

lately reclaimed townships produces all sorts of roots and coarse grains in great abundance. Thus it will be seen, whether it be the desire of the farmer to feed hay, coarse grains, crops-in-the-straw, roots, or ensilage, he can easily choose the method that suits him best, and find in the back country the most favorable conditions for practising it.

But the special advantage offered by Canada to the clever and intelligent dairy farmer would be hard to enumerate. Not only would he find a cheap and valuable location in the back townships of old Canada, but away in the North-West, so far north that summer frosts were near being the rule rather than the exception, beyond the present boundaries of recognized settlement, he would still find that the country possessed in herself all that was really requisite to the production of really choice butter.

#### SHOW CONDITION VS. USE.

The following extract from a letter from F. K. Morland to the *Western Agriculturist*, Quincy, Ill. will prove interesting to our friends who brought the subject before the Industrial Exhibition board of Toronto. We believe that Dr. Smith V.S., Mr. Christie, and Mr. Rennie have made provision to at least make a start in the exchange class at their coming exhibition, so that buyers will not have to pay for the additional ornament of prize tickets. Mr. Morland says:

"The different classes of horses do not require the same preparation in fitting for the vicissitudes of the show ring. Roadsters, carriage horses, and trotting bred stock do not need to be fat in order to best display their fine points to critical judges; on the contrary, superfluous fat rather detracts from the appearance of this class of stock than otherwise. I never yet could believe that great masses of useless flesh add to the appearance or value of show animals, and especially of draught horses.

"The desire of exhibitors to show their draught horses in as heavy a form as possible, results in a great many show animals being rendered almost useless from the flesh they are compelled to carry. I take it that the true rule in regard to the condition of horses fitted for exhibition is their ability to serve the purpose for which they are designed. No one would ever purchase a roadster or carriage horse solely on his ability to take on fat. Such a horse would be more saleable in the condition in which it is desired to use him, as showing to the best advantage the actual quality of the horse. Perhaps it is the desire to show specimens of the popular draught horses of the greatest attainable weight, and the close competition in this class is to a large extent responsible for the specimens loaded down with so much superfluous flesh.

"There is one fact well known to experienced breeders, and that is that a defective animal will often show to much better advantage if well covered with flesh, while on the other hand the strong and attractive points of a really good first-class animal are too often weakened

by injudicious fattening. The experienced handler of show yard animals, familiar with the actual quality of the stock he is showing, will not, in the exercise of good judgment, need to fatten his show horse in order to make a successful exhibition. No animal, whether colt or full-grown horse, spirited roadster or slow moving draught horse, should be shown in fat condition."

#### THE GENTLEMEN'S DRIVING CLUB.

Last Saturday at Woodbine Park the Gentlemen's Driving Club race for the President's cup, took place. The contest was an interesting one, and those present enjoyed the sport immensely, but that was not the best feature in connection with the somewhat unpretending little matinee. The best feature of the afternoon's sport, and in fact of the existence of the Driving Club, is that it promises to begin the work of purifying and elevating the character of the Canadian trotting turf. The members of the Driving Club are gentlemen who are able and willing to pay good remunerative prices to the breeder for undeveloped or partially developed trotters. They have no use for "old pelters or ringers," but any *bona fide* green horse having soundness, speed, and suitable style will be sure of a reasonably good market in Toronto as long as the Driving Club continues to prosper as it is now doing.

Such races as they give will be invariably properly conducted, and should they control a track (as they are very likely to in the near future), the public can depend upon its being properly conducted in every respect. That such gentlemen as compose the Driving Club are sadly needed on the Canadian trotting turf there can be no doubt, but the only way they can be induced to attempt its reformation is to afford them immunity from contact with many of the vermin that now infest it. It is to be hoped that similar organizations will be formed in other cities and towns throughout the Dominion, and that their members will do their best to uproot the vices that have well-nigh rendered the name "Canadian Trotter" a synonym for that which is thoroughly crooked and unscrupulous.

#### SOME TIMELY HINTS.

For THE CANADIAN BREEDER.

As this is about the season when the poultry are hanging lazily around with their mouths open, if not protected from the scorching heat of the sun, it may not come amiss to give some hints in regard to keeping them cool. Among the most commendable methods is one I saw advocated about four years ago, and after trying it I would pronounce it of great value. Although it is almost too late for anything to be begun in the way of planting vines or such-like work, I shall mention some of the best methods of protecting the fowls. An inexpensive plan, which is at the same time effective, is to plant grape vines around the sides of the poultry yard. The droppings of the fowls

form one of the best known fertilizers, and will help the vines along wonderfully, and insure rapid growth and an abundance of fruit. The foliage of the grape is among the first to start out, and, though it will take a little time to secure vines that will have thick foliage, a substitute may be provided for the first two or three years by training morning-glories, squash vines, or wild cucumbers up the sides.

Having shielded the stock from the uncomfortable rays of the noon day sun there comes the duty of providing for them at night. In most of our Northern States and in Canada and in all of our Southern States the climate is sufficiently warm to admit of their roosting out of doors after the first of June, and until the middle of September. To allow of this, a little outlay of time and money will be needed, it being necessary to shelter them from rain and draughts of air. It is not necessary in this case to provide anything more substantial than a rude shelter of boards nailed together, and thatched at the top to prevent the rain from coming in. In most poultry yards there is a run which could be covered with plain boards, and although it would not be a very stylish looking affair, it would answer the purpose of the ordinary farmer, who does not care so much for style as for the comfort of his birds and the lining of his pocket book. This might be nailed up at the sides, and thus would be formed a three-sided house with the poultry house as the back. The roosts should then be put in this summer house, and a good cleaning given the old one.

In regard to the feeding of chickens in summer, one will find that scarcely two people he may meet are of the same opinion in regard to the amount of food that should be given in summer. Some advise the keeping of food constantly before them, others advise feeding them often but a little at a time, and some claim that they should be fed regularly twice a day. And there is always more or less of a diversity of opinion in regard to the kind of food to be given. I consider the over-feeding of fowls in summer one of the most dangerous practices in existence. I once heard a friend say that when he started keeping poultry he accepted the advice of a friend and kept food constantly before them. He said he followed this practice till he balanced up his account, and then, finding that the Dr. side overbalanced the Cr. side, he began to look around. He soon found that the hens wasted as much, if not more, than they ate, and he assured me he immediately gave up that plan. Another friend of mine once came to me with a very long face and said that his fowls did not do nearly so well as those of his ignorant and stingy old neighbor next door. He attempted to "pump" the "old codger" as to the reason, but could not. After watching the old fellow a little while he concluded that stinginess in his case was a boon to him. The following he found to be the regular ration of his fowls:—Breakfast for 18 hens consisted of about three quarts of soft feed; dinner, about a pint of mixed corn and oats; and a peck or so of grass and weeds; supper,