

THE
Canadian Live Stock and Farm Journal

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The J. E. Bryant Company (Limited),

58 BAY STREET, - - TORONTO, CANADA.

Terms, \$1.00 per annum in advance.

To Subscribers.—The subscription price of THE CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL is \$1.00 a year, in advance. Single copies, 10 cents each; sample copies, free. The date to which each subscriber is paid is printed on the address-label of his JOURNAL. Subscribers continuing to take the JOURNAL from the post office after their time of subscription is expired, will be considered as desiring to renew their subscription. Notice to discontinue the JOURNAL should be promptly sent to the publishers by returning the first number received after the subscription has expired. The publishers reserve to themselves the right to continue sending the JOURNAL to responsible persons until all arrears are paid.

Remittances may be made in registered letters at our risk. The receipt of the JOURNAL will be sufficient evidence to subscribers that their remittances have been received. Never send money in unregistered letters. Money so sent must be at the sender's risk.

All communications should be addressed THE J. E. BRYANT COMPANY (LIMITED), 58 Bay Street, Toronto, Canada.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1890.

Original Plans, Devices, and Ideas.

If you have an original plan, device, or idea, that you think would be of benefit to your fellow farmers or stockmen, turn to our March number and see how we will pay you for it if you send it to us for publication. Space forbids us printing the whole scheme in full, as usual. We would refer those desiring to know more of this to our January, February, and March numbers, where the premiums are given in full with complete particulars.

PIGS, and especially sows, derive much benefit from the moderate feeding of waste fruit. Windfalls from the apple trees and those unfit for barrelling could not be put to better use.

THE best wool, like the best mutton, is produced by sheep that are well fed and attended. Neglect and poor feeding weakens the strength of the fibre, checks its growth, makes it of a hairy nature and lessens the weight of fleece.

MANY may have already chosen the prospective brood sow, but it will not be amiss to allude to a quality often overlooked. The points of a brood sow are widely known, but the value of the quality of being bred from a line of milkers is not generally recognised. A good milking sow possesses a very desirable feature, raising stronger, healthier and more rapidly growing young; and it is most important to remember that this quality runs in strains just as pronounced as in the case of cows.

SURPRISING results are given in the *National Stockman* from experiments with French cavalry horses, in which the object sought was to ascertain the best methods of feeding for army service. It was found that when the hay was increased in the ration, and the straw decreased, that the horses became indolent and liable to sweat with the slightest exertion; but when the straw was increased in the ration and the quantity of hay lessened, the horses were full of strength, sweated less and returned to the stables after the exercises were over without a wet hair. The same good results, it is said, were obtained by increasing the proportion of oats and diminishing the hay. As a result of these experiments it was decided to very materially reduce the amount of hay issued, and to increase the proportion of oats served out.

At the Illinois College Farm, experiments have been conducted to determine the values of ordinary foods for hogs. The summary is as follows: Skim milk could not be economically fed to fattening hogs, unless it was waste product which could not be utilized otherwise. It required on an average 4½ lbs. of shelled corn to produce a pound of pork during an average period of four weeks, or one bushel produced 13½ pounds. It required 4½ pounds of corn meal to produce one pound of pork, or one bushel of corn made into meal and fed will produce 12¾ pounds of pork. When fed dry, shelled corn is more economical than corn meal for fattening hogs. It required 7½ pounds or one-fourth of ground oats to produce one pound of pork, when fed with equal parts by weight of corn meal. One bushel of corn is worth three bushels of oats for fattening hogs. Corn-fed pigs gained 4½ pounds per week, and ate 21 pounds of corn per 100 pounds of live weight. Pork was produced during cold weather, with corn at 28c. per bushel, for a shade less than 3c. per pound. Indian corn is the most economical pork-producing material during the winter months in regions where extensively grown.

Plimsoll's Pamphlet.

Mr. Samuel Plimsoll has written a pamphlet on "Cattle Ships," in which he seeks to awaken the legislative minds of Great Britain to prohibit the importation of live cattle from ports situated west of 12° west longitude. The chief argument urged is based on the grounds of cruelty, and the principal illustration of this is drawn from the harrowing incident of the ship Iowa with 150 cattle on deck and 300 below at the mercies of a terrific storm. Mr. Plimsoll's illustration will lose force with many who give this matter quiet consideration, for storms are just as likely to overtake cattle ships and cause just as much confusion and suffering on them as those used for other purposes. The attempt of old Canute to stop the tide of the ocean by word of mouth, was just about as nonsensical as Mr. Plimsoll's attempt to stem the Canadian trade in live cattle by word of pen. As the press dispatch says, the Department at Ottawa has evidence in its possession to show that so far as the Dominion cattle exporters are concerned there is little ground for complaint. At our solicitation, Mr. Cunningham, who is thoroughly acquainted with the trade, has given expression to his views in an interesting article which we publish in this number.

Dishorning Cattle.

The dishorning of cattle is at the present time creating a widespread interest amongst stockmen, chiefly aroused on account of the contests going on in several countries between the authorities of humane societies and those who are following this practice. In England, Scotland, and Ireland, the matter is at present receiving considerable attention, in the courts as well as out of them. With our friends across the line, and also with us, more than usual interest is attached to this question, as it has an important bearing on one of our largest industries.

That dishorned cattle are more easily tended, more tractable, give less trouble in shipping, and are less liable to injure each other or their attendants we readily believe, but we cannot convince ourselves that even to secure these qualities is it justifiable to submit animals with matured horns to the cruel and reprehensible operation of having them sawn off. We have no hesitation in making the assertion based on

the knowledge and testimony of those learned in physiology, and also grounded on the painful evidence of the animals themselves, that sawing off the horns of cattle that are approaching maturity is a ghoulis operation, that only those of perverted and hardened feelings could derive any satisfaction from performing.

Fully conceding the desirability of the end, the more humane means of securing it, to our mind, is the practice of applying prepared chemicals, or employing what has been termed disbudding, when the horn is immature and easily killed or removed. Those that have tried either of these methods speak highly of both. In comparison with the brutal method of sawing off the horns of grown animals, the use of chemicals or disbudding is just as cheap, easier performed, and but very little pain is given the animal operated upon.

Foundation Stock.

A structure of any kind that is to stand well must rest on a good foundation. Likewise a herd that is soon to prove a credit to its owner must be well grounded. It would be possible to commence with a poor foundation and so improve it by a certain line of breeding that ultimately it would reach great excellence. But to accomplish this would require a lifetime, and even then the work would have to be skillfully done, or it would certainly end in failure.

But what good, we ask, would come to anyone by adopting such a course? It is surely self-evident to any one that animals improved for years will make a better foundation on which to build a herd than those which have not been so improved, and that if a record of such improvement has been kept it is of more value than in the absence of such a record.

In selecting foundation stock of common types, a due regard must be had to *individuality*. The weeds must all be rejected. There can be no excuse for any man continuing to breed from animals inferior in kind where these are so plentiful and so easily obtained as we find them to-day. It seems to take many of those who breed only common stock a long time to learn that the value of these even is not to be measured by their numbers.

In selecting animals in any of the pure-bred lines, another element must be considered in addition to individuality. We mean *pedigree*. The animal must be good, or by that most common and uniform of all the laws, "like produces like," its progeny will not be good. Its pedigree must be good, by which we mean that all the animals recorded in the ancestry were such, that individually they in their day gave a good account of themselves. The external form of animals to be chosen for foundation stocks have certain general characteristics which have much of a resemblance. The characteristics in which they differ relate rather to the species than to the individual animals themselves. In selecting foundation animals, try and get them free from the following defects: Reject a male with a feminine head and neck, for he is likely to be deficient in stamina; and reject a female with a masculine head and neck, for she is pretty certain to be a poor milker. A dull eye denotes a sluggish system, and a wild eye restlessness, not compatible with easy management or easy keeping. A narrow front or chest is very objectionable. It is associated with deficient lung power, impaired stamina, a lack of hardihood, a want of strength, and a liability to disease. A long lank body, with flat ribs and a tucked up hind flank, is always to be passed by in choosing animals to breed from. This form of body indicates weak digestive organs and ill-doing generally. Bones unduly large are very objectionable. They are seldom