

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

TWO DISTINCT PUBLICATIONS—EASTERN AND WESTERN

EASTERN OFFICE:
CARLING STREET, LONDON, OY.

WESTERN OFFICE:
IMPERIAL BANK BLOCK, CORNER BANNATYNE AVE. AND MAIN ST.,
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

BRANCH OFFICE: CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

LONDON (ENGLAND) OFFICE:
W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street,
London, W. C., England.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published every Thursday (52 issues per year). It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical, reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, United States, England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 when not paid in advance. All other countries, 12s.
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11. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve the Advocate, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
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Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
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Secured a Daily Mail.

A correspondent writes: "Thanks to the persistent agitation through the 'Farmer's Advocate,' and the efforts of our local Parliamentary representative, co-operating with the postal authorities, we have, after long years of waiting, secured a daily mail for our post office at —, instead of three times per week, as heretofore. More power to your elbow. Keep up the discussion till every rural post office has a daily delivery of mail. It is disgraceful that farmers should be compelled to submit to a service of only twice or thrice per week, as is still the case in many localities."

A Day for Mere Pleasure.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":
Regarding your comments on Thanksgiving day. In this part of the Province the country people, unfortunately, always appear too busy to observe the day as it should be. It always seemed to me as another holiday for the townspeople, as they are so tired from overwork (?) that they need all the holidays they can get, while the country people, who are really the ones that are bearing the greater portion of the burden of this world's progress, are not considered in the matter as a general thing. If this holiday were made a church affair, and services were held as on a Sunday, perhaps it would be better recognized in the rural districts, and be really a day for giving thanks and not for pleasure alone, as it now seems to be. M. W. SINE.
Hastings Co.

IF YOU WANT TO SELL YOUR FARM, WHY DON'T YOU LET THE FARMERS OF CANADA KNOW IT? OUR "WANT AND FOR SALE" ADS. ARE READ EVERY WEEK IN OVER 30,000 FARM HOMES. THAT MEANS ABOUT 150,000 READERS. THEY'RE THE BEST FARMERS IN CANADA, TOO. SOME OF THEM ARE SURE TO BUY IF YOU TELL THEM ABOUT YOUR FARM. SEE TERMS UNDER HEADING, "WANT AND FOR SALE," IN THIS PAPER, AND SEND IN YOUR ADVERTISEMENT AT ONCE TO THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, LONDON, ONT.

HORSES.

Weaning Colts.

While we have, on a former occasion, discussed this subject, it is important and timely, and it may not be unwise to again refer to it. The age at which it is advisable to wean a colt depends to a great extent upon circumstances. When the mare is in good condition and not required for work, it is often wise to allow her to nurse her colt until it is six months old or even older, but when the mare, from any cause, is not in good condition, or when she is required for work, we think it wise to commence to wean the foal when about four months of age, which, except in exceptional cases, should be the minimum age. We say "commence to wean," as we do not consider the sudden, and we may say violent, method of weaning colts, so often practiced, is rational or profitable. The future value and usefulness of the colt depends to a great extent upon his care and condition during his first year, hence we should avoid, as far as possible, allowing him to lose flesh or vigor at weaning time. The ordinary method is about as follows: When it is decided to wean a foal it is shut in a box stall or paddock, away from the dam, and is not allowed near her again for some weeks. In the meantime the dam is milked by hand more or less each day, until the secretion of milk ceases. Both foal and dam fret for each other, the former often refusing to take a sufficient amount of food, and the latter suffering to a greater or less extent from congestion of the mammae, and the milk that is drawn by hand serves no purpose, while there is no reason why it should not go to nourish the foal. It is not uncommon for mares to suffer from mammitis (inflammation of the mammae), and hence lose flesh, and possibly suffer to such an extent that the future activity of the gland becomes impaired. All owners of stock know from actual experience that it is unwise to make sudden changes in the habits or food of any animal. This applies to the animals under discussion as well as to others. We think, for the good of both, that the process of weaning should be gradual. Of course, a colt should be taught to eat chopped oats before weaning commences. We will take it for granted that this point has been attended to. Then the question arises, "What method should we adopt in order to wean the colt without causing fretting, suffering, or loss of flesh to either dam or offspring?"

The foal should be placed in a large, comfortable box stall, and better still if a paddock is in connection. Whatever enclosure is used, care should be taken to arrange it so that the little animal cannot injure itself in endeavors to get out. The walls, doors, fences, etc., should be of sufficient height to prevent him jumping out or getting his fore feet over, etc., etc., and there should be no holes out of which he can put his head, nor deep mangers into which he can get his fore feet, etc., etc. The dam may or may not be removed to another stable. In fact, we consider it wise not to move her out of sight and hearing, except she be used at work. She should be taken to the colt's stall and he allowed to nurse three times daily for a week, and then once daily, until the mammae becomes inactive. In this way the change is gradual; the foal gradually becomes accustomed to be without its dam and to take his natural nourishment at longer intervals, until he ceases to look for either; and the dam is gradually brought to the habit of being without her offspring, and the activity of the mammae gradually decreases and is retired of its congestion in the natural manner, thereby lessening the danger of inflammatory action.

In the meantime the foal should be given all the good hay (well-saved clover, where available, preferred), or grass, if it exists, and all the chopped oats he will eat. There may be some cases, but they are very rare, in which a colt will eat sufficient grain to cause digestion derangement. In such cases, of course, the supply should be limited, but as a rule he can have, with impunity, all he will eat. He should be given water at least three times daily, or, better still, a supply of fresh water kept constantly before him. Of course, if we want to be exceptionally good to him, and can afford it, the water can be substituted with cow's milk, and the longer we can keep up the supply of this the better for the colt. If the weaning process be somewhat on the lines indicated neither the dam nor colt should suffer or lose flesh, and we think that the extra trouble will be well spent.

"WHIP."

Origin of the Morgan Horse.

I saw in your valuable paper of Sept. 7th an article about the origin of the Morgan horse, in which it is supposed there is no one living to give definite information on this subject. My father took the Genesee Farmer for a number of years about 1840, and in that paper was a description of the old General Gifford Morgan horse and an engraving of him. He was a French-Canadian horse, sorrel, with white face, brought from Lower Canada by General Gifford

Morgan, and was crossed by the best blood of that time. I regret very much the papers were lost when I left the farm.

Oxford Co., Ont. W. C. A. CRAWFORD.

Horses at Fredericton, N. B.

Thoroughbreds were represented at the Fredericton exhibition this year by a solitary stallion, Mobekat, first in the three-year-old class at the preceding show in Halifax; exhibitor, L. B. C. Phair, Fredericton.

In Hackneys there were a trio of stallions. First in the aged class went to Stampede, owned by John Dickie, of Gagetown, N. B. Stampede was one of the horses imported by the New Brunswick Government. Second was Royalist, a horse of good quality but deficient in action, owned by H. C. Jewett, Fredericton, who also showed the three-year-old Briton, a nice, promising young horse, though not possessing action of a very high order. Sweepstakes stallion was Stampede.

The seven entries in the Standard-bred aged stallions were a good lot of horses. D. Duffie, of Fredericton, got first on Montrose Jim, a big, strong-going horse which had won first place in Halifax. Borbon T., owned by Mr. McKay, of Fredericton, got second, while R. A. Snowball, of Chatham, N. B., got third on Torbrooke. In this class the entries of brood mares and colts, while not so numerous as in former years, were of good quality and in good show condition.

The show of harness horses in the carriage class was very light and of only fair quality. H. C. Jewett, Fredericton, got first on single horses; there were no entries in teams. The brood mares and youngsters were a very fair lot, with some good specimens among the two-year-olds.

Light drafts were a very mixed lot, some of them far too light, while others might have gone in the heavy draft class. A few, however, were good animals, though not requiring any special mention.

There was a grand exhibit of registered Clydesdales. Copyright, by Baron's Pride, imported by R. Ness, of Howick, P. Q., and owned by George Yone, of Gladwyn, N. B., got first in aged stallions, while Garrarrie, another horse of Mr. Ness' importation, owned by Miramichi Agricultural Society, and shown by John Dickson, was a very close second. The third place went to a horse called General Warren, by Lord Chester. In three-year-olds, McQueen Yet, owned by Geo. Pugh, was first, same honor in two-year-olds falling upon King's Cross 2nd, by King's Cross, owned by Gordon Currie. The only female exhibited was a nice yearling owned by George Dickson; name, Orriston Lass.

There were no entries in registered Shires, Percherons, Belgians or Suffolk Punch.

STOCK.

New Corn and Hog Cholera.

At this season of new corn, the following caution from Wallace's Farmer is worth heeding, particularly by farmers in the corn belt:

"Inasmuch as various diseases which pass under the name of hog cholera make their appearance about the time new corn comes in, there is in the minds of farmers a suspicion, amounting in many cases to a conviction, that new corn is the cause of hog cholera. Using the term 'cholera' in a strict sense, this is a mistake; but the excessive use of new corn is very likely to start up diseases which may readily be taken for cholera.

"The man who uses up all his old corn and then makes a sudden change, feeding new corn altogether, especially without any other feed, is most certainly inviting disease, which may or may not be hog cholera, but kills the hog just the same. The excessive feeding of corn will not introduce the cholera germ, but its excessive and exclusive use will so derange the digestion of the hog that thrift ceases, and will so weaken the constitution that in case the germ of cholera should be introduced the younger members of the herd will speedily fall victims to this disease. Farmers at this season of the year should be very careful not to make new corn an exclusive diet.

"Another point: When cholera, so called, is reported in the neighborhood, use every possible means of preventing its invasion of the herd. Don't invite strangers to come and look at your hogs. Don't permit hogs from any other herd to come in contact with yours. If you buy hogs from any of your neighbors or from any other breeder, keep them by themselves for three weeks before allowing them to mingle with your herd. Don't go nosing around your neighbor's hog lots to see whether his hogs have the cholera or not. Keep away from your neighbors' lots, and keep them away from yours. Don't let your hogs get out onto the roadside. Don't allow your neighbors' hogs to nose around your fences.

"If you have reason to suspect cholera, send for a veterinarian at the very first. Clean up. Quit feeding the hogs corn or anything else except grass. Don't let them drink out of sloughs, but give them water from a well. Clean up your yards and thoroughly disinfect."