

land," Springboro', Penn., give especial attention to the exercising of their animals, and as a matter of course, have little or no disappointments from failing to breed.

### Breeders' Directory.

Our patrons will notice the re-arrangement of the breeders' cards in this number, which are now classified and placed under distinctive headings. Some individuals of course breed several classes of pure-bred stock, which renders the classification more difficult, but our idea is to place the card under that heading which gives prominence to the leading line of stock bred. We felt that the *extent* of the patronage given the JOURNAL in this department called for such classification, which enables the reader at once to light upon the class of breeders he is looking for without going over the whole list. If any who have favored us with their cards would prefer them under a different heading, they will oblige us with a postal card saying so. The stockmen who have not thus forwarded their cards for insertion should not fail to do so at once. For the nominal cost of \$1 per line per annum they can advertise their work amongst several thousands of the leading farmers scattered throughout the whole Dominion. No man who breeds pure-bred stock and is not advertising otherwise, should fail to be enrolled.

### The Color Prejudice.

In the February number of the JOURNAL our Scottish correspondent dwells upon the significant fact that in the herd of A. Cruikshank, Sittyton, and W. S. Marr, Uppermill, some of the most potent sires have been white. He speaks of them as not only possessing high individual merit, but they have shown themselves capable in a remarkable degree of transmitting their good qualities. In this country a white bull will not be allowed to head a herd of even grade cows. Indeed, so far has the prejudice in regard to color gone, that white bull calves, no matter what the pedigree, are reserved only for beefing purposes. Some of the most famous Shorthorn bulls and cows in Britain, both in the past and present, are white. White animals led the ring at the Royal in 1884, and white bullocks have prevailed in the fat stock showings both here and in the United States. In the face of such facts as these, is it not worth while pondering the question as to whether the Shorthorn breeders in America are not making a mistake when they so persistently try to eradicate the color?

We have no doubt but that it can be eradicated altogether. A certain line of breeding will accomplish this; but why should it be eradicated? If done at the expense of size and quality, where will be the gain?

From time immemorial white has been a legitimate color of this breed. They have been designated from the first the "red, white and roan," but we Americans are bent upon obliterating the white element, unless so far as it may be absorbed by the roan.

Were the white cattle of this breed usually inferior to those of the other colors, there need be no concern, but when they have proved themselves, if anything, superior, it is surely time for the leaders in this movement to pause. Men allow themselves to be bound with the omnipotent cords of fashion and then to be carried with the crowd; but the crowd often does senseless things.

If the reds can show superior merit, we have not a word to say. If there are sound reasons as to why the reds should carry the day, we hold our peace; but let us hear those reasons. Do not the whites feel the heat of summer less? while the cold in winter makes

but little difference, so long as there is the same quantity of hair. The only reason that we have ever heard advanced in favor of the reds is, that "I like the color better"—words that any child can repeat. So far as we can see, there would be more reason in crowding out the reds than whites, as the latter have so often led, both in quantity and quality.

We do not ask of anyone, single handed and alone, to champion the cause of the whites, which would perhaps be a ruinous undertaking in face of the prejudices of an entire continent. If it were simply a matter of moral courage apart from dollars and cents, it would be different; but we do ask of breeders to consider whether it would not be a step in the right direction to concentrate their energies on the improvement of quality rather than on the production of colors.

### Ewes Disowning their Lambs.

Unnatural mothers of this class are sometimes found to the sorrow of every shepherd, and parties are oftentimes at a loss to know what to do with either the perverse dam or the unfortunate offspring. Many catch the ewe frequently, and suckle the lamb; but this, in addition to the labor involved, often allows the lamb to fare ill by the long intervals that often recur during which it must go without any supplies. Others tie the mother; but this does not answer well, as the dam, being able to thresh about, makes no scruple of treading down the much wronged lamb. A better way is to put the ewe in the reformatory, which, for the good of all concerned, we shall now describe. We built a reformatory last winter for a stubborn imported ewe, acting upon the advice and under the direction of our Southdown friend, Mr. John Jackson, of "Woodside," and it answered so well that the lamb at first disowned became the first prize-winner at Montreal and second at Ottawa. In building it, select a wall which the sheep is to stand facing. Place two scantlings, say two feet long, on end, about three feet apart, and some 18 inches or less out from the wall, nail a strip on the top of these two uprights and one also between them at the bottom. Board over the frame thus made, the boards standing upright with an opening for the neck of the sheep, but not sufficiently large to allow of her drawing back her head. The upright boards that partially enclose the neck should be hollowed out and smoothed with a knife, and one of them nailed to its place after the sheep has been placed in position, and the opening should admit of the sheep raising and lowering her head, in which case also she can lie down. This frame is placed firmly in position at the distance above mentioned from the wall, leaving the ends of the enclosure where the head is imprisoned open, which admits of providing meat and drink. The lamb can in this way take vengeance on the heartless mother by getting drink at will. A few days in the reformatory is generally sufficient. If any of our readers have tried it unsuccessfully or may yet do so and find it a failure, they will confer a favor by letting us hear from them.

### Herefords.

The attention of Hereford breeders is called to the new rules governing entries in the American Hereford Record, published in our advertising columns of this issue. It would be well for all owners of Herefords to read very carefully rules (4) and (5) and see that they comply with the requirements thereof, as they may, by disregarding, be debarred from recording their stock.

It is understood that a strict adherence to these rules will be maintained, and that no exceptions will be allowed.

### Purchasing Pedigreed Sires.

The present is the time to invest in pure-bred males as sires, by individuals wanting them. The season has arrived when, if not secured, most of the really good ones shall have been picked up, especially in the line of horses and cattle, but more particularly in the latter. The depression has affected sensibly the prices, as was to be expected, but not to the same extent as other products, which renders it unlikely that a more favorable opportunity will occur for investment in this direction for a long time.

While individuals should never purchase an inferior sire, though possessing a pedigree tracing into the last century, it is important that grades should be discarded, however good individually. It is owing to the demand for grade sires that so largely prevails, that these are kept, and so long as there is this demand, there will in all probability be the supply. We will readily concede that some good grade sires have been used in the past, animals that produced good stock, but it has been demonstrated over and over again that it is a practice that is not safe, owing to the tendency to revert to former types in the line of descent. It is very unwise to pick up an inferior registered male simply because he can be got cheaply. It may seem to be a saving at present, but when we take in the depreciation that follows with all his get, the loss far more than counterbalances the apparent saving on the first cost. The time will come in the history of live-stock when ordinary specimens of either sex will be so more kept to breed from, though it may be a long way off in the distance. A golden day it will be when it comes, as the average capabilities of every breed will then be measurably raised. Had every inferior Shorthorn that ever saw the light been sent off to the shambles at an early age, what a magnificent showing the survivors would present to-day! Until that day comes, inferior specimens will be kept, but the owners of grades should leave them in the hands of the breeder in every instance.

When we urge upon the stockmen of our country to use only first-class sires from pedigreed ancestry, we know that we shall be charged with pleading the cause of the breeders of pure-bred stock. We repudiate the imputation. We are pleading the cause of the stockmen of the Dominion; and when we urge upon those who have naught but grades, from this day onward to use only pure-bred sires, and good ones at that, we claim that we are doing *them* a greater kindness than the breeders. It is either true or it is not true, that grade sires should not be used where the offspring is to be kept. Repeated experiences have proved, in unnumbered instances, that it is true, and we have never met with one substantial argument showing that it is not true. If it were not true, then every breeder of pure-bred stock in the world is laboring under a delusion, and as the number is constantly increasing, the live-stock world with all its boasted advance is going backward. We believe it true what we have stated, and we therefore urge it upon the consideration of those who breed but grades.

It is a matter of some importance in selecting sires as to whom they are purchased from. A breeder who has not an unsullied reputation for integrity should be shunned by the man who is seeking sires, as a most dangerous character, especially if the would-be purchaser is not a good judge. It affords us sensible pleasure to recommend the advertisers in the JOURNAL. They embrace a large number of the very best breeders in the country in their respective lines, and although we cannot vouch for the correctness of every statement in the advertising columns, we are convinced that they are substantially correct. In such a