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To Subscribers.—Any person forwarding us \$1, either in registered letter or through our numerous agents, will receive one copy of the JOURNAL for one year. Single copies, 10 cents each, sample copies free. No names will be removed from our subscription list without we receive instructions to that effect. Those in arrears will be charged \$1.00.

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To Correspondents.—All communications intended for publication in the JOURNAL should reach us by the 20th of each month—sooner, if possible. We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents. Those relating to advertisements not later than the 25th of each month.

Remittances may be made in registered letter at our risk. The receipt of the Journal will be sufficient evidence to subscribers that their remittances have been received.

All communications to be addressed STOCK JOURNAL Co., 48 John street south, Hamilton, Ont.

HAMILTON, CANADA, APRIL, 1885.

In the last number of the JOURNAL under the cut of the Herford cow Mermaid 2d, the ownership was ascribed to Rufus H. Cook, instead of Rufus H. Pope. A part of the issue had gone through the press before the mistake had been discovered, which is to us a source of regret.

PLEASE notice the address tag on the JOURNAL or on the wrapper. Subscribers whose address tag reads Dec. '84 should remember their subscription expired with that issue, and should renew at once. No name will be removed from our subscription list until all arrears have been paid.

WHEN stock is turned out in spring, it is not wise to withdraw all care and leave it to shift for itself like the deserted child of some vagrant. There is no time of the year when unremitting vigilance should be withdrawn. Other things being equal, the best stock by far is found with the stockmen who are unceasing in their attentions the year round. Parties who attend to their stock in winter only, and to the farm in summer, attend to neither properly. Highest attainment is beyond their reach.

THERE is no doubt but that one reason of the superiority of English over American beef arises from the fact that their grasses are of finer quality and so intermingled that the muscular tissue formed from them is of a very different character. The season is already upon us for the sowing of our grasses. Let us profit by the truth thus taught. Quantity is only one object in getting a crop of hay. In some instances one-half the bulk is of more value because of its superior fineness. Quality will be looked for in vain in the production of grasses and hay from which it is to be made. Farmers who are not prepared to grow permanent pastures should by all means intermingle different kinds of clover in sowing for ordinary meadows. The finer kinds of clover should be regarded as indispensable, and where the lands are not over-fertile the larger kinds sown along with them will be of service, as they will afford protection and shade which will aid in the fuller development of their weaker brethren.

THE transition stage from dry feed to grasses is usually attended with some hazard, if not to the dam, at least to the young stock, and therefore should not be too sudden. Serious loss sometimes arises from this source. It is apt to induce undue laxity of the bowels, which affects the young more than the mother. We have heard of instances of colts having been lost in this way. The change should be made gradually, the dam being left out at first but a portion of the day, and not till she has made a hearty breakfast of the food she has been accustomed to. Young lambs used to warm dry winter quarters, if left to lie out long at a time, before the ground is well warmed, are apt to contract colds, which often end fatally. Animals in any case should not be turned out to pasture until there is something for them to eat. It is a waste of strength and effort on the part of the beast, and damaging to the pasture. When they get a taste of grass they are more dainty about other food, and hence the wisdom of keeping the most dainty portions of the food supply until this transition period. Some complain that they have no time for this attending to their stock; when once out, it is out until winter comes again. In such cases the owners had better cease to keep stock.

SOME persons argue that, because they are giving grain growing more prominence than stock growing, it matters little as to what class of stock they keep. We see no force in this logic. The stock-grower on the same principle would say, it matters but little as to whether I have a good crop of grain or not: stock-keeping is my principal business. The whole community would with one voice condemn the logic of the stockman who would speak thus, and yet, surprising to say, perhaps more than one-half of the community coincide with the grain-grower in his view, for more than half by far are just working on his principle. But where is the stockman in his right mind who would be satisfied with half a crop or two-thirds to feed his animal? Why then should the stockman who looks into the matter at all be content with a two-thirds producer when for the same outlay he could have a three-thirds producer? The fact that but few cattle are kept affords even an argument for having them first class, as where but few are kept the supply of pasture-land and feed, proportionately, is likely to be less. Men who can see but little money in cattle are not the parties usually to waste feed upon them. They should even reduce the number, then, if need be, and keep those better which are kept.

VERY many barns and outbuildings in winter are kept exceedingly untidy. We purpose not to speak here so much of this general untidiness and untidiness in the general as of one aspect of it that meets you at the threshold of the building, and which is a pretty sure indication of what is to be found within. We refer to the dragging of the door at the bottom from sheer indifference, or shall we call it laziness, in regard to cleaning away the manure underneath it. In many instances the manure is thrown out of the door so vexatiously near that one in opening the door has to swing it half way back in order to get around the side of it remote from the hinges. Whenever we have to adopt this method of getting into a barn we say to ourselves, Heedless sluggard! When snow falls it is wise to be doubly vigilant in having the doorway well shovelled, as the tendency is that obstructions continually gather and by freezing, adhere, so long as the cold weather lasts. The door soon begins to drag, accumulation inside at the bottom presses it out, and permanently warps it, and every time it is opened there is a tendency to produce

some symptoms of ill-temper. Farmers, see to it that the swing-ground of your doorway is kept clean all the time. A warped door which continually admits a stream of cold is a very expensive affair.

THE suggestion of our Whycomagh friend from Cape Breton, in his letter in another column on the "scrub plague," is a good one, wherein he proposes a tax on all bulls. This, it seems to us, would be wiser than to tax only scrub bulls, as in such a case the cry of class legislation would be re-echoed on every side, and the plea of oppressive measures would be set up. Men would be very apt to say that the act emanated from the breeders, and from the selfish end of enhancing the value of their stock. But if every bull kept for service were taxed equally, then the owners of the scrubs would not have the shaft of a complaint. If in such a case the event proved that the owner of the pure bred bull could afford to pay the tax before which scrub bulls vanished, it would more clearly establish their superiority than would all the logic of all the stockmen, however wisely uttered. The men who argue that scrub stock are as profitable as pure-breds would have ample opportunity of demonstrating the value of their theory; but if the bulls which lead the herds in either case succumb, then it follows that the herds they lead will also fail. In this form let us have the tax. If there are any good reasons why we should not, will some who dissent please point them out? Our aim is to arrive at truth which is always to the advantage of the individual as well as to the advantage of the State.

British American Shorthorn Association.

The annual meeting of this association was held in Toronto on the afternoon of the 24th February, John Dryden Esq., M.P.P., the president, in the chair.

The third annual report was read and adopted with a good deal of unanimity. This report gave the amount of receipts for registration fees during 1884 as \$521; annual subscriptions, \$691.50; new members, \$210. The balance on hand January 1st, 1885, was \$74.30. In addition to the furnishing of each member a volume of the herd book, 330 copies of Volume I, are on hand, and 200 copies of Volume II. Total value of the assets, \$1,245.96.

The membership at present is 260, of which 42 were added during the year.

The association is to be congratulated on having passed the critical stage of its existence. The shallows are now passed, and the vessel has got into deep, smooth waters. Several alterations were made in the by-laws. It was also decided that a copy of the by-laws should henceforth be printed in each volume of the herd book. Volumes I and II are to be sold hereafter for \$3 each.

Messrs. J. C. Snell and R. Gibson were appointed to represent the association in the Toronto Industrial in reference to the making up of the prize lists.

The chairman introduced the subject of extortion by railways in the carrying of cattle, especially bulls. Several members spoke of the brutality practised by companies in the carrying of live stock. Messrs. J. Dryden, T. C. Patteson, R. Gibson, and S. White, M.P.P., were appointed a committee to wait upon the railway companies to seek the redress of the grievance.

It was carried by motion that the sale be held annually on the last Wednesday in February of each year.

The editor, as noticed elsewhere, broached the subject of the amalgamation of the herd books, which was not very cordially received.

At the sale on the following day the prices realized