

what at a discount, but the purchasing power of the money, such as it then was, was sufficient to enable even the common laborer to live well, clothe and educate his children, and lay up something for a rainy day. This was when agriculture and stock-raising had a fair chance with other industries. Then came class legislation. Laws were made by which the manufacturer was afforded especial advantages, while the farmers and stock-raisers were left out in the cold. The money which in a normal condition of things would have been devoted to agriculture and stock-raising was diverted into the artificial channels offered by protected industries. The result of such a divergence from the natural course was that some one must suffer. Money in the long run finds its way into those industries which will give the best returns. When all were treated alike agricultural pursuits were most favored, because farming and stock-raising were then the natural industries of the United States. Finding this to be so, the Federal Government placed a premium on manufacturing pursuits to the detriment of agriculture, and for every dollar thus put into the pocket of the manufacturer some one had to suffer. Capital flowed into these especially fostered industries till they came to represent the most gigantic interests. The returns were extravagant—abnormal—and the manufacturers grew into millionaires by the score. But all this time the people who did the work and consumed these manufactures in the United States were growing correspondingly poor. Protected as they were, these goods could not compete in foreign markets with any hope of ultimate and permanent success, for if they could protection at home would be wholly unnecessary. The result was that the laborers, artisans, and farmers were really paying out the money that was building up these colossal fortunes. It did not come from abroad; as we have shown, it could not, so that every dollar's worth of protection made available by federal legislation for the building up of these monopolist millionaires' fortunes was wrung from the earnings of the farmer, the mechanic, and the laborer. This sort of thing could only end in one way. It must result in a death struggle between labor and capital. The shadow of this mighty contest is even now darkening the pathway of the great republic, and it is to-day the blackest and most terrible that falls across it. In referring to this matter recently Dr. Talmage said:—

"This is not a war like the Thirty Years War of which history tells us; it is a war of centuries, a war of five continents. The war has been going on so long and the middle class to whom the country has looked for their conservative mediation has been growing less until there will soon be no middle class, but all will be very rich or very poor. You may prophesy that this trouble, like an angry child, will cry itself to sleep, and think you have belittled it into insignificance by calling it Socialism, Fourierism, St. Simonism, Nihilism, or Communism, but that cannot hinder the fact that it is the mightiest, darkest, most terrific threat of all this country. Soon, the laboring classes will have exhausted the little property they had accumu-

lated under a better state of things, and unless there be something done there will be in this country three million hungry men and women. Well, three million people cannot be kept quiet. All the enactments of legislators, all the constabularies of cities, and all the army and navy of the United States cannot keep them quiet."

Fortunately for us, we have here in Canada comparatively few who are very rich or abjectly poor. We have the lesson before us taught by the history of the United States for the past twenty years, and it is not likely to be lost upon us. We have immense grain fields and pastures to work and to fill up, and it is reasonable to hope that for many years to come it will be our care and that of our legislators to make the most of the stupendous resources with which Providence has favored us.

#### HEREFORDS.

Mr. Frank Fleming, of The Park, Weston, Ont., has received advice of the arrival at Quebec of his recent purchase of 13 head from the Lenthal sale; they are now in quarantine. The celebrated Miss Brodie, winner of the 2nd prize at the Royal Agricultural Show is in this importation. A description of her appeared in THE BREEDER at the time of purchase. Five of the lot, including Miss Brodie, were served by Lord Wilton.

#### WASHING SHEEP.

It is becoming somewhat common on account of the low price of wool for flock masters to shear their sheep without first giving them a thorough washing. The *Agricultural Gazette* (English) editorially points out the penny-wise nature of this policy. It has been observed and proved beyond a doubt that lambs thrive and grow better after the ewes have been washed than during any other month of the year. The writer of the article gives the following interesting account of the manner in which sheep-washing is done in different parts of the world:—

In the south of Scotland all the sheep, before being shorn, are washed by being made to swim two or three times across a running stream or pool.

Pool-washing is most general, and, all things considered, is perhaps the best. Sheep do not wash clean in a running stream. A stagnant pool is much better, as the yolk of the wool, which consists of fatty acids combined chiefly with potash, being left in the water, acts like soap, or better than any soap, in scouring and giving a bright lustre to the wool. The pool should be about 25 yards long, 5 yards wide, and at least 6 feet deep at the jump, gradually ebbing to the point where the sheep can walk out on a well-gravelled beach. In a pool of this description the sheep can be washed very clean, if they get a good high "jump," and are put across two or three times. The jumping-stage should be three feet higher than the water. The ewes soon learn to jump into the pool of their own accord, and are much less liable to get injured than when each one has to be pushed in. Sometimes the washing-pool is formed directly facing the sheep-fold, where the lambs are shut up for time being, and having the ewes looking straight in that direction they then freely jump, and swim the pool to get to

their lambs. Tub-washing is sometimes more convenient for small flocks, and is certainly preferable to driving the washed sheep over dusty roads from some neighbor's washing-pool, if there is not one in the farm, as by the time they get back they are often as dirty as before.

Sheep-washing usually takes place about the beginning of June, a little earlier or later, according to locality or condition of the sheep. As soon as the new wool begins to rise, the sheep may be washed; and in six or eight days after washing they may be shorn. If the weather should become wet so as to prevent clipping at the time intended, it may be advisable, in some cases, to re-wash, if the wool is much soiled. The sheep should be properly docked before washing; thus preventing any dung or lumps of soil which may be adhering to some of the fleeces from discoloring the wool.

In Australia, and other parts, washing sheep in hot water is all but general on large stations. The sheep are first passed through hot water with soap; they take what is called the *soap-swim*, the temperature of the water being about 110 deg. Fahrenheit. When thoroughly soaked they are floated to a tank of cold water, and are brought by hand beneath spouts properly adjusted to play a film of water upon and into their fleeces. In most of these cases considerable outlay has been incurred for steam engines, pumps, and washing gear. Hot water washing is not, however, likely to be adopted in this country, while wool continues so low in price as it is at present.

#### Correspondence.

##### THOROUGHbred CROSSES WITH CLYDESDALE MARES.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN BREEDER.

DEAR SIR,—In my letter of the 4th of May I promised to write again about that most interesting subject, breeding Clyde mares to thoroughbred stallions. It has attracted a good deal of attention lately because, as we see in every direction, the demand for large and at the same time stylish carriage horses is greatly in excess of the supply, and as there is not at present any distinct breed of that kind we must get it by judicious crossing. Mr. Douglas and myself have apparently come to the same conclusions about it independent of one another. I also heard that a friend of mine in England had last year bought some Clyde mares to breed to a thoroughbred stallion, as I did myself at the same time. I have lately written to him, and hope to hear from him in reply before long. Crossing is not in itself objectionable, for, as a rule, the offspring is healthier and stronger than when both parents belong to the same variety, and the sad results of close inter-breeding are well known. In my last letter I stated that from a careful study of our most scientific men who have written on the subject, and from my own observations on horses and other domesticated animals, I recognized a great deal of truth in Walker's theory of inter-marriage, when he says that the organs of both parents are not blended but communicated in distinct series, the only modifications which the organs so communicated undergo being chiefly and altogether such as are necessary to harmony of action and such as are produced by