle against old Father Time, but they are confident that both the trotting and pacing records can be lowered a little yet.

Horsemen are Active.

At Edmonton the local horsemen of that district recently held a meeting, and decided to ask the City Council to set aside a portion of Fraser street for a winter speedway.

Farm.

The Royal and Industrial Annual Meeting.

Postponed from the last day of the fair, in deference to the exhibitors, whose minutes at such a time are doubly crowded, the society convened in New Westminster, Nov. 5th. Manager Keary presented a report to President Trapp and the members, which was very satisfactory, viz., that in spite of many handicaps, the 1903 exhibition had been a success every way, and that when the few outstanding were collected, a balance on the right side of the ledger for a little over \$800 would be the result.

Election of officers took place, T. J. Trapp, President, being re-elected; Mayor Keary again being the Manager, while Treasurer Brymner, manager local branch Bank of Montreal, again will take charge of the society's funds. Discussion of the prize-list was made, and a few alterations suggested. The society decided to make a new record for itself, and will hold a combination of fat-stock and stallion show, together with a short course in live-stock judging, during the second week of March, 1904. This move was not decided upon without considerable discussion, pro and con, but while some counselled a twelve months' delay, the majority thought it better to use the O.A.C. bee-lecturer's phrase, "Start in a small way" at once. The City Council will render some help, and the Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, as well as Victoria, will be called upon to help forward this most progressive agricultural society in its efforts at giving practical education along agricultural lines, which, after all, is the true reason for the existence of such societies. The manager announced that \$70 had already been promised to provide prizes for a stock-judging competition at the annual show, which will start the first Tuesday in October, 1904.

I have recently been solicited by friends to invest in oil well propositions, and also in a rubber plantation. I was shown the great profits that were sure to be mine if I would only invest. I was afraid. Oil is so slippery and rubber so elastic that I could not muster up courage to invest. I would rather own a sheep or a field.—(Furrows, in Homestead.)

Keep the Boys on the Farm.

Boys leave the farm from various motives. Chief among these is an erroneous conception or appreciation of the relative advantages of farm life as compared with that of other vocations.

There is still the notion in some minds that the so-called learned professions offer more scope for the exercise of special talents; that they also afford more glory, and bring a man's intellectual attainments and powers into greater prominence.

Some farmers' sons also fancy that mercantile and business pursuits, or the arts, are more

from labor as perhaps any other class, and much more leisure than some others—much more, for example, than the merchant, whose duties press him throughout the year and often involve more hours each day. Yet the merchant is generally a well-read man.

The farmer lives under clearer skies and breathes purer air than the dweller in the city. His work and mode of life are more natural, and, therefore, more healthful; city life more artificial. He eats food of his own production, and is thus more independent, while he also contributes to the supply of the various other classes. He drinks water taken from the pure spring or well, and not that filtered from sources of uncertain purity,

as in the water supply of cities. And these are some of life's essentials. And then, the business of the farmer is subject to less contingency and less fluctuation than most others. The forces of nature ministering to his wants are more constant in their operations than the artificial and conventional factors operative in trades and commerce. The professions also have their full quota of work and vexation, with some successes and many failures. So that the boy from the farm in quest of another field in which to employ his talents, though he may reach his

goal, need not expect to have all his desires fully gratified; nor need he doubt that those talents or powers might be turned to good account on the farm.

Let the homes of farmers be beautified and made attractive; and let the boys be provided with wholesome entertainment and the best literature. Encourage them to study, to think, to observe, and they will be less inclined to leave the farm.

They should be well instructed in the subjects of a primary education. These, together with some knowledge of bookkeeping and business forms, and a good acquaintance with the various branches of the science of agriculture, will generally be found to impose a sufficient task. Agriculture offers unlimited opportunities for research, but in order to be fitted to pursue and enjoy this research, a man must have carefully studied the nature and composition of soils, climatic conditions, plant life and growth, etc.

Men of the most gifted and cultured minds have delighted in husbandry. Among the ancient Romans, Cicero thus speaks: "I am charmed with the nature and productive virtues of the soil. Can these men be called unhappy who delight in the soil's cultivation? In my opinion there can be no happier life, not only because the tillage of the earth is salutary to all, but from the pleasure it affords. The whole establishment of a good and assiduous husbandman is stored with wealth; it abounds in pigs, in lambs, in poultry, in milk, in honey. Nothing can be more profitable, nothing more beautiful than a well-cultivated farm."

Cincinnatus was taken from his farm to lead the Roman army as Dictator. After relieving the Consul, he resigned his Dictatorship with all the pomp of the Forum, and returned to his rural home.

The present King of the British Empire is an enthusiastic farmer.

I trust that the time is not far distant when the farmers' sons of our land will all be proud of their heritage.

W. J. WAY.



HARVESTING ON JOHN KENNEDY'S FARM, POPLAR LAKE.

genteel, attractive or desirable than what they regard as the drudgery or the humble condition of the farmer.

Firstly, in opposition to all this, let the truth be ever borne in mind, that life on the farm (as elsewhere) is largely what we make it, and is dependent in no small degree on what we ourselves are. To illustrate: One man on a farm may be rude, uncultured and unsystematic in his methods; another exhibits qualities the very reverse. Examples of each class are not wanting, though it is gratifying to note that the latter class greatly predominates to-day. The uneducated and unsystematic farmer is becoming an entity of a past age. With the advance of science and general intelligence the farmer is keeping no mean pace. His progress is not to be despised. From the rude condition of his forefathers the tiller of the soil has emerged, and is yet advancing to a higher plane. The educational facilities now within his reach—magazines like the "Farmer's Advocate," books on agricultural subjects, scientific bulletins, and a course of "correspondence" instruction (if he wishes) for himself or his sons, furnished at his home at small expense—leave the farmer without excuse if he remains in ignorance as to matters pertaining to his own occupation. And he need not stop here in his pursuit of knowledge. If he is desirous of broadening his field of mental vision, he may extend his reading into other avenues; he may read natural or civil history, political economy, science or philosophy,



TURNING A YARD WIDE.

Addie James, Rosser, Man., with his five-horse team.

in any or all of its branches, as his tastes may direct.

The plea sometimes made by farmers of lack of time for mental culture is without basis in fact. Many fritter away enough time in the "corner grocery," or in mere gossip, or in the saloon, in which by earnest effort they might become educated.

Someone has said: "Most men waste enough time for self-education." It is quite true that the farmer has a great deal of work to do, especially at some seasons of the year, as seeding and harvest time. Yet during the winter season, and often at other times, he has as much respite

Be fit for more than you are now doing. Young men talk of trusting to the spur of the occasion. That trust is vain. Occasion cannot make spurs. If you expect to wear spurs you must win them. If you wish to use them you must buckle them to your own heels before you go into the fight.—[James A. Garfield.]

The best teaching is done through the eye. No paper for the farmer published in Canada, or any other country, contains such a wealth of instructive and attractive engravings as the "Farmer's Advocate." You enjoy them. So would others. Then extend its circulation.