

RACING STOCK.

The President of the Michigan State Board of agriculture, in his address to the members of the executive committee at their annual meeting in Detroit, makes the following remarks on this subject.

"The desire to breed fast running, and fancy trotting horses, without regard to other qualities, has had the effect of lessening the value, and lowering the standard of horses in this state. In my opinion, we should encourage the introduction of horses of a fair size, weight and form, that come up to the standard of the horses of all work, also the breeding from a class of mares that will give the size, weight and action that are so desirable in the first-class carriage horse."

(Report of the Secretary of the Michigan State Board of Agriculture.)

Communications.

We insert these letters to show the kind of letters we are receiving from various parts of the Province. These are only part of one day's receipts.—Ed.

MR. WELD—Sir—Send me four bushels of your best Midge Proof Wheat as soon as possible, to Bradford Station.

Yours Respectfully,
JOHN GAMBLE,

Loretto Ontario.

MR. WELD—Sir—I have been informed you was the individual that procured the Treadwell wheat, that was sowed near here last autumn.

I am desirous of obtaining 14 or 15 bushels for seed, if you have it to spare, or can tell me where I can get it by the first of next month, you will oblige me very much.

SAMUEL STAFFORD,

Dunwich Ont.

MR. WELD—Sir—I write to enquire of you if you have got a Leicester ram lamb or pretty well bred Leicester and a yearling ewe, Leicester breed, and if you can supply me with the above at a moderate price.

JOSEPH JOHNSON,

Bothwell, Ont.

MR. WELD—Dear Sir—Yours of the 12th instant is to hand, containing a sample of Treadwell wheat, which I like very much from appearance. Enclosed find \$5.00, the amount required to get two bushels shipped to my address. Which is,

ARCH. R. KIDD,

Peterborough, Ont.

I may just say I will not bother myself with an Ayrshire Heifer at present, but will take the Lamb at \$15. Feeling confident that you

will do your duty in selecting as good a one as possible for that money, which I shall remit on or about the first of October, as our Local Show will not be held till about that time (of which I am president); also our East Riding Society show on the 13th and 14th Oct., (of which I am a director). Also director in the Dummer, Belmont and Asphodel Society. I have for years past exhibited with a good deal of success in the sheep line, having made some good selections from some of the best breeders. Send me a good Leicester ram lamb, when you do send, and my word for it, I will let it be known where it came from, as I am in a good position to do so, and am some on talking though none on writing. Get one well woolled, particularly on the belly, round rib; small head, full lively eye, and black nose and feet. I have nothing in the seed or root line, of any merit, I am sorry and ashamed to say, although in the midst of a splendid wheat growing district. R. Lakey, is my neighbor, to whom you gave peas, oats and wheat, last spring. They did well. I will get some for seed of each, and intend getting some of your potatoes next spring. Meantime I am yours respectfully.

A. R. Kidd.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

July 28th, 1868.

WM. WELD, Esq.—Dear Sir:—I have had the misfortune to lose a quantity of hay by fire, and I would like to know if it is possible for hay to generate fire and burn in the stack. I finished building a large stack about twelve tons of clean Timothy hay about ten days ago. I had put on the top, as I thought it shed rain better, about 500 lbs. of wild marsh grass that grew convenient in a low spot. This I put on perfectly green, and wet with dew. There was an old stack standing close by, with 7 or 8 tons in it. Both these stacks stood in a clearing by themselves, surrounded by green woods. They were both burnt down last evening. I took particular notice to see if the fire had ran along the ground to them, but there was no connection with anywhere else. Do you think it possible for the wet, flat grass to ferment and cause fire? I would much rather it was so, as it would hurt me more than the loss of the hay, to believe that it could have been set fire to.

Yours very truly,

W. B. MILLS.

Arden Township, Kennebec.

[There is no doubt but your hay was destroyed by spontaneous combustion, caused by the 500 lbs. of wet marsh hay. We have known seven stacks destroyed in England by fire, from hay being put on in an unfit state. We think the 500 lbs. would be likely to destroy any barn or stack, when put in one heap.]—Ed.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

WILD OATS.

GREY, Aug. 11th, 1868.

DEAR SIR:—I saw an article in the last number of the *Advocate* about Wild Oats. We have any quantity of them up in Grey Township, and have tried in many ways to get rid of them, and I believe that the best way is this. The Wild Oat ripens faster than any other grain, consequently is almost all shed before the other grain is taken off. As soon as the other grain is taken off, take a cultivator or heavy harrow, or anything that will answer the purpose, and scarify the ground so as to cover the oats and give them a chance to grow. After they have grown three or four inches high, turn in your cattle, or plough it up so as to keep them from shooting out. Follow this for a couple of years and I will guarantee the oats will get scarce, but take particular care that you sow none of them in your seed, or you will never get rid of them.

T. NORTON.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

FALL WHEAT.

August, 10th 1868.

WM. WELD Esq.—Dear Sir—Since I sent sample of wheat to you I have threshed my wheat, and herewith send you a true sample, also heads of each kind. The first samples were from heads gathered in the fields. Yield of No. 1 seven acre field, 26 bushels per acre, 60 lbs. per bushel, from threshing machine.

Yield of No. 2, twenty acre field, 37 bushels per acre, 60 lbs. per bushel, from threshing machine.

I have only raised one crop of No. 1 White Wheat. I think it not fully midge proof. It is considered midge proof by some farmers.

No. 2 Treadwell, I have grown for two years. Last year's yield 37½ bushels per acre. I find it fully midge proof. Please send me the probable price it will bring in your neighborhood for seed.

The wheat from the threshing machine I think will lose about 1 lb. per bushel in fanning. It is clear of all foul seeds.

J. C. F.

[No. 1 is the White Midge Proof, No. 2 the Treadwell. Information received from P. Hutton, Delaware: "My Treadwell Wheat yielded 7 bushels more per acre than the Common Midge Proof." From R. Walker, Westminster: "I am highly pleased with the Treadwell Wheat I received from you. It has yielded better than any other wheat I have. I shall sow it extensively this fall." From Riley Day, Dorchester: "No fall wheat in this section has yielded as well as the Treadwell supplied by you. There will be a good demand for it here this fall."]