

## THE Canadian Live Stock and Farm Journal

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### Original Plans, Devices, and Ideas.

If you have an original plan, device, or idea, that you think would be of benefit to your fellow farmers or stockmen, turn to our March number and see how we will pay you for it if you send it to us for publication. Space forbids us printing the whole scheme in full, as usual. We would refer those desiring to know more of this to our January, February, and March numbers, where the premiums are given in full with complete particulars.

### Pure-breds in Canada.

In the *Farmer and Stock Breeder* of August 18th appears the fore-part of an article from Prof. Shaw, of the O. A. C., Guelph, on the "Live stock Interest of Canada," in which, Prof. Shaw truly states that there are good reasons for believing that a larger number of first class animals of many of the different pure breeds, is to be found in Ontario than any single province or state on the continent of America. This comparative excellence of our stock he attributes to at least three influences: the extent of our importations from Great Britain of pedigreed stock, the suitability of our soil and climate for its production, and the brisk market found in the United States. The *Farmer* is a live periodical, and the active spirit of its new editor (Alex. Macdonald) has made a vast improvement in its appearance and matter. Those interested in colonial matters, as well as many of our stockmen, will find Prof. Shaw's articles very interesting reading.

### Estimation of Pedigree.

In listening to a breeder extolling the merits of the pedigree of an inferior animal, we are always reminded of an exceedingly illustrative and somewhat humorous incident. A thoroughly characteristic Hibernian, and an unrepresentative Scotchman were two of a party of tourists that were paying a visit to the island of Iona. Before leaving the island the Scotchman, who was a very dwarfish personage, was harassing the rest of the party by continually chattering about the fine physique of his ancestors interred on the island, and his descent from a long line of ancient worthies. When they came to the plot on the island in which these relatives were interred, the guide referred to them as a race of giants. The Irishman being somewhat nettled, looked down on his puny manikin friend and says, "By the powers, my little man, ye may well say ye had a descent, and sure, what a

terrible one it was too!" Pedigree is not to be belittled, but it is far more legible and doubly valuable if written on the backs of the animals than if only inscribed in books.

### Give Them Three Cheers, Gentlemen!

With the advent of each recurring exhibition season, a new lustre is given to the already unrivalled prestige of Canadian stock. When our stockmen venture to enter the land of the screaming eagle they never fail to dazzle and entrance that high-soaring bird with their superb display of paragon stock. At the late Detroit International, Messrs. John Jackson & Sons, of Abingdon, were awarded thirteen firsts and eight seconds, and also won two medals, and a silver cup given by the American Southdown Association. This flock swept all before them. In Leesters, J. Kelly, Jr., of Shakespeare, Ont., was almost equally successful, as he won ten firsts and six seconds. In Cotswolds, J. G. Snell & Bros., of Edmonton, Ont., and H. Crawford & Son, Canboro, Ont., carried all before them, nine firsts and five seconds going to the former, and one first and two second prizes to the latter. The flock of H. Tolton, Walkerton, Ont., grandly represented the Oxfords, and secured five firsts and three seconds. We feel proud of such work as this, and our American neighbors should feel gratified that only such a high quality of stock may successfully compete with theirs.

### Galloways.

For rugged happiness, the lusty Galloway is the king of beasts. Whether roaming the highland hills, or ranging the lowland prairie, he successfully buffers with his vigorous spirit the hardest of stern conditions. Usuriantly coated with long and wavy hair, with underclothing of the warmest and softest down, he laughs in hearty bellows at the cold or the sleety storm. Under such a happy circumstance of qualities, it would not be rational reasoning to expect other than the luscious and beautifully marbled beef that is acknowledged to be particularly the Galloway's. The beef eaters of the world know this to be so, and the British markets show that they make good use of their knowledge. The records of the fat stock shows tell a flattering tale, for not a few of the prize carcasses at Chicago and elsewhere had blackskins for winding sheets. The Galloways are not jealous and vain of their merits, but with becoming generosity transmit them to others of lower lineage so fully that it is stated 98 per cent. of their half-blood progeny are black and hornless. As an extensive breeder concisely says of his protégé, "He matures rapidly, is hardy, and is happy."

### Responsibility of Breeders.

It has been said of Thomas Bates that, in referring to a certain favorite calf, he made the remark, "The destiny of Shorthorns depends upon the life of that calf." This in itself makes clear the high valuation he put upon individuality, and it also shows that he was feeling his responsibility as a breeder. We cannot venture to measure the extent of the effect of this recognition upon his after success; but it must surely have stimulated him in his work, and more or less favorably influenced the character of the animals bred by him. If breeders nowadays held like sentiments to those expressed above in respect to the breeds they represent; if they felt that every animal they sent out was determining the destiny of that breed in the locality to which it goes, not only would they be materially benefited, but the live stock industry would expand far more rapidly. A breeder without feelings of responsibility, or who is under no obligations to his customer other than those of the common luckster, does incalculable damage to the interests of the breed he represents; and, inversely, the breeder

who is fully aware of the honorable nature of his work, and responds to the trust reposed in him by parties at home and afar, as well as more than meets the obligations that exist between buyer and seller, adds a prestige to his work, a profit to his earnings, and a benefit to a farming community. If every breeder clearly recognized the sentiment of Bates, there would be fewer indifferent, and many less inferior, animals sent out to not only irreparably damage the reputation of the breeder, and that also of the breeds they represent, but the live stock interests as a whole.

### The Outlook for Sheep and Pigs.

In all countries sheep and swine husbandry are attracting more attention than ever they have before. British stock breeders have experienced a wonderful demand from our continent especially. At the recent exhibitions in Ontario the sales of sheep and swine were more than usually brisk. This is a matter of much moment to the whole country, and surely indicates that our farmers are rising to their opportunities in this direction. In no kind of live stock is there more money at the present time than in the rearing of sheep and swine, and since the amount of capital required to embark is not large, and the returns quick, our farmers will not be slow to profit by the means open to them to increase the returns from their labor. The Canadian sheep industry may be doubled in magnitude without encroaching in the least upon any other industry, and the same is as true of swine raising. As our pork packers and dealers find the supply inadequate to meet the demands of their trade and will find it so for some time to come, there is as yet not the faintest inkling of the market becoming clogged.

### The Light Horse that Pays.

We are of the belief that the scarcity of light horses of the best marketable type, is due to the fact that many horse breeders allow their own likes and dislikes in respect to driving horses to distort their conception of the type that finds the readiest sale. Standing in the horse ring at the Industrial, we were much interested in the exceedingly stylish appearance of a bay colt with wonderful front action. A veterinary friend, an extensive dealer, dropped the comment, "That horse without such light stepping front action would sell for one hundred and twenty-five dollars, but with it he is worth on the market to-day five hundred dollars." You could not induce one out of ten breeders to rear such a stamp of a horse, because they do not themselves see anything to admire in such development in front action, overlooking the fact that others admire it and they are the ones that are willing and able to pay for the satisfaction of their desires. Such breeders are selfish towards themselves to the injury of their income. There is a good demand in all our cities for stout, symmetrical, and high-stepping colts, such as a typical Hackney stallion would throw from those of our mares that are of good quality. The Hackneys are becoming more numerous in Canada, which of itself portends that some few breeders at least, are aware of the profitable market open to them. If we understand rightly the relations of producer to purchaser, it should be by far the most profitable policy of the farmer to produce what the latter will pay most to secure.

### The Age of Prize-Winners.

The action of the judges at the Dundee Highland Show, in awarding first in the champion Clydesdale stallion class to Prince Alexander, a yearling, over the noted Prince of Albion, has been considerably discussed on both sides of the Atlantic. The general opinion appears to be that the Highland Show established an unfortunate precedent. For our part we see