

winter, will bring them on rapidly so as to be ready to put up to fatten at three years old, by which time the young steers should average 1,400 pounds live weight, if not more. The heifers had better be retained for breeding, and fed off after having had two or three calves.

If it is not considered desirable for the farmer to feed up for beef these young grades at three years old, they ought to fetch good prices from those who make a practice of feeding on a large scale. A common scrub would be dear to a feeder at 2½c. per lb. live weight, when a good grade would be cheap at 4c. per lb. If a fair price cannot be had from a drover, do not sell, but feed yourself, and the exporters will find out where good animals are and pay full value for them. Steady perseverance in breeding only a high class of stock will soon bring up the standard of excellence of the general run of our cattle to a much higher point than they can show at present.—*Farmers' Advocate.*

CATTLE FEEDING.

WE see it stated in the papers that there are 200,000 cattle, and 500,000 sheep feeding in Ontario this season, intended for the English market. This is a very large number, and we think must be over-estimated, but there is no doubt this trade is assuming vast proportions, and a great deal of money is brought into the country by it. Now what are we doing in New Brunswick? Standing idly by, and grumbling that farming does not pay, or that we have no market. Is it not our own fault that we have no market, and that beef is now selling at from three to five cents per pound, and much of it cannot be sold at any price. And no wonder, for we would be surprised if some beef we have seen brought into the city lately could find a purchaser. Poor, miserable stuff, not fit for any one to eat! Do our farmers think that those who are engaged in shipping beef to Great Britain would come here to buy while we have only such wretched animals to sell. We have over and over again pointed out the necessity of improving the stock, in order to have a market. If we had ten thousand head of the right quality to sell, we would soon find purchasers at good prices, and there would be no grumbling at dull times, in this line; and while so much is said about raising beets to make sugar from, and building a factory for the purpose, we are confident quite as much money could be made by growing beets, mangolds, turnips and carrots, and feeding them to improved stock, without waiting until a larger capital is obtained to build a factory. We have some good stock in the Province, if they were properly fed, but any number can be raised in a short time if the farmers will only look at this

matter as their own interests demand. But many tell us they would rather have the native stock than the imported, and many act up to their opinions, for they will take no trouble to get others, or, if a fine animal is brought into their district, they will not take the trouble to benefit by the opportunity. So long as they adopt this course, just so long will they complain of the want of a market. They must not expect purchasers will come and leave their money in the Province until we can give them the animals they want, and, whatever we may think of our native stock, that goes for very little while the buyer wants another kind. It is a fact that the only cattle that will pay to ship abroad are the improved breeds or their crosses, and, of all those, the Short Horns take the lead, and will continue to do so for some time yet; and the sooner our farmers make up their minds to furnish the market with the article wanted the better for themselves. Again, we say, get the breeds the purchaser wants, and feed them properly, and there will be no trouble about a market, but so long as we only offer our native breed, half fed, just so long will buyers give us a wide berth.—*Agriculturist, Fredericton.*

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to correct a mistake which has crept into the January number of the *Advocate*? The article in the *New York Tribune*, for which I must assume all responsibility, does not assert the existence of the Rinderpest around Washington, but an unfortunate play upon the word "Rinderpest," the primary meaning of which is "a cattle plague," has apparently conveyed a wrong impression to a cursory reader. A second reading of the article in question will show you that care was taken to avoid this error. The sufferers around Washington called it the Rinderpest, and Mr. Graves enquired as to the correctness of this designation. The answer was: "This is undoubtedly 'a Rinderpest' (cattle plague), but not 'the Rinderpest' (Russian Cattle Plague)." Then it goes on to state that it is "the Common Bovine Lung Plague of Europe." In other words, it is what is known in Great Britain as the "Contagious Pleuropneumonia of Cattle," which has prevailed in some of our Eastern States uninterruptedly since its first importation in 1843; The farmers of Canada need be under no increased apprehensions as to any probable invasion of this disease. At the present time it probably does not exist further north than the environs of New York city, whereas on different occasions during the last thirty-six years it has invaded the New England States, thereby approaching into far closer and more dangerous proximity to the Canadian frontier. At present, therefore, its restric-

tion to a few of the Middle Atlantic States only, gives a better guarantee of immunity than could have been offered on many past occasions, and unless a current of live stock commerce should set in towards Canada from New York and the Atlantic coast southward, the farmers of the Dominion need be under no apprehensions.

On the other hand, the existence of such a disease, even in the Eastern States, is a constant threat to the great stock interests of the west, and the United States are called upon by every consideration of self-interest and foresight to root out such a baneful possession, and not bequeath to future times a legacy which cannot fail to become increasingly disastrous and ruinous. As for Canada, she is not in the line of any cattle traffic from the infested districts, and can only be endangered by the importation of high class cattle from the area of contagion. By a careful avoidance of such imports the Dominion will safely protect her herds until the contagion reaches our Western States. Should the United States Government prove so short-sighted as to permit of such an extension, it will then be imperative on your Administration to close the frontier against all United States cattle and whatever may have been in contact with them. Until then you have only to avoid a narrow strip of our Eastern seaboard from New York city south—a district from which nothing but high-class breeding cattle would be drawn to Canada.

Yours, etc.,

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—*Farmer's Advocate.*

GO WEST, YOUNG MAN.—The Burlington *Hawkeye* is doing its best to encourage young men to go west and grow up with the country. This is the advice it gives them:—"Yes, son, yes, yes; go out West and buy a farm. There is no life so independent as that of the honest farmer. Do not be discouraged if the work is a little hard at first. The grasshoppers will eat up all your first planting, but they will devour it so early in the season that you can plant a second time. They won't eat that planting until about three days before harvest. Then you will have nothing to do all fall and winter, and you can put in your full time starving. The next year's crop will be destroyed by constant rain and floods. The third year a drought will burn up everything that has a root or a leaf within ten miles of your farm. The fourth year, however, will go well. You will raise a blooming crop, get it all in and safely housed, and sit down happy and contented, waiting for the markets to rise. Then a prairie fire, as big as the butt end of the universe, will come along and burn up everything