

Canadian Live-Stock & Farm Journal

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All communications to be addressed STOCK JOURNAL CO., 48 John street south, Hamilton, Ont.

HAMILTON, CANADA, APRIL, 1887.

THE readers of the JOURNAL, when writing concerning live-stock, implements, etc., advertised in its columns, will oblige us very much by mentioning that they saw the same advertised in the CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

WE heard it remarked of one of the shrewdest and most successful Shorthorn breeders of Scotland, that he rises early, takes a look over the place before breakfast, and is constantly giving his attention and oversight even to the details of the large establishment which he manages. This habit has, without doubt, contributed very largely to his success as a breeder of stock that in not a few instances has stood at the head of Ontario's largest show-rings. Thus it must be with all who are eminently successful. They can afford to allow nothing to be done in a slipshod way. Everything must receive its meed of supervision, and then everything will move on. It is not of much consequence that a man make a large profit on a few beasts, if at the same time a large number of them is kept at a loss from lack of close attention. It is when there is some profit at every turn and in every detail, let it be ever so little, that great results are summed up in the aggregate. Stop the leaks and keep pumping and the vessels must soon fill.

MUCH attention is being given of late to the warming of the liquids given to both calves and pigs. It should never be given to either in winter, or indeed any time at a temperature colder than blood heat. If fed at a colder temperature it is at the expense of feed, and cordwood and coal are cheaper factors in heat production than grain or bran. When the buildings are warm it is of less consequence, but in any case it should not be neglected. It is almost impossible to keep young pigs from becoming "humped" when the liquid they get is given cold, and calves will tremble after every draught in a way that should incite the pity of the feeder. It is attention to every little detail in business that makes it a success, and in feeding stock the same rule will hold good. It is just this extra attention or the lack of it that determines

whether stock-keeping shall be profitable or the reverse of this. Let those who have not given attention to this matter in the past do so in the future, and they will be astonished at the difference in results.

THE size of the manure heap made on the farm and the wise application of this determines largely the amount (1) of the crop that shall be grown, (2) the number and character of the stock to be kept, and (3) the extent of the profit that shall be realized. It is surely then of the first importance to watch over the manure heap with a jealous care, and so to protect it and conserve it and enlarge it, that there will be a constant supply of plant food in its most valuable form to apply on the land. Without sowing, we never expect to reap; without feeding natural life, we never expect to sustain it. Why then should we expect to reap crops where we have not given the substance to produce them after this has been exhausted by previous cropping? This sort of reminder may be looked upon as the echo of an old song. If so, what has necessitated the repetition of the echo? What but the defective practice of our farmers which they refuse to remedy, to so large an extent. The prevalence of the practice would be positively disheartening, were it not that there are many cheering indications of a change for the better.

ALL progress in agriculture is the result of experiment in one form or another. All the advance that has been made has been brought about in this way, and has been the outcome of individual effort, the results of which, though made in an isolated way, have been focussed and embodied in the practice of the community. This is a very slow way of arriving at conclusions in agriculture, although it is a very safe one. Its slowness is very apparent when we compare the little that has been established in agriculture with the much that has not been established. The above method of arriving at conclusions may have sufficed for the world in the past, but it will not satisfy the impatience of the present age. Henceforth more must be determined by our experimental stations, which will be ratified by the concurrence of general experience before being accepted as final. We rejoice, therefore, that experimental stations have been established in so many of the provinces, and we trust the utmost care will be exercised in their supervision. A thousand things might be suggested for experiment, but we will mention but one here, and we hope all the experiment stations will take it up next winter—that is, to tell our farmers how much less feed it takes to keep a properly protected cow through the six months of winter to produce given results, than one not protected.

IT is a great matter to have a good start, whether in the commencement of a journey or of any line of business. A damper placed on one's ardor at the beginning is more weakening than a night sweat. It is important, then, that young men in farming should be started right. Failure at first is very discouraging and may lead to a giving up of the work altogether. There is wide difference of opinion as to what constitutes a good start. Some fancy it consists in the father handing over to the son a good farm well stocked. Nothing of the kind. It consists in giving to the young man a sound education. By that we mean a careful education in morals, in the principles of his business, and in the habits and methods of labor relating thereto. These are of infinitely more importance than the farm. The farm may soon be frittered away by want of management, but the qualifications we have referred to, no man can take away— if imparted at the right age. A young man commencing

to farm to-day, who is thus equipped, is "like a person starting on the shoulders of his father, with the addition of the experience of his neighbors, and indeed of the whole country," as has been aptly stated by one of our foremost dairymen.

The Dominion Shorthorn Herd Book Standard Sustained.

THE 24th February saw the largest gathering of Shorthorn breeders convened in the St. Lawrence Hall, Toronto, that ever met in one place in the Dominion. There could not have been less than two hundred convened, and yet perhaps not more than one-half of the whole number of breeders of Shorthorns was present, which gives us a flattering impression of the strength of this interest in the Dominion.

The large attendance gave evidence of the conviction in the minds of breeders that the future prosperity of the Shorthorn interest or the opposite of this, depended very largely on the decision that would be arrived at in reference to the standard, and the verdict they have given with so much of unanimity may now be regarded as final.

The discussion was conducted with moderation throughout, yet there was the utmost freedom given to the expression of opinion, so that no one can now say that he was not allowed ample opportunity to shew wherein he felt aggrieved, and to state the proposed remedy.

When the vote was called for, the standard of the Dominion Shorthorn herd book was sustained by a *sedemfold* majority—seventy-four voting yea and ten nay. If the vote had been taken half an hour earlier we believe the numbers would have stood ten to one instead of seven to one, as a large draft left the meeting to catch a departing train, under the conviction, based upon what they had already witnessed, that the standard would not be changed.

We have already stated that we favored the agitation of the past in reference to this matter. A considerable number felt aggrieved, and it was only fair that they should have ample opportunity to state their grievances, and to use every legitimate means to obtain redress. The matter has been discussed from various standpoints and with the one result, that no one has shown where the line could be drawn so as to better meet the views of a majority of the breeders.

We are glad, indeed, that the matter has been so conclusively settled, and we trust for all time. The disturbed state of the Shorthorn camp during recent years has given much strength to the cause of scrub stock; or, to put it differently, it has not been that aggressive influence that it might have been in weakening this cause had the breeders been united in their views. A distrust has been created that it will take years of united action to efface; and a large number even of those who would have been an honor to the ranks have gone back into the camp of those who are content with a place in that company whose highest aim is to keep improved but unregistered stock. Our neighbors, too, across the line, have on many an occasion played shy of cattle registered in herd books which different sections of Shorthorn breeders in Canada were trying at once to build up and to pull down. How could it be otherwise than that the interest should become so rheumatic that it could only walk when supported on crutches, and go hobbling along at a limping gait when it should have been manly in its mien and tread?

But all this must change. At the annual meeting to which we refer, the last battle in this fratricidal war, the most disastrous form of war to either state or material interest, was fought, and over the grave of