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All communications to be addressed Stock Journal Co., 48 John street south, Hamilton, Ont.

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Please examine your address tag. The date thereon tells the time your subscription expired. Readers in arrears will please renew at once.

No greater proof is required to show that the JOURNAL is highly appreciated and doing a good work in Canada than the fact that many new subscribers have this year ordered back volumes from its beginning. This idea is also well sustained by its steadily increasing subscription list. We here desire to thank those numerous friends who have already done good work for the JOURNAL, and hope that those who have not yet renewed will send at least one new subscriber with their renewal. See the extraordinary clubbing rates on another page.

BREEDING horses for work in our towns and cities is a profitable work, if judiciously carried on. But those engaged in it should bear in mind that to suit they must have plenty of *size*. Too many of our Canadian bred draught horses have not enough of size to suit the town drayman. They may answer very well for heavy work on the farm, but not so for the town. In Britain nearly twice the amount can be obtained for a dray horse of the right size than one will bring equally well built in every other respect, only a little under size. When not sufficiently large both legs and body give way under the immense strain put upon them in drawing enormous loads. It will not cost much more to rear the horse just suitable than the one a little too small.

ALTHOUGH we have written a good deal on the wisdom of keeping young stock pushing well ahead from the first, we return to the subject again, and its importance will justify us in doing so. There are so many who look well after their calves, and then allow them to stand still or progress very slowly during the succeeding years of their growth. It should not be so; they should be kept going on—not necessarily high fed, but so fed that they do well all the while. Indeed, we have no patience with that system of feeding cattle which allows of feed lying uneaten in the

mangers. Stock of all kinds should only be fed what they will eat up clean, when the food is wholesome. This is the plan adopted by Mr. Handy, of Greenhead, who has won more prizes on Shorthorns at the Royal Show of England than any other man living. Enough is enough, and why should any one wish to give more?

IN caring for pigs in winter much attention should be shown to keeping them well supplied with a liberal supply of dry bedding. When a number of them lie together the bedding soon gets damp, which in very cold weather is very prejudicial to them. When the fresh supply is put in, the old should be removed. Attention to this matter, simple as it is, will prevent many cases of stiffening and rheumatism so common with pigs confined in winter. Most persons are of the opinion that all that is necessary is to throw in fresh bedding on the top of the old, but this is a mistake. It may add warmth but does not reduce the dampness which is so hurtful. The more severe the weather, the closer the attention that should be given to this matter.

It should be borne in mind by those caring for young pigs in cold weather that they will not do well in a damp place, even though it is not cold. They should have plenty of room as well as dry quarters into which the sunlight can have free access. For the first five or six weeks of their existence their main dependence is the milk of the dam, which should be liberally fed with milk-producing food. When weaned they should get skim milk and wheat middlings, which may be gradually changed to swill and middlings. A mixed diet will be found advantageous, or a change occasionally. Pigs should be liberally fed in the winter season. In summer they get a large portion of their livelihood themselves if they can have access to a pasture, more especially one containing much clover. Contrary to common practice, pigs should be kept clean, and well supplied with litter.

WHAT shall be done with the worn-out horses on the farm is a question worthy of consideration. It is the practice of some to turn them off at a low price to some one who has only money enough to buy half feed for them. Their latter end is one of much suffering. This method of disposing of them is cruel if the seller is conscious of the manner of man he is dealing with, and should not be practiced. Another mode is to feed them in lieu of what they have done after they become unfit for service, putting them, as it were, upon a pension. This is certainly humane, but not very necessary in a country where some are crying for bread, as the cost of keeping an old horse a year would make a magnificent poor rate. A third method is to send them to a solitary place by the hand of a trusty messenger with a rifle, and there in a few moments put them beyond the reach of suffering. In some parts the carcass is utilized in the arts. In such a case they might be sold when it is known that they come to an end by a sudden and almost painless death. It is cruelty that is unjustifiable, to sell an old horse to any one who is likely to abuse and maltreat it, and should never be done, neither for the sake of gold nor for any other sake.

ON the first day of January, 1881, the inferior grades of beef brought 54d. per pound in the London market, and on the first day of January, 1886, 26d. On the first day of January, 1881, prime lots of beef brought 58d. in the same market, and on the first day of Jan., 1886, 44d. per lb. In the one case the falling off is 28d. per lb., or more than one half, and in the other

14d. per lb., or not quite one-fourth. These facts carry their own moral. As business widens in any line and the number of producers is greatly multiplied, those who produce the best article only compete with a limited number, and therefore always get a fair price, while those who are content with producing an inferior article are wholly at the mercy of the competition of the market, and in times of great plenty they must submit to a great fall in prices. Persons who uniformly produce a good quality of butter never want for a market and fair price. So is it with those who always produce a good quality of beef. It requires more skill to produce good butter and beef than to produce a good quality of grain, therefore the growers of the two former will meet with less opposition than those who grow the latter, if of prime quality. Our country is pre-eminently adapted to the growing of beef and butter. Let us produce them only of prime quality.

Prices for Pure Bred Stock.

Because pure-breds in some of the breeds do not bring prices as formerly, some are proposing certain methods to be adopted for lessening their numbers, with the expectation that this would lead to the payment of better prices. A view so unpatriotic is utterly unworthy of being entertained by men calling themselves breeders, and we shall fondly hope that such a view has not yet obtained a footing within our borders. From an article in the *Breeders' Gazette* from the able pen of William Warfield, we learn, that like pleuro-pneumonia (we don't know which is the greater plague of the two), it has got a footing in the United States. One of the citizens of that great country has been found indulging the hope that pleuro-pneumonia or some such scourge would cut off half the pure Shorthorns in the States, in the hope that the other half would bring better prices. Men who give expression to such views are fitter subjects for quarantine than the diseased cattle, and if any such dwell in our midst they will be shunned by those who know it, as plague infected regions by an affrighted populace.

Others, in the hope of filling their coffers with tarnished gold, propose that some standard color shall be adopted in place of the old-time colors, red, white and roan. They advocate the red as a standard, and with a heartlessness and an unreasonableness that is without excuse, would have all the admirers of the roan bow down and worship this great image of their setting up.

Others, again, would make certain family strains the corner-stones of a new Shorthorn structure, making individual merit the basis of selection, forgetting that the standard of individual merit to-day may be very different from what it will be twenty years hence, and that merit in families of bovines, like merit in families of the human race, rises and falls as surely as the ebb and flow of the tide, if not with the same regularity. Like the centres of commerce, the centres of merit are continually shifting, and so it will be down to the end of time.

We need not concern ourselves particularly about the prospective prices of pure-bred stock. The demand and the supply will regulate this just as it regulates all other branches of business, and as the number of breeders increases, there will be less danger of monopoly, so that to the purchaser the sky will become clearer and clearer as the years roll on. The prices in such a case will no doubt gradually fall more and more in the direction of the normal level, but this normal level will in all probability rise with the general improvement of the stock that must take place by