

value for practical everyday farm purposes, in the production of animals of greater value, or in the most economical and profitable conversion of farm products. This is the main purpose to which all else is subordinate. And the general farmer may profitably interest himself in the judging at the shows, that he may improve the home judging, which should be constantly practised with his own eyes upon his own farm.

THE CANADIAN BREEDER AND AGRICULTURAL REVIEW.

Weekly Paper published in the Stock and Farming interests of Canada.

SUBSCRIPTION, - - \$2.00 per Annum

ADVERTISING RATES.

Per line, each insertion, (Nonpareil measurement, 18 lines to one inch.) 30 cents.

Breeders' cards, five line space, \$20.00 per annum; each additional line \$5.00 per annum.

Condensed advertisements under classified headings, one cent per word, each insertion, for which cash must accompany order, as accounts will not be opened for them.

Contract rates on application.

All communications to be addressed to

CANADIAN BREEDER,

COR. CHURCH AND FRONT STS.

TORONTO.

S. BEATTY, MANAGER.

Toronto, Friday, February 27th, 1885.

Advertisements of an objectionable or questionable character will not be received for insertion in this paper.

BETTING ON RACE COURSES.

If our legislators understood the difference between encouraging gambling and regulating or controlling it, such an understanding on their part would be greatly to the advantage of the community. They know well that where one man is ruined morally or financially by betting on horse races, hundreds are lost through betting on the price of grain, produce, or stocks which they never really own, handle, or even see. Yet in the face of all this our legislators pounce upon betting on horse races and make it an offence against the law of the land, while gambling in stocks, produce, and grain is not only permitted, but protected by law.

An amusing little story is told which will perhaps illustrate how utterly ignorant the great head and front of the anti-betting crusade was of the subject upon which he took such decided and really important action. He was walking up King street one evening, when in passing Thomas' Chop House he heard what he thought to be an auction in full blast. "Dear me," he remarked, "I didn't know Mr. Thomas was in difficulties, but here they are, selling him out it seems."

"Oh no! Thomas is all right, it's only old Quimby in there selling pools on the election," explained his friend.

"Pools," said the future father of the pool bill, "Pools! Is that some new device for corrupting the electors?"

"No, pools are usually sold on horse races."

In due time it was explained to this ponderous moral regenerator that pool-buying was not a

species of gambling popular among pew-holders in the more evangelical churches, and that it was not a habit that was very wide-spread in business circles generally. It was a good question upon which to rouse moral enthusiasm, as comparatively few of those who make political or business capital out of their morality knew anything about it. Young men who went amiss through vices so scandalous in their nature that they were ashamed to avow them were fond of laying the blame on pool-buying, though many of them never bought a pool in their lives, while the wreck of others who ruined themselves through gambling in stocks was carefully laid at the door of the pool-box by the pious old stock gamblers who "rigged the market" so that the inexperienced young speculators outside of the ring could not fail to fall into the trap and meet their ruin. The majority of those who voted for the Act, the only effect of which was to embarrass legitimate horse racing and open the door wide for all sorts of knavery, really thought they were taking a step which would crush out gambling in every form.

Now, if legislators could only make up their minds to look at this question with that boldness and honesty of purpose which should always characterize the action of men who aspire to the proud title of statesman, a really great moral reform might be speedily effected, while so legitimate and productive an industry as horse-breeding would be at once relieved of one of its most serious embarrassments.

Let not only pool-selling but book-making be confined to the premises of regularly organized and legally chartered Jockey Clubs and racing or trotting associations. Let it be absolutely under the control of such clubs or associations, and let each club or association be directly responsible to the Government from which it receives its charter for the rectitude of all its officers, as well as for the good faith in which all racing, trotting, pool-selling, and book-making are conducted on its premises.

The Canadian people are very fond of horse racing, and our country has already proved itself well adapted to the breeding of race horses and trotters, but so far as racing and trotting are concerned a singular fatality seems to follow us. First our sport must needs be dragged through the mud by a gang of knaves, when lo! a lot of that other class of people who shall be unmentionable, but who are proverbially more dangerous than knaves, must come to its rescue, and matters be straightway made much worse than they were before.

As everybody knows, the nearest approaches to perfection are most speedily attained and most surely maintained through the medium of exaggerated types. The trotter is the intensified roadster just as the racehorse is the intensified saddle horse and hunter. The first is the outcome of the trotting turf, the second is the outcome of racing. The race course is the spot where the highest qualities of these animals are to be tested, and yet our legislators are doing all in their power to legislate these high equine types out of existence. It is quite true that

Mr. Robert Bonner paid high prices for Dexter, Edwin Forrest, Rarus, Grafton, Maud S., and several others, with no intention of allowing them to trot for money, but, on the other hand, had they never trotted for money how many of them would have ever developed anything like the speed that has made them famous, and which alone brought them under Mr. Bonner's notice? And for a moment let us see what is represented by the running turf. Luke Blackburn, Ten Broeck, and Longfellow are three racing stallions bred on this side of the Atlantic, neither of which could be bought for any sum that has been paid for any single horse in this country, while so far as imported stallions are concerned we will quote three purchases. Mr. J. R. Keene paid \$25,000 for Blue Gown and had the ill-luck to lose him in bringing him across the ocean; Mr. P. Lorillard paid \$25,000 for Mortemer, while Rayon d'Or cost Mr. W. L. Scott over \$40,000 delivered at his breeding farm near Erie, Pennsylvania. It is quite true that we cannot point to any such importations by Canadian importers, but with fair play there is no reason why our horse-breeders could not come to the front as rapidly as our cattle-men; and it is not too much to hope some Canadian horse-breeder might yet show the outside world that Canada can win fame with race horses just as Mr. Valancy Fuller has shown them what we can do with Jerseys in Canada.

But, aside from prospective successes it must be admitted that we have much to gain and nothing to lose by placing all sorts of turf speculation under the immediate control of thoroughly reputable and responsible people, and to do this some radical changes must be made in the present enactments concerning betting.

A FRENCHMAN ON TROTTERS.

In another column we give a letter from a French correspondent who takes for his text the American and Canadian trotter. While admitting that our correspondent writes a very clever and readable letter, we cannot help taking issue with him very pronouncedly. It is very evident that his opportunities for forming anything like a correct opinion upon the character and quality of American and Canadian trotters must have been extremely scanty. Of course if the gentleman has had "no account" livery hacks palmed off upon him as types of the American trotter it is not surprising that he is disgusted with what he supposes to be the whole race. While the practice of thus imposing upon the credulity of strangers in the country is very common, both in Canada and the United States, it cannot be too strongly condemned. Here for example is a really clever horseman and entertaining letter writer terribly prejudiced against the American trotter just because he has been made the victim of one or more practical jokes. Had our correspondent, during his brief stay on this side of the Atlantic, been shown fair specimens of our leading families of trotters, he would have gone home with a very different opinion