

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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AND N.-W. T.

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ocean from British Columbia, it would appear that Canada should be destined to no inconsiderable share in this harvest of Oriental commerce, and, should no unfortunate national complications ensue, an increased prosperity for the Dominion would seem to be more by way of prospect than dream. China is just beginning to take kindly to wheaten bread, and in this field alone there should be scope for a tremendous exportation once the fashion becomes a broadcast one. Japan, on the other hand, has already established regular steamship services to London, Bombay, Australia, Seattle, San Francisco, Hong Kong and many Chinese ports. Has the Dominion of Canada no attractions which might also win from her the beating a regular track across the sea?

The carloads of Boston schoolmarms who have recently done Western Canada, disentrained at the new C. P. R. depot, which reminded some of them of the Doge's palace, Venice, and others the Vatican. Among other sights they were shown the Winnipeg fair poster, which was looked at carefully through smoked glasses!

The attempt of an enterprising Yankee to lease the fair grounds as a frog farm has been shelved by some of the aldermen with an eye to re-election, who, though slightly discouraged about municipal ownership owing to the week-end burnings of the civic asphalt plant, are yet anxious to make the experiment.

Visitors from the country to the fair admire the water-power going to waste at the subway. This miniature Niagara could run a couple of turbines all right.

The boat service on the "Midway" was execrable this year; no life preservers were pro-

vided, and there were no restrictions re overcrowding.

The Department of Education may, we understand, get out a new text-book for the schools, if the Industrial Fair directors continue to dip into heathen mythology.

A Winnipeg woman, in the Free Press, states that if Western women only had figures to gaze upon such as Apollo or Mercury, a la fair poster, the coming men and women of this country would be far better-looking. We can assure our readers that consultation of authorities, Thos. Shaw, Darwin, Huxley, et. al., inclines us to the idea that the maternal-impression theory is exploded.

Judge John Gardhouse will take a course in lassoing cattle at Calgary or some other ranching center before he again essays to judge cattle at some of the local fairs.

John Barron, of Topsman fame, thinks, if he had had fourteen years to do it, he could have drained the Winnipeg fair grounds. John may be an authority on Shorthorns and draining a municipality, but when it comes to working a city council—oh, no, John!

Winnipeg set the pace this year by rounding-up the toughs before the show, and gave them twenty-four hours to leave the town or—go on the Midway!

"Anxious Reader" enquired: "Is it in accord with your code of morals for fair managers to take a crook's money and then advise him to keep his eye skinned for the police?" No, dear reader, we do not consider it good form at all to mix with such gentry; we would remind you that birds of a feather flock together, and occasionally prey upon one another.

Editor Barclay, of Souris, whom our civilization, as seen on the Midway, oppresses, endeavored to get a touch of "the simple life" by coming to Winnipeg Fair by boat. He got here.

The exhibition board played a trick on the Winnipeg kiddies which will not soon be forgotten by the kids. Children's Day was set this year to be before the exhibits were in place. You can't fool the kids!

## Horses.

### The Cleveland Bay at Home.

An Old Country contemporary says: "The visitor to the Royal Show last week must have been very much struck with two things. First, he must have noticed how thoroughly representative the show was of our English breeds. In this column I have nothing to do with anything but horses, and to the representative character of the horse show I wish to bear tribute. The general public know and care nothing much about Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach horses. It does not know the difference between them; it does not want to know the difference. There is a difference, and a great difference, between the Cleveland Bay and the Yorkshire Coach horse, though in appearance they are very similar, and the Cleveland Bays that are on the light side—hanging more to quality than to substance—are frequently found winning in Coach-horse classes.

"The Cleveland Bay is the older and purer breed, and in these days, when it is the fashion to insist in some quarters that a new breed can be formed by an elaborate system of crossing, it is perhaps necessary to point out that the purity of the older breed should be maintained at whatever cost. It is really a matter of serious importance, and there is not the least doubt that English horse-breeding has suffered to a serious extent by the neglect of the Cleveland Bay.

"It is a pity there are not more of them than there are. There would be if it were not for the fact that the good Cleveland Bay mare will breed something that comes to money more readily than a pure-bred animal if crossed with either the Hackney or the Thoroughbred, and in consequence of this many good mares have been kept breeding cross-bred animals, with the result that pure-bred animals are now fewer in number than they should be. The Cleveland Bay, however, is such a good worker on the farm that there is no need to apologize for his appearance on any farm, and one or two may well be kept to advantage in many places where they are unknown. A very little effort in this direction would soon increase the

stock of Cleveland Bays, a circumstance which would tend to our advantage as a horse-breeding nation.

"What I would particularly wish to draw attention to in the Cleveland Bays is the improvement which has taken place in quality and action during the last few years. And this improvement has not been like some so-called improvements in stock, which are really changes rather than improvement. The modern Cleveland Bay has preserved the character and substance of his ancestor."

### Unsound Horses at Local Shows.

It is an old story that "like produces like," but the force of its truth can be seen on every hand, both in the human family and in the kingdom of lower animals. If visitors to agricultural shows care to observe, and in doing so take an interest in animal form, they will be amply repaid for their effort by the number of striking illustrations of the above law that will be seen. Last week I had occasion to be called to judge horses at a local show, held in the principal town in a Manitoba district, that I previously had thought contained many good specimens of man's most noble friend, but to my surprise I found that, in breeding the horses which were shown, but little attention, evidently had been paid to selecting a sire, and probably less in the choice of a dam. Of seven teams that came into the ring in one of the heavy classes only one pair was perfectly sound. Three had one horse with bone spavin; one had a bad bog spavin; a fourth had one with a curb, and the fifth showed two representatives with badly contracted feet. It was a case where only one prize was justifiable, but, considering the future interests of the agricultural society, it was decided to award the second and third, after advising the winners that they were really not considered worthy inasmuch as no judge is justified in awarding a prize to an unsound animal.

Coming to the classes for brood mares, unsoundness was equally prevalent, and it was, consequently, not to be wondered that nearly one-third of the young stock, including yearlings and two-year-olds, were unworthy of being considered, because of faulty conformation. At the same show two heavy-draft stallions were shown, and while both were comparatively "toppy," they were alike in being extremely plain close to the ground. There was, in fact, an almost total absence of quality. The bone was lacking in flatness, the hair was coarse, the pasterns were short and upright, and the hocks narrow and beefy.

After having one or two rings of horses of this class come before him a judge is apt to give vent to expressions of disgust, but later, as they continue coming, if he is a student of human nature, his disgust gives way to sympathy. When one sees an example of this kind of horse-breeding he cannot help believing that those who own the horses have not had an opportunity of obtaining a knowledge of horseflesh. It may seem unreasonable to arrive at a conclusion of this kind, but there is little doubt that it is the case. On the other hand, these instances show conclusive evidence of men who have apparently little desire to know a horse, but who persist in breeding a few animals because they are useful. There are, no doubt, many farmers of mature years, as stated in these columns a few issues ago, and a larger number of young men, who are anxious to improve their knowledge of horses and horse-breeding, and it seems to me the great lesson which must be drawn from such a case is that there is great need for public instruction in horse-judging, and for information in the laws of breeding that will guide in the selection of sire and dam.

OLD VET.

### Horses on the Holmes Ranch.

In connection with the illustration of ranch horses, published in our July 5th number, Mr. W. J. Holmes, the owner of Old Wives' Creek, writes:

"In 1887 I purchased from Jas. Barnard, on the north fork of the Sun River, Montana, fifty head of mares and geldings; some of the mares had foals at foot—I think about thirteen head. In 1888 I sold the geldings, which left me about twenty-five mares. They were all small, from seven to ten hundred pounds, and all colors. I started to use a French-Canadian stallion for my first cross, after which I have used mostly Clydesdales. I increased those 25 mares to 500 head during the dull times from 1887 to 1900, and as soon as horses came in demand I culled my bunch and sold all my geldings. I have now about 300 head—the picks of everything I have raised—and in the last four years have sold \$25,000 worth.

The above horses winter out all winter, and are held in pastures from 1st May to 1st September, and are not stabled at any time. Of course, I have to keep up my stallions, which are the only horses I have that do not get all their feed rustling. I am able to run this business with two men and myself for five months in the year. At the present time my horses will average 1,400 pounds