

Canadian Live-Stock Journal,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE STOCK JOURNAL COMPANY,
48 John Street South, Hamilton, Ont.

Terms, \$1.00 per Annum in Advance.

THOMAS SHAW, RIVERSIDE FARM, EDITOR.

To Subscribers.—Subscription price, \$1.00 per annum in advance. Single copies, 20 cents each; sample copies free. No names will be removed from our subscription list when in arrears and without we receive instructions to that effect. Those in arrears will be charged \$1.25.

Clubs.—Any person is at liberty to form clubs. Clubs of *five* copies to any address, for one year, \$1.00. Clubs of *ten* copies to any address, \$1.50.

To Advertisers.—Advertisements of an appropriate nature will be inserted in the JOURNAL at the following rates: For a single insertion, 18c. per line, nonparel (12 lines make one inch); for three months, 15 cents per line each insertion; for six months, 13c. per line each insertion; for one year, 10c. per line each insertion. Cards in Breeders' Directory, not exceeding five lines, \$1 per line per annum. Copy of advertisements should reach us not later than the 25th of each month (earlier, if possible). If later, it may be in time for insertion, but often too late for proper classification. Transient advertisements payable in advance.

To Correspondents.—All communications intended for publication in the JOURNAL should reach us by the 20th of each month—sooner, if possible. We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

Remittances may be made in registered letter at our risk. The receipt of the Journal will be sufficient evidence to subscribers that their remittances have been received.

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

HAMILTON, CANADA, JANUARY, 1886.

ANY subscriber who will forward three new names and three dollars to our address will receive his own copy of the JOURNAL free for one year, from the expiration of his present subscription.

THE number of horses that should be kept upon a farm should be carefully considered. Not to keep enough will soon entangle one in the meshes of arrearage of work, with the loss that is always its accompaniment, while, on the other hand, keeping too many is great extravagance, owing to the large supply of valuable food required to keep a horse. It is always economy to feed well those which are kept, that they may be able to work quite up to the average every day they are in harness, as when the team is not able to perform a full day's work, the time of the drivers is lost in equal proportion with that of the team. The number of horses required to be kept on a farm must be determined by the exigencies of each individual case. Much depends upon the nature of the soil, the system of farming followed, the length of the rotation, and the distance from market. While it is of the utmost moment to keep a sufficient number of working horses to enable the farmer to keep abreast of his work, every additional head of this class is to be placed on the Dr. side of the profit and loss account, owing to the expense of keeping it. A surplus horse is worse than a surplus waggon, as the latter does not consume any food.

AS is made abundantly clear in another column of this number under the heading, "The wonderful little island," that Britain has given to the world a great portion of what is worth having in the shape of live-stock, yet we find her agricultural writers urging the stockmen to higher effort in the direction of perfecting the breeds. Our Aberdeen correspondent in the December issue writes, "An encouraging feature of the recent sales, dull as they have been, which I would emphasize, has been the satisfactory demand experienced for the best class of stock, showing that it is only those that are likely to pay the breeder." Again, "It is good advice to urge upon our farmers to strive after the improvement of the local breeds

"of cattle. Further improvement is not beyond their reach." If this be true in regard to the stockmen whither so many countries have gone for long years to draw materials for stock improvement, how doubly true must it be in regard to Canada, with its hundreds of thousands as yet unimproved! Everyone should look in the direction of improvement, and though the advance be slow, as it is sure to be, we should be thankful providing there is an advance. It is only the self-satisfied in this line whose condition is hopeless.

OUR Scotch correspondent makes the very sensible remark, amongst others, which we give below, in the last number of the JOURNAL in reference to our export trade. In speaking of the large trade done by Canada in shipping lean cattle to Britain to be fed there, he says, "Is it not more likely that the American trade will soon develop into the exportation of fat cattle instead of the cattle being sent over here in a lean condition to be fed? Would it not be more economical to have the trade conducted in this way?" Certainly, we answer, and this is what we have advocated all along. It is strange to us indeed that our farmers have not been able to see the matter in its true light. A fat beast can be sent to Britain for about the same cost as a lean one, with the advantage to this country that there is no cost for freight of feed, and that the manurial product remains with us. The only way in which we can account for the large shipments of lean cattle to Britain is by surmising either that the farmers do not look into the matter, or they are short of capital. If, while so many of the nations have been pouring into the lap of Britain for long years materials for producing fertility, and yet the lands are not over-fertile, how must it not fare with the countries which deliberately rob their own lands? They cannot but fail to respond in time to the call of the husbandman.

WE feel quite sure that the series of articles in the veterinary department of the JOURNAL from the pen of Prof. Grenside have been read with much interest. Especially would we desire to fasten attention to his remarks in reference to the very common practice of feeding more provender than the beast will eat, and then replacing fresh upon the top of the old. He says, "Most kinds of food become stale when even left for a short time in the manger after being moistened and breathed on, and animals object to finish such remains. * * * Apart from the loss sustained, this plan is a bad one, interfering as it does in many cases with a proper consumption of provender." This slovenly practice is very common, especially when the work is done by other hands than those of the master. There is no reason why it should be so. It would be to the ultimate advantage of all feeders to adopt a different course, to say nothing of the benefit accruing to the master. It does not take long to remove the residue from mangers, and the satisfaction to feeders of knowing that by doing so they are doing what will tend to preserve proper relations between themselves and those who employ them must be considerable, which feeling would be strengthened by the increased improvement in the stock that would follow close attention to this particular item of the feeder's work.

THE new year has dawned upon us with a smile so cheerful that surely every one has caught up the inspiration, and is commencing life again with the strong impulse of revived hope. What a blessed gift is hope, without it we would look upon every good gift of a beneficent Creator with a jaundiced eye. The flowers would bloom in vain, the brooks would run in vain,

in vain would the birds send their glad songs to heaven, and in vain would the earth profusely pour into our lap her overflowing gifts. The first-born of renewed hope is renewed effort. Surely there is not a man upon the earth who has not resolved to make the year 1886 the best, the noblest of his years, if life is only given him, as he listened to the bell tolling the funeral march of the dead old year. Along with the other resolutions of the farmer and the stockman we can believe that their determination to go forward in their respective lines was strong and deep. The ground unoccupied in advance of the foremost in attainment is wide and waste, and surely every one of us will join the forward march and take possession. We shall hope that every stockman will do his utmost to have the best herd that he ever had this present year, and that every farmer will till his farm better than ever he did before. The power of human attainment is in a great measure hemmed in only by human effort, so that most men never rise to a knowledge of their full strength till it is too late to know it. We shall try and make the JOURNAL for 1886 the best in its young life, and we commence with the present number. What say our readers?

A SOMEWHAT amusing narrative appeared in that excellent English agricultural weekly, the *Mark Lane Express*, in an October issue, which contains a moral for many of us in Canada. It appears that Oudorp, North Holland, had not hitherto been visited by American buyers, to the chagrin of some of the cattlemen there. One of these, a long-headed Dutchman, hit upon a happy plan for bringing them. He bought a good, first-class bull, The Brave Hendrick, used him for a time in his herd, showed him at the Amsterdam exhibition in 1884, and won a first prize. He soon found an American purchaser, who won many prizes on him, after taking him to the United States, when at once the country around Oudorp was scoured by Americans in search of the offspring of The Brave Hendrick, to the great satisfaction of his previous owner. Now human nature is much the same in North Holland as in Canada. The objection is very common in neighborhoods where pure-bred stock is rare, that it will not pay to invest in it, as sales cannot be made at satisfactory prices. We know to our cost that there is much truth in this objection; but this thoughtful Dutchman, the former owner of The Brave Hendrick, has shown us what to do. Good animals should be purchased at the first, and they should be shown at the local shows if we wish to awaken a local demand. We must win prizes on them and in this way demonstrate their superiority over the old-time stock. It will not be long till some one will want to purchase of their get or to get animals as good elsewhere; and the pay day, when principal and interest both come back becomes only a question of time.

IN Great Britain the farmers have been considerably exercised of late over the large profits hitherto enjoyed by the butchers, and in some instances have taken the matter of slaughtering and marketing into their own hands. While we do not blame the farmers for thus trying to take their own part, we could suggest to them a simpler way of getting out of the difficulty, which is to insist on selling their butcher's stock by weight. We hope that good will result from this effort of the farmers; but it should be remembered that generally speaking farmers cannot be successful in their calling and successful butchers at the same time. The grand idea is to concentrate one's energies on his own particular calling, and endeavor to have its rights properly recognized, without being