

cates are accepted at the custom house on the other side of the line without any delay to shippers, provided an affidavit from the breeder of the horse stating that it is the animal sold by him to the exporter, and one by the purchaser to the effect that he has bought it and is going to use it for breeding purposes, is produced. I would also advise the directors to direct that no more certificates from our office record be issued, to prevent their use to represent that the animals are recorded in the Clydesdale Book.

The audited financial report showed a balance of \$91.88 on hand. Since this statement this balance has been increased by \$219.

The election of officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows:—

President, Wm. Smith, M. P., Columbus, Ont.; Vice-Presidents, for Ontario, Geo. Moore, Waterloo; Quebec, Robert Hess, Howick; Nova Scotia, James McKay, Stellarton; New Brunswick, Hon. David Maclellan, St. John; Prince Edward Island, Hon. James Cowe, Murray Harbour; Manitoba, James E. Smith, Brandon. Directors, R. E. J. Bowmanville; John Bell, L'Amouroux; E. J. Charlton, Danforth; Robert Miller, Brougham; Douglas Sorby, Guelph; Robert Graham, Claremont; John Duff, Rockwood. Auditors, Frank Shore, London; J. Y. Ormsby, Springfield-on-the-Credit. Delegates to the Toronto Industrial Fair, the President and Secretary. Delegate to Farmers' Central Institute, D. McCrae, Guelph.

#### The Spring Stallion Show to be Held in Toronto.

The stallion show to be held in Toronto on the 11th and 12th of this month promises to be the largest and best exhibition of the kind ever held in Canada. Heretofore the Clydesdales were the only class for which prizes were given. This year a full list of prizes are given to the following sorts: Thoroughbred, Carriage or Coach, Roadsters, Hackneys, Suffolk Punch, Percherons, Shires and Clydesdales. The regular exhibition rates will be allowed by the R. R. Companies to persons attending as visitors or exhibiting at this show. By applying to Mr. Henry Wade, Toronto, any of our readers may obtain free of charge the prize list.

#### Fat Stock Shows.

A few thoughts on the present aspects and future prospects of our fat stock shows may not be considered out of place at this time. When we consider the vast importance of the live stock industry of our country, the fact that it brings into the country more money than any other industry we have, and that to this we must look mainly for the means of keeping up the fertility of our farms, it becomes our duty to do all in our power to encourage and foster it.

The breeding of improved stock is being encouraged by the various agricultural and exhibition associations by the offering of prizes at the annual fairs, but feeders for the market or the shambles have had but little of this sort of stimulus given them, and yet of all men engaged in the live stock business they deserve to be encouraged. It requires a large amount of patient, persistent work and close attention to make a success of feeding for the best results in preparing stock for either the export trade or for the fat stock shows. There is not often much money in it for the man who does the most work, but it would be ill for the country if this work were not done, and the men who do it are public benefactors.

To our mind there are few more interesting shows of live stock than the fat stock shows. To see a select lot of well-bred stock fully ripened for the shambles at an early age is, to a lover of good stock, a very interesting sight, and it is a wonder, with so little encouragement given, that so fine a display of fat stock can be secured as was seen at the late show at Guelph.

When we compare the very meagre prize list offered at Guelph with that offered at Chicago, and compare the quality and finish of the animals

brought out, there can be no doubt that if one-half the encouragement that is given there were given here we could have a display of stock that would easily eclipse the great show at Chicago. Our stockmen are more skillful feeders, and the greater variety of feeds used here bring out a larger percentage of high class animals, and the plodding industry of our farmers secures the best results.

The work of sustaining a fat stock show is one in which a good deal of the same sort of persistency and patience that the feeder displays in his calling is required. The history of these shows in Canada proves that they have not been sufficiently popular to draw large crowds of visitors, and hence they have not been self-sustaining. Indeed, in many cases the gate receipts have not been more than is often secured at a country tea party. This is one of the difficulties in the way of those who have tried to keep up these shows; and while it is a serious one, we submit that it ought not to be allowed to prove a fatal one. In our opinion the government, through its agricultural department, is in duty bound to recognize and foster an industry on which so largely the prosperity of the country depends; and it should not be expected that such an institution should be self-sustaining.

We have many institutions of an educational character which are constantly receiving government aid and are not expected to pay expenses—directly in a pecuniary way—yet we all agree that they should be sustained and made efficient at any reasonable cost. Since the large industrial associations have taken up the exhibition work formerly done by the Agriculture and Arts Association, and public opinion, whether rightly or wrongly time will tell, seems to have determined that the Provincial Fair has outlived its usefulness, it seems to us that the Council of that Association could not find a better field for usefulness than that of the fat stock show, and we submit that a large part of their attention and of the government grant placed at their disposal should be given to this important enterprise. The different associations of stock breeders should also take a live interest in this work, and by the offer of special prizes in their departments help to increase the interest in these shows. The corporation of the cities in which the show is held could well afford to make a reasonable expenditure in securing suitable accommodation for holding the show, and the business men might do a good deal by offering special prizes to help along an enterprise which, if well managed, would bring a great many visitors to the city. The question of a suitable building is one that has stood in the way of this enterprise, and is still a serious one, but is one that should not be allowed to stop the good work.

An expensive building is not a necessity, and the city authorities might manage to utilize such building as a skating rink, or a drill shed, until better things can be provided; but, even if nothing better than a hotel stables and yards can be secured, let these be enlarged, covered and well lighted at the expense of the city, or the society, if need be, and by all means let us keep up at least one good fat stock show in Canada. Let the prizes be made larger and more attractive, and the classes be increased in number to encourage greater competition. Let the prize list be prepared and distributed early in the year, so that feeders may know what to prepare. Let it be made a permanent institution, so that breeders may feel safe in making their calculations from year to year without the risk of being disappointed by finding no place to display the result of years of preparation, and it is safe to say we may have in Canada a fat stock show that will be a credit to our country and a public good.

#### Coach Horse Breeding.

BY ARCH. WILSON.

The majority of farmers in Canada have their own particular notion in regard to horse breeding, regardless of the market. Some who have light mares, and have been breeding them to light stallions of no particular type whatever, find there is no market for this class of animal, hears of some one who has sold a team of heavy draught horses at a good price, and takes a notion he would like to do the same; he breeds his mares to a draught stallion to find, again, he is as bad as ever. There are others who having tried the experiment, and find it won't do, go back with their half-bred mares to light stallions again, which is continually adding fuel to the fire. Some, again, think it is impossible to breed a Coach horse without having a cross or two of draught blood in their mares for size. Such a system is preposterous. This class of stock is being raised in Canada to an alarming extent, and in many instances farmers who are raising them keep themselves poor by such mongrels eating them up, and the only possible way of getting rid of them, in many instances, is only by trading them, often having to give their note for the difference, and in many cases the difference they give is nearly value for the article they get. With the climate that Canada has, for raising horses, it ought to be in quite a different position to-day. I question very much if there is a country in the world that has such a climate as Canada so adapted for horse breeding.

A climate is one of the most essential blessings a country can have for the breeding of stock, especially the horse; it influences the stamina and form to a very large extent. There is just as much science required in breeding horses as any other animal, and with a little thoughtfulness and judgment it is easily attained, and one of the most profitable industries a farmer can try.

As a proof, the success of Great Britain I claim as an example. In early times there were imported into Britain stallions of different kinds, which were taken advantage of and judiciously crossed with the mares they had at that time, which has produced horses of different fashionable types; and to see the large amount of horses that are now being taken for breeding purposes to the very countries where the stallions came from in early times, and the demand for British horses and other animals for breeding purposes, it is impossible to look on Great Britain otherwise than a large stock farm, brought to such a high standard by the energy and thoughtful judgment of the farmers, who have always kept in view, and moved with the age they were living in, which can be seen in that beautiful breed of Coach horses, the Cleveland Bay, so named from their color, and the fertile district of that name in the north riding of Yorkshire.

There is no very authentic information about them in early times, almost every writer having his own views, and, as a rule, very conflicting. No doubt they are one of the oldest breeds of horses in England, and were used first of all as pack horses, and afterwards when coaches were first introduced in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. At this time they were very large—between seventeen and eighteen hands high. As roads got better and vehicles lighter, the blood of lighter horses were crossed with them and made suitable for the times, and so on down to the present day.