

from Lady Montague and Beautiful Belle, sired by Oscar.

Mr. Hart is well pleased with the Jersey outlook, and finds that the decline in prices of ordinarily bred cattle only tends to increase the demand for high class animals. During the past year the amount received for sales and services exceeded \$5,000, notwithstanding which the herd is thirty per cent. stronger both in breeding and numbers than at a corresponding date last year.

Many inquiries are received from the Southern States for cattle, the climate strengthening the constitution of the breed, and thus enabling them to bear the change without risk.

The farm itself comprises about one hundred and fifty acres, fifty of which are under cultivation, and may be generally described as a good hay and grazing farm. The barns have been rebuilt and a silo is to be constructed next summer. And so the good work goes on, and may it flourish and bear fruit until the thoroughbred reigns supreme, whether on western prairies or in our own Maritime Provinces down by the sea. We are pleased thus to be able to present to our readers a sketch of Mr. Hart's Jersey bull. It is the first that has been illustrated by us from the easterly provinces, and, to our mind, it affords substantial evidence of the growing power of the JOURNAL, even in the outlying sections of the Dominion.

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THOMAS SHAW, RIVERSIDE FARM, EDITOR.

To Subscribers.—Subscription price, \$1.00 per annum in advance. Single copies, 10 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, \$4.00. Clubs of ten copies to any address, \$7.50.

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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, MARCH, 1886.

Please examine your address tag. If it reads, Dec., '85, your subscription expired with that issue, and so of any month, and we will be obliged if readers in arrears will renew at once. We have no means of knowing whether you desire your subscription continued or otherwise, and we therefore do not remove any name from our list until we have been requested so to do, and though always willing to comply when asked, we can in no case do so until all arrears are paid. The terms are, \$1 per annum in advance; \$1.25 in arrears; sample copies, 10c. per copy. Always give name, post office and province, and if it is desired to change the address, give old as well as new office.

NOSTRUMS in the stable are usually an unmitigated evil. Sometimes it may be necessary to use a mild tonic or an alterative, but, usually, ignorant men are not the parties to select these. Horses, in particular, suffer severely at the hands of the domestic quack. They are drugged with antimony and arsenic to give them a nice coat. The groom wishes it to be understood that he is master of his business, and therefore resorts to the use of these deleterious ingredients. Usually, if a horse's diet is varied judiciously, and he groomed sufficiently, carefully worked withal, he will do quite well without the aid of these hurtful compounds. If animals require medicine, one who is ignorant of the first principles of their action is not the party to prescribe them. A more intelligent knowledge of the principles that regulate the health of live-stock is loudly called for, and we are glad to know that the printing press and our veterinary college are doing much to supply the want.

In selecting a bull to head a herd, it is not enough to know that you are getting a good animal with a good pedigree. You should satisfy yourself so far as you can that his ancestry are good also. It is important in selecting a female to breed from to make similar inquiry, but less so than in purchasing a male, as in the latter case the baneful effects of a mistake are confined to the progeny of the cow, while in the former these extend eventually to the whole herd. A fine looking male of only ordinary ancestry may bring only ordinary produce, while one less perfect of a noble ancestry individually may bring better stock. It is indeed a very vital matter, getting a suitable male. On this may hinge the progress or the retrograde movement of a herd for years. A few dollars should never be allowed to stand in the way of purchase if you feel that you are getting the right beast. Happy is the stock-man who makes a wise choice, and handles rightly after the choice is made.

BUT few men will deny that it is important that a farmer should know something of the nature and properties of the soil which he cultivates, and of the manure which he puts upon it; but who of all the thousands engaged in stock-keeping ever thinks of looking to the nature of the structure and processes of the animal under his care? The average cattleman can tell you no more about the action of the heart of his favorite beefsteak than about the action of the most important part of a complicated machine. The reasons are not far to seek. Intelligent reading requires the digestion of careful thinking, and thinking involves effort of a kind that most men do not care to give. And yet it does seem humiliating that one will work at structures all his days, only viewing them from the outside without knowing the slightest thing about their internal fittings. It would surely form a source of pleasure to cattlemen to study something of the physiology of their structures, if they but once get rightly started, and it would add to their usefulness on the principle that knowledge is power.

In many parts the march of improvement in stock-keeping goes bravely on, in other localities the stock is little better, if any, than it was twenty years ago. Twenty years of stagnation is a long time. It means a good third of an ordinary life. Yet now it is not too late to turn over a new leaf, for a few years of persistent effort may work a great change. The extent of the improvement that has thus been made can not easily be ascertained, yet we feel safe in saying that while in some counties of the Province but few of the cattle are below an average, in others of them a really improved beast is rare. The difficulties in the

way of improvement in such localities are much greater than where good stock is plentiful, but on no account should any one allow ordinary hindrances to stand in the way of the improvement of his stock. There is so much of a saving in the way of feed, and the returns are so much more satisfactory, that it does seem strange that those who are content with very common cattle do not realize the extent of injury that they inflict upon themselves. Get hold of a good male, and commence the good work at once.

NEVER miserly cling to his treasure with more tenacity than many a farmer to the idea that because he grows grain principally, he can afford to keep an indifferent class of stock, and to remain in ignorance as to the best methods of improving the stock that he keeps. One would suppose that persons possessing intelligence and good judgment in matters usually would see for themselves that a good class of stock will pay better than a poor class. The idea somehow has got deeply rooted, that because some men keep superior stock and get corresponding prices they alone are to be designated breeders, whereas every farmer who raises even in part his own stock is also a breeder. If it is wise that the ordinary farmer inform himself as to the best methods of tillage, it is also necessary that he inform himself as to the best methods of carrying on the other branch of his work, that which relates to stock-keeping. He is not a farmer of the first order who does but one half of his work creditably. He is like a tree growing in the edge of the forest, the branches of which on one side stretch out to the light, and on the other side they are dwarfed in the darkness.

THE value of fresh air to the human family is often dwelt upon in periodicals, but not too often, as, notwithstanding all that is said upon the subject, the suffering that arises from inattention to its advantages are very great. Not so much is said regarding its necessity for the well-being of the lower animals, and yet reflection will show one at a glance that when deprived of fresh air they must suffer equally with human beings. It has been ascertained by actual experiment in France that the percentage of diseases in military horses has been much lessened by increasing the space allotted to each horse. The danger here is increasing with the advances that are made in housing the animals comfortably. Oftentimes sufficient attention is not paid to the arrangements for ventilation, nor to regulation of these when so made. Placing a large number of animals in one apartment with every aperture closed down tightly, of course necessitates their breathing the same air over and over again the same night, which cannot but react very detrimentally on their well-being. Sheep, above all other classes of our domestics, will not brook close confinement. It has been noticed that where large flocks of them are kept together the number lost proportionately is far in excess of that which results from having them in small lots with plenty of room.

It should not be forgotten that feeding stuffs grown on the farm have three values, as noted by a writer in the *Country Gentleman*—a commercial value, a feeding value, and a manurial value. The commercial value is what they will bring on the farm, the feeding value what they will fetch after having been turned into meat or milk, and the manurial value what additional crop the manure will produce for a term of years after having been applied to the land. The labor is to be deducted. What the precise feeding value is must vary with the commercial prices relatively paid for the feed, and for their meat and milk products, and