

Stock.

The Canadian Stock Yards, Montreal.

When in Montreal last summer, accompanied by our artist, we went to these stock yards, and believing them to be of interest to you we took this sketch from the top of the Canada Pacific Railroad offices. The yards cover a large space, and are capable of accommodating several ship loads of cattle. It is to these yards that nearly all your cattle are shipped before being embarked on the steamers for Europe. This trade has now assumed a great magnitude, employing a large staff of hands, and several lines of steamships. Mr. Kennedy is the principal proprietor or manager of these yards. Messrs. Acer, Kennedy & Co. have erected a block of sale stables for horses, and import Clydesdale and other breeds from England,

A Convenient Time to Secure Pure-Bred Males.

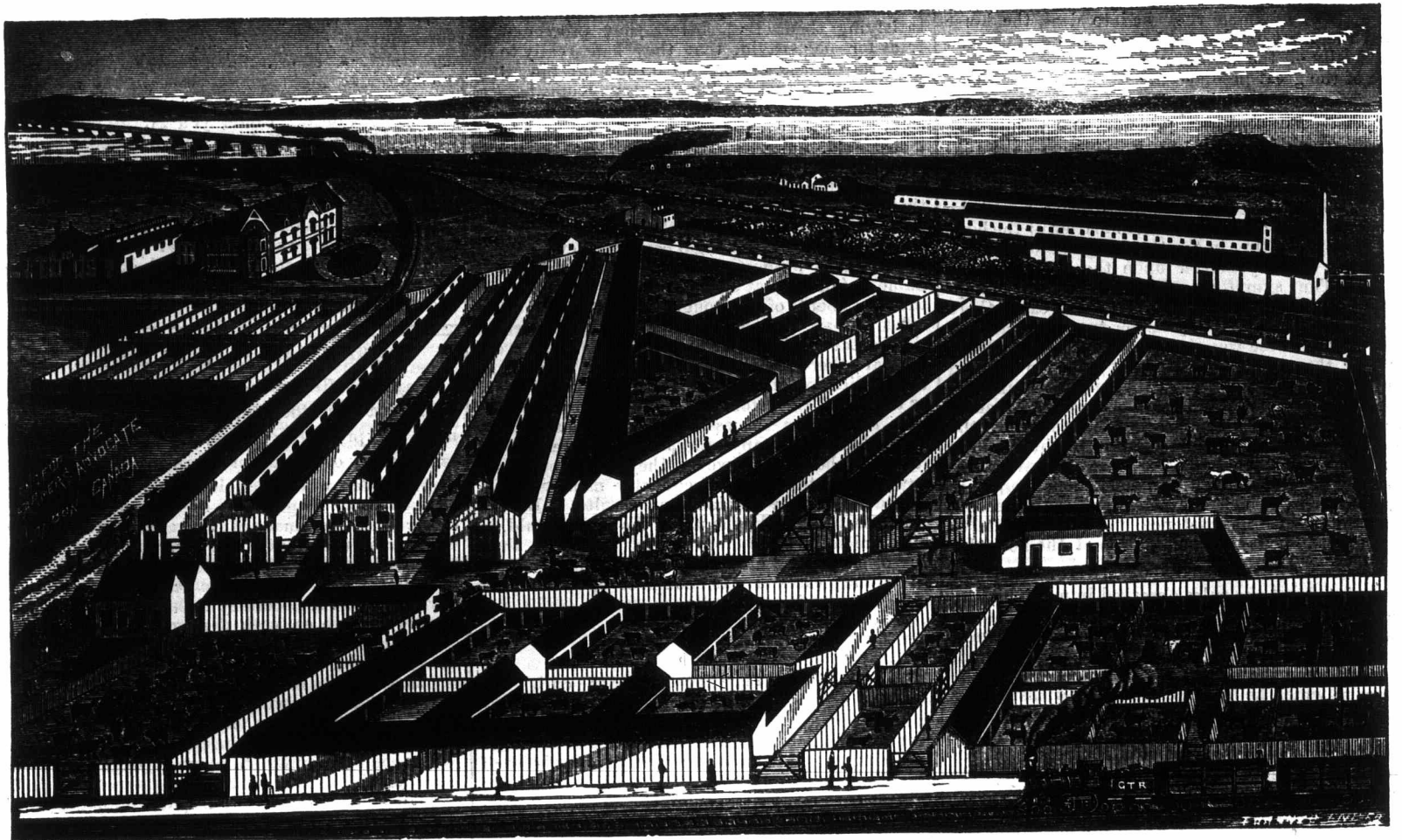
BY J. C. SNELL.

The present I regard as an opportune time to call the attention of our farmers to the advantage and importance of securing good, pure-bred bulls, rams and boars for their herds and flocks.

A word as to the best season to procure young male animals. I believe, on the whole, during the months of October and November is the most favorable time to secure either bulls or boars, and is not too late for rams, though they should be selected earlier. At the commencement of winter breeders are apt to find themselves over-stocked, when the young bulls have to be separated and tied up, thus taking up more room, and just then, in order to shorten up before winter, the lowest paying prices will be accepted. Besides, at this time, there is a greater number available from

High Class Breeding.

Few men go into the thoroughbred stock business with a proper conception of the real value of high class breeding animals as compared with native stock. The very fact of starting from a lower to a higher grade of stock shows some appreciation of the difference in merit and the desirableness of change; but it is not until the stockman has gone through years of observation and experience that he sees the full significance of good and bad blood. An advance of ten to fifteen dollars on an improved sire over the cost of the scrub will at first seem greater than ten times that sum paid with the matured judgment of later years. Many a man who buys his first blooded bull, with fear and trembling, at one hundred dollars, will afterwards pay three hundred or five hundred, with confidence, for a similar purpose. The ram or boar which to the novice seems dear at fifty dollars is often cheap to the eye of experience at one hundred. Not in breeding stock, any more than in general farming, in running a newspaper, in conducting a factory, or in anything else, can a man be expected to rise at once to the full measure and



The Montreal Stock Yards and Montreal Horse Exchange,

POINT ST. CHARLES, P. Q.—THE PROPERTY OF ACER, KENNEDY & CO.

and are buying and selling large numbers of horses continually. They have also a race course (a half mile track) at the back of the stables. They have also erected a fine, commodious hotel, and a bank is also to be built here for the accommodation of the business. In the picture you see the cattle stables and yards, also the hotel with the sale stables near it. The Victoria Bridge is but a short distance from the race course, and all passengers going through it pass in view of the cattle yards, &c. This property has been improved since this sketch was taken. You will all be interested in the cattle and horse market in this locality, as the ruling prices to be paid for your stock will be arranged here, and as this will be the centre for the stock buyers and shippers in Canada, this will give you some idea of what the stock yards and sale stables are like, and will be more interested in them as you read reports of sales,

which to choose, whereas, in spring, we often find that the better ones have been taken during the fall and winter by the wiser and more far-seeing, leaving a smaller number and a lesser choice, and, at the same time, a larger demand on account of so many putting off the time for securing a bull to the last moment; then there is a great rush for them, and failing to find one as good as they would desire, it often happens that buyers have to take what does not suit them or go without, which would be worse still; for a thoroughbred bull, even if he be an inferior one, will be found, as a rule, to produce better stock than a grade bull of fine appearance, because the blood of the former being purer he will prove the more impressive sire, and the good qualities of his ancestors will tell on his progeny, while the latter will be apt to breed back to his scrub ancestors. Therefore, I would say by all means select your males early in the season; buy the best your means or your circumstances will warrant, and always buy a better one than the last one you used, and then you will be most likely to perpetuate and continue the improvement already made.

scope of his business. Nothing but the lapse of time, and close application to the interest he has in hand, will develop one's thorough understanding of these things. It is unreasonable then to expect the beginner to walk right up in competition with the veteran, and with equal confidence invest his all in something concerning which he has only commenced to learn. Nothing, however, will so quickly develop one's capacity in this direction as practical breeding. There are numberless little points cropping out in daily experience, concerning which the oldest breeders and the most painstaking press will furnish but limited information—little things of such importance and value that they cannot be ignored. It is in his everyday work the breeder most plainly sees that the high price paid for a superior sire is distributed piecemeal throughout all his progeny, and is returned to his pocket in every developing point of superiority in succeeding generations. Here he sees, as he can see nowhere else, the supreme folly of allowing a trifling sum to stand in the way of securing a desirable and needed breeder. His ideas are constantly enlarging, and his maturing understanding works wonders in the mutation of