

ONT. As to the price we are not quite sure, but somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2.50

#### FEEDING COLTS.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—Please give us a good long letter on feeding colts from time of weaning until say three years old. How much grain can be given the first and second years. I have three percherons one year old which in February weighed from 950 lbs. to 1,100 lbs. each. I also have three last spring's colts, which at that date weighed from 550 to 600 lbs. each. How much feed should they have each year to make them good serviceable horses?

Yours, etc.,

ANSBURY GARNER.

Fenwick.

Please see article on "Feeding and Management of General Purpose Colts" in another column, which is an answer to your letter.

#### CONTROLLING THE SEX.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly inform me in the next issue of the JOURNAL if there is any way of controlling the sex of animals? If you know of no successful method, I would like the opinion and experience of old stockmen. I have heard of a good many theories, but they are like the signs of rain in a dry season, they all fail. I remain,

Yours truly,

S. CLOWES NOXON.

Fish Lake, Ont., April 13th, 1885.

This is a matter that has baffled the efforts of the ablest scientists the world has yet produced. Whether it will ever be fully understood is, we think, doubtful, although there is no saying what will not be done in the brighter days that are at hand. It seems to us one of those inscrutable mysteries as yet very closely allied to the unanswered question, "What is life?" Most that has been written on the subject as yet may be summed up by the expressive word *vanity*.

#### WIRE WORMS.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK JOURNAL.

SIR,—I have a field which is in good order. Two years ago I had oats sown and it was badly damaged with worms; and last year I had spring wheat and it was damaged worse than the year before. Would peas be good on it, or what would be best to put on, or how would you kill the worms? Please answer in your valuable paper.

A SUBSCRIBER.

We regret that we could not possibly find room for the above in last month's issue. We suppose "subscriber" refers to the wire worm (*Agriotes lineatus*). If so, it is impossible to kill it by any surface application without enormous outlay, as scattering paraffine, etc. The most effective way of destroying the pest is to keep the land under some system of cultivation that will necessitate stirring it often. It is only in sod lands that have not been molested for some time by cultivation that it is generated in large numbers. It does not injure peas materially. One giving evidence, as recorded by the Agricultural Commission, recommends sending children after the plough to pick up the worms. You might as well send them to dip Niagara dry with tin cups.

#### THE SHORTHORN HERD BOOK QUESTION.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK JOURNAL.

SIR,—While in your able article on the "rival herd books" all may be easily comprehended by the other breeders, yet it is not quite clear to the novice. For instance, you say that "our American cousins ceased to recognize our herd-book, with its standard of four crosses for cows and five for bulls," while immediately before you say "that the four cross standard was adopted by the Americans for a time, and that it is still adhered to in Great Britain." How could the Americans reject a standard equal to their own at

that time? and would you please inform us what their present standard? Again, if the four cross standard is still that of Great Britain, is it not quite possible that cattle imported from there may have for their fifth dam nothing better than common stock, of which many are to be found in that country still. If so, does it not follow that the seven-cross standard of the C. S. H. B. is a higher, and therefore better standard than that of Britain?

You also say, "that up to the completion of the second volume of the herd book no animals were recorded unless such as could trace to imported pedigree stock on the side of both sire and dam in all the crosses," while in the same issue J. E. Meyer says, "Pedigrees containing four crosses of herd-book bulls were admitted to the English herd-book," and adds that "this rule was adopted by the Canadian Board of Agriculture, and four-crossed animals were taken as the minimum for registration, referring, as I understand it, to the first volumes of C. S. H. B."

Hoping that you will find it convenient in your next issue to give the whys and the wherefores,

I am truly yours,

POSA.

Cut out the bewildering regulations that must necessarily gather around the running of the three herd-books, avowedly in the interests of the one breed in the one country, as was the case for a time in the

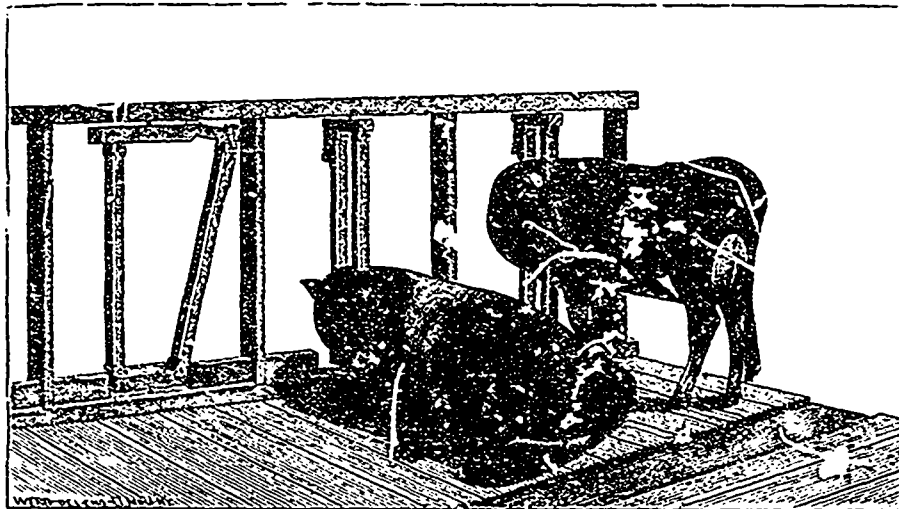
We conclude that Mr. Meyer does not refer to vol. i. and ii. of the C. S. H. B. when he speaks of the four-cross standard having been adopted by the Canadian Board of Agriculture.

#### Self-Adjusting Swing Stanchions.

This merciful invention known as Smith's Patent Self-Adjusting Swing Stanchions, of which Mr. C. D. Brooks, Addison, N. Y., is the proprietor, seems to give much satisfaction, judging by the numerous recommendations of parties who have tried them, both in this country and in the United States.

It is claimed in their favor that they keep the cattle much cleaner, as they cannot get backward, and that they give them perfect freedom of the head, at the same time holding them with perfect security.

We notice Mr. Brooks has made arrangements with the Messrs. Fennell & Anthes, hardware merchants, Berlin, Ont., for their manufacture and sale, and this firm is now prepared to furnish them, allowing discounts to the trade. Any invention that adds to the comfort of the stock is well worth looking into.



#### The Farm.

WHILE most persons will readily acknowledge the wisdom of practising a rotation of crops, few are, it may be, sufficiently alive to its importance. It is necessary that the different ingredients in the soil which constitute plant food, be all utilized, but it is further necessary that manures applied may also be fully utilized. Of all plants grown, none, perhaps, possess the inherent power of feeding upon sources of fertility in so marked a degree as clover. So voracious is its appetite in this respect that it may be not unfitly termed the scavenger of the soil. It is very important then that the growing of clover has a most important place assigned to it in any ordinary system of rotation. There is nothing of the miser about clover. Its rootlets penetrate all the particles of earth in search of hidden treasures, that these may be generously given back again to the happy agriculturist whose lands abound in this plant. Of all living vegetation we can least spare clover. Whether fed in the stall or in the meadow or given back directly to the soil on which it grows, its value is great. There is not nearly enough of it grown in this Canada of ours.

"THE LIVE STOCK JOURNAL is a most welcome visitor, and I now consider it head and shoulders above every other agricultural paper printed on the continent. It should be in the hands of every farmer. The last number, April, is replete with information useful to every one."—R. Marsh, Lorridge Farm, Richmond Hill, Ont.