

HORSES AND CATTLE.

THE GALLOWAYS.

The Galloways had their special advocate before the Commissioners in the person of Mr. McCrae, of Guelph, who has a fine herd of them, and is warm in his praises of their qualities.

The hardiness of the Galloways is undisputed, and the absence of horns may also, on shipboard, or in railway cars, be an advantage. Mr. McCrae, however, claims for them other qualities than these. He says:—

"A cross from a Galloway bull and a common native cow, if fed till it is three years old, will weigh from 1,600 to 1,700 lbs. I have five three-year-old Galloway steers at present which I have been offered \$100 apiece for, if fed for six months. I have had Galloways at two years and a-half weighing 1,500 lbs. With regard to their milking qualities, we do not breed them for milking purposes, but the best milking cows we have had of any breeds have been Galloways; still, these are exceptions, and not the rule. We use them for breeding purposes, and let them nurse their own calves, which destroys any cows for milking. I consider the Galloways a good hardy breed to be kept distinct. Their beef is reckoned to be of the very best quality—equal to that of the West Highlander. Some Galloway grades which were taken from the township of Nichol to England were sold for £3 a head more than other beasts—Durham grades—of same weight."

Remarking further that, by careful selection, good milking strains of Galloways can be secured, and on the adaptability of the Galloway to extremes of climate, Mr. McCrae says:

"I would recommend the Galloway as being adapted to farmers of the smaller class, with whom feed is an object, and farmers whose land is somewhat rough."

The reports of the Galloways from farmers who have tried them, however, are not particularly enthusiastic in their behalf.—*From Report Ontario Agricultural Commission.*

THE TROTTING BREED.

The *National Live Stock Journal* has this to say in regard to the breeding of trotters in the present day:—

It should be a matter of great encouragement to breeders of trotting horses to know that of the seventy-four trotters which, during the year 1880, dropped into the 2-25 list, or that reduced records that had previously been made within that limit, with the exception probably of nine or ten, all are the result of a deliberate purpose on the part of those who bred them to produce trotters. The quassiness of breeding for speed at the trotting gait is fast passing out of the domain of chance, and we are nearing the point where the winners of the trotting course will be bred with as much certainty as those of the running turf. We now have our well-known and clearly-established trotting strains, from which a man may select and purchase breed-

ing stock with a reasonable degree of assurance that he will not be disappointed in his purchase. In fact, we have learned how to breed trotters, and we have gone far toward fixing the trotting characteristic so that it will be transmitted with certainty.

Our progress in breeding for speed at the trotting gait has been even greater than is indicated by the records. Eight years ago only 61 horses had reached as low a mark as 2:25; last year alone the number on the turf that could beat that figure reached into the hundreds. Ten years ago, a horse that could make a mile in 2:40 was recognised as a creditable performer; and a 2:35 horse was a good one in an ordinary trotting race. Now a horse that cannot make a mile in 2:35 is scarcely regarded as a respectable roadster; and one that cannot show heats close to 2:20 is not worth paying entrance money on in the slowest classes at the leading trotting meetings.

The lines that have produced this vast number of fast trotters are now so well known that one can take the Breeders' Trotting Stud Book, and from the pedigrees therein recorded, based upon the 2:30 standard, pick out the sires and the dams of the winners that are to



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come, with as much confidence as the breeder of running horses now makes his nominations for his racing stakes two or three years in advance. An occasional accidental trotter will continue to be produced outside of the standard-bred trotting lines, because the trotting leaven is scattered all over the country in unknown quantities, and it will occasionally crop out in the production of a first-class performer; but we hazard nothing in making the prediction that an overwhelmingly large proportion of the fast trotters—the winners of the future—will be descendants of animals whose names are now recorded.

THE CONTAGIOUSNESS OF GLANDERS.

It has long been known that glanders is an inoculable disease, and that it could also be produced by transfusing blood from a diseased to a healthy horse or ass, as well as by introducing the virus contained in the nasal discharge into the stomach. It is possible that all the secretions and excretions are more or less infective, the peculiar muco-purulent fluid thrown off by the Schneiderian membrane probably being most active. This discharge has been blamed as rendering the public watering troughs a source of danger, the fluid

passing into the water when glandered horses are allowed to quench their thirst at these valuable conveniences.

From a note presented to the Académie des Sciences by Professor Galtier, of the Lyons Veterinary School, it appears that he has been successful in transmitting the disease to an ass, by the hypodermic injection of saliva from a glandered horse. We know that the virulent germs find admission not only through a wound or abrasion, or a thin mucous membrane, such as the conjunctiva, but also by the digestive organs. Saliva readily mixes with water, and those who have watched horses drinking will have remarked that some of the water taken into the mouth escapes by the commissures of the lips and falls back into the trough or bucket; and when drinking has been completed, a certain quantity which has not been swallowed is also returned; so that a glandered horse may largely contaminate the water in a trough with his saliva. Not only this, but when horses drink greedily, it often happens that a portion of the water is returned through the nostrils; so that the nasal as well as the salivary secretion may find its way into the mass of water which healthy horses subsequently swallow.

Galtier's experiments also go to show that the glander virus loses its activity when the matters which contain it, whether liquids or tissues, have been completely desiccated for fifteen days. Thorough ventilation of buildings which have been tenanted by glandered horses is, therefore, a very effective means of purifying them.

THE BULL IN HARNESS.

Many farm economists contend for utilizing the bull as a beast of burden and draught. He is able and can be made willing to work. A correspondent of the *N. Y. Tribune* thus describes how to rig him out with a working dress:—

A harness for a bull may be made by opening a large horse collar at the top and putting it on the bull's neck reversed, i.e., opposite the position it would have on the horse, as a bull's neck is largest on top, while the breast of a horse is widest at the bottom. The hames should also be reversed to fit the collar; the traces being attached the same as an ordinary harness. For working in a cart there should be a broad back-pad and breeching similar to any cart harness. The bull may be driven by reins attached to a bit in his mouth, kept in position by a headstall which should extend behind the ears to avoid getting into the eyes, which it would be likely to do if put in front of the ears. Another plan which works well is to fasten the reins by snaps on to the ring in the bull's nose, the reins passing back on each side of the head through the rings in the harness. Every bull should have a strong ring in his nose, by which he should be tied, and he should also be broken to mind at the word and the motion of the whip. When this is thoroughly done he can be driven by the whip alone.

POLLED, or hornless, cattle are becoming popular.