

it was followed by the blessed outcome of fruition. When the hailstones were thawed by the sun of reflection, men saw the wisdom of the proposal, and better judgment crowded out untimely prejudice.

About the same time one signing himself "Breeder" began writing in the JOURNAL in reference to what he characterized as "fraudulent" entries in the British American Shorthorn Herd Book, which led to the unearthing of so large a number of mistakes, that all parties became anxious rather than otherwise that the proposed union should take place. It was accordingly consummated on the 9th day of February, 1886, the brightest day we believe that ever dawned upon the Shorthorn interest in Canada.

At this meeting the following standard of registration was adopted: "No animal shall be admitted to 'registry' in the Dominion Shorthorn herd book except those whose pedigrees trace in all their crosses to imported cows registered in the English herd-book. Registration in the English herd-book of stock imported previous to 1865 will not be required. No recorded animals in the English herd-book that have not ancestors on record previous to vol. xxi. will be admitted. Those imported since 1846 must trace to ancestry distinctly designated, but owing to the difficulty connected with keeping proper records prior to that date, it will be sufficient to know that the ancestry has been imported."

To show how completely foreign to every one was the idea of injuring his neighbor, we mention that several voted for the adoption of this standard whose cattle have since been nearly all excluded from registry because of its adoption. To impute to those men the design of or intent to injure their neighbor would be about as just as to say they had intent to injure themselves.

Harm followed to a very large number, in the exclusion of their cattle from registry, with the corresponding depreciation in price that follows. The men who advocated union and voted for it are in no way responsible for this in the sense of being its cause: they were simply the occasion of it. Any reflective mind must see the difference between an occasion and a cause, and that difference is very great, for where the former term may be applied to a course of action rather than the latter, though the latter involved guilt, the application of the former might wholly eliminate it. The birth of the Messiah was the occasion of the slaughter of the innocents at Bethlehem, the jealousy of the cruel Herod the cause. So the occasion of the loss to Shorthorn breeders with rejected cattle was the adoption of the present standard, the cause of the loss, if we mistake not, had its root in unfortunate herd-book legislation many years ago, linked with a hankering in the minds of some for cheap cattle without due regard to an unquestioned pedigree, and to the lack of knowledge on the part of others as to what constituted a good pedigree.

What other course was open to the breeders? Legislation which will bring good to the larger number, is always justifiable, even though it cannot be brought about without harm to the minority. To illustrate: the duty on corn hindered the fattening of cattle, one of the greatest industries of the country, inasmuch as it prohibited virtually its importation for this purpose. Now if this enactment brought greater good to a larger number in Canada, we hold it was justifiable, not otherwise; and so of all imposition of tariff. This principle is or should be recognized in all legislation. Were it otherwise the owners of scrub bulls would have just grounds for saying the government was robbing them when it prohibited the evil spirits from running on the highway.

If reformatory measures can be brought about without loss to any one, it is a great matter. Where it is practicable to make compensation it is comforting to witness it, but where this is not practicable, shall reformatory measures be hindered in consequence? Where is the Shorthorn breeder in the Dominion who will take it upon himself to say that the amalgamation of the herd-books should not have taken place, because that in consequence loss was entailed upon a number.

Wherein, then, have the Shorthorn breeders of Canada injured a neighbor, and wherein have we harmed any person? We are sorry, indeed, that any one should say so, or even think so, and we leave it with the readers of the JOURNAL each to decide for himself as to whether we are innocent or guilty. And we are quite content to abide by the verdict of this and coming generations, as to whether by our action in this matter we have aided or hindered progress in the great interest of Shorthorn breeding in Canada.

It is very comforting to us to know that the only charge of this nature brought against us is that written by "Stock-breeder," and his is the only name that we have lost as a subscriber in this connection. We cannot but think if he had the revising of this letter now, he would place it with the things that were.

The Hog That is Wanted.

It is an absolute necessity with the producer of food that he provide an article adapted to the tastes of the people who are to consume it, else they will not come back to him for more. Pork has for long been a staple of the workingman, and in years gone by he wanted it fat and heavy, of the kind that would produce a large amount of drip, the place of which is now happily supplied in many instances with butter. This taste was further fostered by the fact that formerly pork was much more heavily salted than it is to day, so that the extent of its fatness was not so perceptible. The better methods of curing now practised leave it sweet and tender, so that it bears no little resemblance to fresh meat, hence the general desire now is amongst consumers to get tender young meat with fat and lean alternating.

This taste, so decidedly pronounced of late, is revolutionizing the pork trade, and the sooner our Canadian farmers recognize the fact and act upon it, the better for all concerned.

In conversation, not very long since, with Mr. Wm. Davies, Toronto, one of the most extensive pork merchants of the Dominion, we learned that young and light pork, of hogs weighing from 160 to 210 lbs. when cured, brought fully one cent per pound more than the old-time hog of 250 to 400 lbs.

This revolution should be hailed with satisfaction by the farmer, and he should govern himself accordingly. Doing so will prove very materially to his gain, rather than to his loss. Owing to their prolificacy pigs can be multiplied rapidly, so that slaughtering at an early age will not interfere with the obtaining of supplies, as it would with the beef supply, if the taste of the consumer demanded the death of the calf at an early age.

The great gain to the farmer lies here. It will not cost him nearly so much per pound to raise a hog that weighs 180 lbs. as to raise one that weighs 360 lbs.; or to put it differently, it will not cost him so much to raise two hogs weighing 180 lbs. as to raise one weighing the same. This is owing to the fact that the possible gains per day recede from the birth period, so that as age advances every preceding pound of meat takes less food to produce it than the one

following. Notwithstanding, it would be possible to reach a period too near that of birth, where slaughter would be profitable, as the rearing of the sow and her keep during the whole period of maternity is to be considered. This early maturity "craze," as some term it, is one of the greatest blessings that ever came to the farming community, and if intelligently practised in pork-raising, will, in this branch as in others of the live-stock interest, prove a means of saving tens of thousands to the country every year.

Pigs farrowed in April can easily enough be made to weigh 180 to 210 lbs. by the time that October arrives, and on until December, thus allowing them to grow in that season which is far the most favorable to their growth—the summer. We incline to the belief that a pound of pork made in the winter will cost at least one-third more to produce it than in the summer, owing to the less favorable conditions. By having them come in good time in the spring, they may be pushed on rapidly until they reach the required weights and turned into money before the period arrives when their keep will be more costly, and the gains much less rapid.

We have another item in this connection that our Canadian pork-raisers will be pleased to hear. It is this—that Canadian pork is more profitable to the merchant and more sought by the consumer than American. The reason is not far to seek. American pork is made by feeding corn more than anything else. The diet of Canadian pigs is essentially mixed, containing more of the flesh-forming ingredients and less of the carbonaceous, and therefore the quality is better, owing to the admixture of fat and lean.

The supplies of the pork merchants are now drawn very largely from the United States, which makes it clear that there is wide room for the extension of pork raising in Canada. With the extension of dairying the business must increase, as the skim-milk cannot well be devoted to a better use, unless it be in the rearing of calves.

The rearing of pigs in winter is a problem that is not as yet well worked up. Our best and most experienced breeders seem to think that it is hazardous work at the best, but we should all bear in mind that while much attention has been given of late to the construction of good cattle stables, very little has been done by way of providing suitable piggeries. With a proper place for keeping them, a mixed diet to feed them, and the exercise of due care in the feeding, there is no saying what may not yet be accomplished in this line.

There can be no question that a pound of pork will always be made more cheaply in the grass period than at any other time, but we presume our pork merchants do not wish all their supplies for the year to be rushed upon them between September and January, and therefore the advisability of giving attention to pork production at other seasons.

In the meantime our farmers should let the old-time 350 pound hog go, and take to the breeding of the 180 pounder. There is no more use in trying to stem the current of taste in the matter of foods, than to stem the tide of fashion in ladies' wardrobes. How much better it is to submit to the inevitable, even though it should involve the burial of dear old practices, and in this case all the more so when it is attended with so much more profit.

THE readers of the JOURNAL, when writing concerning live stock, implements, etc., advertised in its columns, will oblige us very much by mentioning that they saw the same advertised in the CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.