

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, 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.

To Advertisers.—Advertisements of an appropriate nature will be inserted in the JOURNAL at the following rates: For a single insertion, 18c. per line, nonpareil (12 lines makes 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 \$1.50 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, AUGUST, 1886.

A few subscribers still in arrears will please renew their subscription at once. Please bear in mind that no names are removed from the subscription list until all arrearages are paid, as prescribed by law.

We have received a letter bearing the Woodstock post-mark, containing only one dollar. Will the sender please forward his name and address. If John Milton Terry, who asks for the June issue of JOURNAL, will please give his address, it will be sent at once.

We are constantly in receipt of letters similar to the above, which cannot be attended to from insufficient information, hence the delays, for which we are not to blame. Subscribers, new or old, should always give P. O. address and name with accuracy. If it is desired to change address from one post office to another, we should be advised of the same.

We have stated repeatedly that there is no money in feeding rough and inferior kinds of stock for shipment. And as the time is drawing on when stocks are to be picked up for winter feeding, those who expect to be thus engaged should heed well what they do. If at prices better than those that rule now, cattle of this class did not give an adequate return for their keep, how much less can they be expected to do so now? All such cattle should be sold off the grass to the local butchers, and for just what they will bring, and their reproduction should altogether cease. Although the number of feeders is on the increase, so is the number of stockers suitable for feeding. There is no need, then, for haste or precipitancy in making selections. If they cannot be secured of a suitable class in one locality, they can in another. Best of all, a number should be bred on every farm where they are fed, and these at least can be of that class which will give ample return for the outlay.

WHILE making a hurried tour of Ontario recently, the very large numbers of the various lines of live-stock running upon the highway caught our attention,

and from the numbers that were often congregated remote from villages, we were led to conclude that these wandering creatures belonged to farmers. It is needless to add that it was usually stock of an inferior quality, since observation has long since taught us that road pasture will not produce first-class beasts, and that first-class farmers think too much of their beasts to allow them to run on the highway. It has long been argued that the poor man should not be denied the privilege of pasturing his cow on the road, but how much does he gain, we ask, by pursuing such a course over the returns that would accrue from hiring proper pasture, and always knowing where to find his beast? Pasturing stock on the highway is a dangerous game to play. It is always liable to accident. It is also a source of great annoyance to farmers, who find it much more difficult to fence against those rascals of the highway than against their own stock. The fencing along the highway is a cause of much outlay, and might be entirely dispensed with if cattle were not allowed to run at large. This relic of the middle ages, like the keeping of scrub stock, is one of the things that must soon go.

NOT very long ago we heard of a party who had been negotiating for the sale of a pure-bred animal, and had been offered his price, but on learning that the intending purchaser was a poor feeder, he refused to part with the beast. We hold that that man acted wisely, although many may take a different view. Some will see only an element of selfishness in the act, but it is a selfishness that is overshadowed by a self-respect that is praiseworthy, and that has its charitable side, for, to allow an animal that has been properly fed to go where it is certain to be poorly fed and cared for, is not much short of cruelty. Then, too, there is that sacred thing called reputation to be guarded. A good beast is oftentimes purchased and taken to new quarters anything but congenial to its former habits, and through sheer indifference on the part of its new owner, it becomes a mere shadow of its former self. The neighbors say, "If that is all Mr. So and So can produce, I don't want any of his imported stock," and the prejudice against this class of stock is deepened and the love of the scrub intensified. Thus it has been that many a skilful breeder has been wounded in the house of his friends, and it is therefore certainly important that the seller have some regard to the habits of the would-be purchaser in reference to his care of stock.

NOTWITHSTANDING the statements of journalists and others, that we in America have enough of the blood of the old country herds, the current thereof is continuous in its onward flow. Not only does it run in the direction of America, north and south, but also in that of Australia and New Zealand, and in smaller streams in the direction of the continent. Why is it that in both hemispheres, in the islands of the sea, and on both sides of the equator there is so great a demand for British pedigreed stock? It is because it possesses *intrinsic merit*, because of its superiority. Britain possesses breeds of live-stock which have never got a footing in any other land, and just because their merits would not warrant the breeding of them elsewhere. If then, large draughts are made from other classes of stock, it is because the purchasers have found the investment a profitable one. It is certainly a high tribute to British breeders that America, which in several lines of manufacture is ahead of Britain, still finds the necessity of renovating their herds with blood from beyond the Atlantic, which would not be the case if the breeding there was not of a high order. Let our Canadian breeders learn a lesson here. On-

tario is fast becoming a breeding ground for other lands, particularly in the lines of beef-production and draught-horses. The standard should be kept high. Improvement should be the constant aim. The moment the standard of high breeding is lowered, the purchasers will see it, and will seek for what they want elsewhere.

Mortality Amongst Draught Foals.

The more that we travel through our country, we are the more strengthened in the conviction that the mortality amongst foals of the heavy draught type is very great; comparatively, indeed, much greater than it ought to be. If there is any method of managing the brood mares that will almost altogether prevent this, it will be worth thousands for the country to know it.

During almost every trip that we have made amongst breeders of the heavy draught types of horses, they have but the one complaint, which is, that the mares have failed to breed at all, or that the foals have either come dead or so weakly, that soon after birth they have died.

At a meeting of the farmers of Huron, held in Exeter last winter, we were asked our opinion as to the remedy for this state of affairs, and since that time we have heard of instances where breeders with a large stud have lost every one of their foals.

Where the breeding of heavy draughts can be carried on successfully—by the term we mean without the loss of many foals—it is unquestionably a paying business, and doubly so if it can be done, and have the mares worked moderately at the same time; but when high prices are paid for imported mares and large sums are invested in bringing them across the sea, and when they are kept idle during the whole or even the greater part of the year, and then either fail to breed at all, or lose their foals when they do breed, it is simply ruinous. Men with but a limited capital could not long undergo such an ordeal without going to the wall.

As nothing transpires in life without a cause, there is surely a cause here, and it certainly becomes our breeders of this class of horses to try and ascertain what the cause may be. Various reasons have been assigned which we stay not here to name, but we may add that our own conviction is, that neither the sire nor the dam is sufficiently exercised, but especially the latter. Many lose foals who do exercise their mares daily—that is, in one form of it—by turning them into a field or paddock. The difficulty here seems to be that the heavy creatures, it may be carrying a cumbersome load of fat, will not of their own accord take a sufficient amount of exercise, on the principle that a feeling of inertia soon overcomes the individual of our race, who has not taken much exercise for a time. Indeed, he will feel so languid, and wonder what it is that makes him so weak and will very probably apply to his physician to help him with a tonic. It may seem strange that any class of the lower animals should ever become thus enervated, as in a state of nature they seem to delight in exercising. But the conditions in which brood mares are kept are often other than natural. In winter they are confined in a box stall the greater part of the time, and therefore exercise infinitely less than if compelled to paw for their living amid snows which hide the grasses.

Turning them out into a large sod field every day of winter that is not real stormy, is a good plan, one which has been very successfully adopted by the Messrs. D. & O. Sorby, of Guelph, Ont., during the past winter. Oftentimes the snow is shallow, and they exercise a good deal while searching for the grass,