

been reached, but when the same tempting prize was hung up the last night of the show, still greater crowds filled every available place, many having to leave for want of room. When Roseberry actually leaped over six feet eleven, excitement knew no bounds, and crowds flocked into the arena to do honor to this wonderful horse, illustrating thoroughly that it does not require outside attractions, such as balloon ascensions, fireworks and ballet dancers, when we find vast crowds watching until long after midnight with eager interest this wonderfully successful horse exhibition.

In consequence of our forms closing before all the fat stock awards are in, the report of which will be left over till next month.

The U. S. National Slaughter House.

This term may be appropriately given to the immense slaughtering establishments of Armour, Swift, Nelson, Morris and Hutchinson at the Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill. In Armour's establishment alone, two thousand five hundred are slaughtered daily. This refers to cattle alone, and there are doubtless as many sheep, and probably twice as many hogs killed. To anyone interested in cattle or the meat trade, a visit to these yards is of great interest. The Canadian visitor will be shocked to see the class of cattle that fills the yards. And when we learn that even the best of them are shipped east (in many instances to England) alive, it would seem that the western people have not as delicate a sense of taste as might be expected. At the time of our visit, the yards contained very few even medium cattle. One bunch of really first rate grade Shorthorns were seen. The next best bunch was a lot of dehorned and castrated bulls, while the rank and file were long-horned, thin fleshed Texans, that a London or Toronto butcher would not dare to offer his customers, even if he could get them for nothing. We read with surprise of the low price of \$1.50 per hundred for some classes of cattle in Chicago, and think it very low for any cattle at all fit for the butcher. But when seen, the only wonder is, that they find a buyer at any price. This class is, however, very profitable to the buyers, as the hide at a fair price, should half pay for the whole animal, and this brings the cost of the carcass down to a minimum. A knowledge of the difference in quality and prices here, should invite breeders and feeders to handle first class stock only. A pure bred bull of one of the beef breeds, used as a sire on a breeding ranch, would be paid for by the difference in value of one carload of these skinny creatures. The same feed would make much more beef, and the price per pound would be much more. The best bunch referred to above, brought \$5.10, while the poorer ones brought but \$1.60, or less than one third as much, and the better class is in much the best demand. Attempts have been made at legislation, to break up the centralization of the slaughtering business, but it seems doubtful if it has been in the right direction. These large and perfectly equipped establishments, have facilities for utilizing every atom of the animal, and what most smaller establishments would allow to go to waste, would prove a good living profit for them. It is generally conceded that they are in a position to make, to a great extent both the price of cattle and of meat, and that they make use of it to the detriment of both the feeder and the consumer. But that a decentralization of the business would prove beneficial, can not be for a moment entertained. Many western men think it possible and practicable for the feeders to form a powerful union, and carry on a slaughtering and shipping business.

Why Canadian Farmers Should Breed Draught Horses.

Before commencing the breeding of any kind of live stock for sale, there are three points that it is absolutely necessary for the would-be breeder to look into thoroughly, if he desires to make a success of his undertaking.

These are, first, what are the facilities for obtaining the materials with which to commence operations? Second, are the natural conditions of the neighborhood in which he resides such as will be suited to the class of stock in which he proposes to invest? Third, is there a market in which he can reasonably expect to dispose of his surplus stock, for the next few years at any rate? And unless a satisfactory answer can be given to each of these three questions, there is every reason to believe that the undertaking will prove unsuccessful.

Now let us see how these problems can be solved with regard to the breeding of draught horses in Ontario. First, as to the facilities for obtaining the material with which to build up an AI stud of draught horses, I contend that we can ask no better. There are but very few townships now in the province in which there are not to be found at least one or two imported Clydesdale or Shire stallions, and in many cases, more especially through the older settled districts, there are the best horses that can be bought for money in the Old Country. Take a trip through the country for a radius of fifty miles round Toronto and see such horses as Innis's "Grand Times" and "Defiance," Bell's "Pride o' Perth" and "Richmond"; go further east and see Porter's "Gold Finder," and the many fine horses in Messrs. Beith's stud, or take a trip west and look at Gardhouse's "King of the Castle," Fothergill's "Prince of Airds," John Duff's "Reform" and Sorby's grand old "Bojdston Boy," and I do not think there need be any more proof asked for. That we have in Ontario plenty of material on the one side at least to warrant us in commencing the business of draught horse breeders.

With regard to mares, there is no doubt but that in the older settled districts, such as the counties of Ontario, York, Peel, Halton, Wellington, and so on west to St. Thomas and Windsor and up the shore of Lake Erie, there are numbers of good rooky mares weighing from 1,100 lbs. up to 1,500 lbs. to be had at a fair price; while in the eastern counties, down around Prescott and Ottawa, and through parts of Grey, Bruce and Simcoe, although, as a general thing, the mares are smaller and lighter-boned, still there are plenty of mares to be found that, while they would not be suitable to breed to a very heavy horse, still would nick very well with one of the smaller imported stallions weighing say from 1,500 lbs. to 1,700 lbs., or if such a horse could not be readily obtained, with a good, compact, Canadian bred stallion of about the same weight, or even 100 lbs. lighter, and by this means a class of mares would soon be obtained that would make the introduction of heavier imported stallions a paying business.

Second, with regard to the suitability of Ontario as a breeding ground for heavy horses, there are, I think, but very few points in which exception can be taken to it. In a few counties, it is true, we find the land very hilly and rough, rendering the use of a lighter and more active horse a necessity, and in some of the more newly settled country where stumps still abound, it

cannot be denied that a 1,000-lb. to 1,200-lb. horse would be preferable to a 1,500-lb. or 1,600-lb. one for farm work, still with these two exceptions, and they take in but a very small portion of our province, we have in Ontario a country that seems specially adapted to draught horse breeding. We have abundance of good pasture and plenty of water, mostly on a limestone foundation, and these combined with our clear bracing climate and the superior quality of the grain we are consequently enabled to raise, have proved themselves most important factors in producing a quality of bone and a strength of constitution that is envied and vainly emulated by our cousins further west and south in the great horse countries of Illinois, Iowa and the other Western States; and this fact is in itself a very important factor in answering our third question, viz.: What prospect have we of having ready sale for our draught horses in future years? This is, I might say, a very important consideration in most cases, but I have no hesitation in saying it is one that need not trouble us very much, as I am satisfied that we will have no difficulty whatever in disposing of any number of first-class animals for the next twenty years.

There is hardly a city of any size in our Dominion that is not growing rapidly, and this means a corresponding increase in the business done at each point and consequently an increased demand for good horses suitable for heavy teaming, and as an increased demand for heavy geldings means an increased demand for stallions suitable for breeding such horses, those wide-awake farmers who have provided themselves with a stock of registered heavy draught brood mares, either imported or Canadian bred, will find plenty of sale for their colts for stud purposes.

But perhaps someone will ask, how about the American market, that takes so many of our best horses nowadays? Is it going to last? Is there not a likelihood that in a very short time the horse-breeders of the Western States will be in a position to supply the Eastern market with all the draught horses they require, and so shut our Canadian horses out, and as it certainly cannot be denied that the demand for heavy horses in Canadian cities is more or less limited, what about heavy draughts then?

My answer to such a query is that I have not the slightest fear of any such a state of things coming to pass. With regard to the demand for heavy draught geldings any one who will take the trouble, as I have done, to ask the opinions of the leading dealers in such cities as Buffalo, Cleveland, Boston and New York, will very soon satisfy himself that he need have no fears on this score, as he will in every case find the Canadian horse valued far ahead of the Western bred horse for these reasons:—

First, superior quality of bone, due to the fact that while in the Western States corn is largely used as an article of horse feed, in Canada its use as such has been discarded and its place is filled by oats of the very best quality, which, combined with our sweet limestone pastures and water, enables us to produce a quality of bone that defies competition.

Secondly, I am told by all the dealers whom I have interviewed that one very strong point in favor of the Canadian horse is his adaptability to the climate of the Eastern and Centre States, as they state that their Canadian horses are ready to go into hard work just as soon as they bring them across the line, while it takes the Western bred horses at least a year to become properly acclimatized and fit for heavy work.

These two points will also hold good in the case of stallions and mares for breeding purposes, but in their case let me add a word of warning and that is, although our draught horses have acquired a continental reputation