

exhausted, and the time is not, perhaps, very far distant when Europe will be glad to find a stock of fine horses in Canada. Some intelligent breeders have obtained such in Canada West. Mr. John Coote showed us, near London, Ont., a magnificent pair of chestnut carriage horses, 16.1 hands, perfectly matched in coat, model, length, and action. The mare especially was perfection itself. It would be impossible to find such a finished type of elegance, proportions, carriage of head and tail, and ease, fire, and lightness of movement. Finally, the Agricultural Commission seems to be willing to come to the system of "approved" stallions. It would give licenses for such horses as it would approve, and prizes for the best. Such a measure would produce the greatest results in Ontario, as the farmer there is always willing to be guided by persons whom he knows to be better informed than himself.

THE CLYDESDALE.

The Clydesdale horse is highly appreciated in America, on account of his ponderous mass, which he often only too faithfully transmits to his offspring. His influence is, however, much more prejudicial, especially in the States, than that of the Percheron. He is weaker in the upper parts than this latter, and lacking in the crupper and lower parts. So, when he is given mares to cover that are themselves overloaded with lymph, he produces those enormous masses of flesh without energy or staying power. These shapeless mastodons carry off prizes at the agricultural fairs, simply and solely because they weigh a ton when two and a half years old.

The Clydesdale is, however, often coupled with mares of muscle and race—in Canada, for instance, where the entire equine race has more or less English blood. In such cases, the qualities of the dam correct, in part, the defects of the sire; and if the get is not always satisfactory, they are, nevertheless, more so than the first-mentioned.

The Clydesdale stallion is distributed in the same States, and in about the same proportion, as the Percheron, except, however, in the Province of Ontario, where he is much more numerously represented than the latter.

A BOVINE EXODUS.

The practice of pasturing live stock on public streets has obvious disadvantages everywhere, especially in populous towns. The authorities of Des Moines, Iowa, were doubtless justified in their recent determination to put a stop to it so far as that city is concerned, and the consequent movement seems to have eclipsed there for the time interest in all national issues. A week's notice had been given; fair warning by means of thousands of handbills, "incorporating the ordinance," posted "on every street corner," and the matter was "discussed in every neighbourhood and in nearly every house." Active hostilities began on a Saturday, and we take from the local *Register* part of the record of the war that followed, which, happily, was bloodless:

"A great number of smart people thought they would risk it Sunday, not believing the officials would enforce the law on that day. By Sunday night thirty cows were in the West Side pound, and the whole force were so busy taking up the cows found near the heart of the city that they were not able to get out more than eight or ten blocks. But yesterday they extended their line to the suburbs, and several gangs of twenty or thirty cows in a bunch were seen being escorted to the pound by two or three mounted policemen. These expeditions of the mounted police advertised the law in a fine way, and the news of it would go through the neighbourhood like wildfire. A reporter saw an illustration of it on Upper Sycamore street,

where two mounted policemen swooped down on a herd of twelve or fifteen cows. It was nearing night, and the cows had no notion of being driven in a direction leading from home. And the policemen had no sooner appeared on the spot than the ground seemed to yield up women and children. Every alley nearly was filled with women and children rushing to the rescue of their bossies. The cows broke from the policemen in all directions, and the women and boys were not slow in encouraging and covering their retreat. Finally the police got started to the pound with three of the cows. In the next fifteen minutes there wasn't a cow within half a mile of the spot that was not hurried into the lot or stable."

This account will bring to mind of many oldest inhabitants recollection of similar scenes in other cities, possibly in New York itself. Such excommunication always marks an era in the development of every town, and the day doubtless approaches when even the four-footed goats of our own metropolis will have to go.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

THE NUMBER OF MARES TO BE SERVED.

The number of mares that a stallion may safely be permitted to serve during a season has long been a subject of discussion among horse breeders. It is generally held that the two-year-old stallion will be all the better for not serving any mares at all, that a three-year-old should be limited to fifteen or twenty services, and that a four-year-old should not go beyond twenty or thirty. There can be no question that the use of the procreative powers by the unmatured horse tends to retard his physical development, and as a general rule it may be stated that there is no horse but what would be the better for absolute continence until he is fully matured. But while this is unquestionably based upon sound physiological law, and is the true theory of perfect physical development in the male, there are advantages attending the earlier use of the stallion, to a moderate extent, that perhaps more than compensate for all the damage that may result from it. It is very desirable, at the earliest possible stage in the life of a stallion, to ascertain what his qualities as a foal getter are likely to be, and with this object mainly in view we consider it wise to let the two-year-old serve a few choice mares; merely enough to show the character of his get.—*Breeder's Gazette.*

FEED FOR A BULL.

A young bull should not be kept tied in the barn and stuffed with meal and oilcake, nor yet turned on the common, night and day, to run with a lot of cows. While he should have to eat and drink what will make him grow vigorously, he should also have plenty of exercise, and not be allowed to serve a cow more than twice, and ordinarily one service will be sufficient. If he can be kept in a pasture in summer, that is his proper place, but at all events he should neither be fed to excess or starved; rightly managed, he will be capable of much valuable service, and return a bounteous interest on any reasonable cost.

WORKING UNSHOD HORSES.

Robert Martin, of Green Farms, Conn., says that he works his three horses without shoes, saying: "I find that they work better, are more sure-footed, and far less liable to lameness than when shod, and I am satisfied that horses' feet, as nature made them, are all-sufficient for ordinary work. After my long experience I should now as soon think of going to a farrier myself to be shod as to send my horses. Our roads are rough, hilly, and stony, much more than the average road. To

prevent the hoofs from chipping, the toes should be kept slightly rounded by a coarse file, such as used by shoers, and the feet should always be looked to when the horse is groomed." What surprises us so much in this matter of horses going without shoes is, that if this is really correct, why the thing does not become universal.—*German town Telegraph.*

AN "UNUSUAL" ITEM.

Editor RURAL CANADIAN:

SIR,—On Monday, the 3rd of April, 1882, one of my cows slipped her calf, born dead. On Saturday, April 22nd, 1882, she had a bull calf, both doing well. Is not the above a very unusual thing—nearly three weeks between the slip and calving?

Yours respectfully,

W. TURNER OPENSHEAW.

Norcott Farm, Port Sydney, Ont., 24th April.

Ans.—Yes, unusual, but not unprecedented.—Ed. R. C.

INDIGESTION AND SCRATCHES IN HORSES.

For indigestion give the following: Blood root, mandrake, gentian, liquorice, ginger, lobelia, each 1 oz.; nitre, 8 oz.; sulphate of iron, 4 oz.; sulphur, 6 oz.; sassafras, 8 oz. Mix and powder. Dose, 1 oz. a day in a pint of flaxseed jelly. For scratches give the above powder and the same amount; then take the water that potatoes are boiled in and wash the limb clean once a day, then apply this ointment: Sulphuric acid, 2 drachms; belladonna, 1 oz.; laudanum, 1 oz.; aloes, 1 oz.; sulphur, 2 oz.; lard, 6 oz. Stir well and apply.—*Detroit Free Press.*

The standard trotter is one that can cover a mile in 2:30. It is said that less than 600 of all the horses raised and trained in the United States have this record. The number that can trot in 2:50 bear the ratio of 1 to 2,383 horses raised. As a business the breeding of fast horses is therefore very much of a lottery; and when we recall the fact that the high prices which the famous colts have brought have rarely been received by the men who raised them, the prizes in breeding and training trotters are few and uncertain.

How deficient most people really are in information of common things! For instance, ask what a horse is, and not over nineteen persons in twenty—counting old and young together—would be able to tell you more, on the spur of the moment, than that a horse is a "hoofed quadruped of the genus *Equus* (*E. caballus*), having one toe to each foot, a mane, and a long flowing tail; is exclusively herbivorous, with six broad grinding teeth on each side of each jaw; and six incisors and two canine teeth both above and below, the mares having the canines rudimentary or entirely wanting. It has all four legs furnished with warts or castors, which distinguishes it from the ass; is supposed to be a native of Central Africa; excels in strength, speed, docility, courage, and nobleness of character, and is used for drawing, carrying, bearing a rider, and such like purposes." What loquacious ignorance! But listen now to the terse and simple statement of "modern physiology": "A horse is a descendant of an extinct perissodactyl mammal belonging to the solidungulate division or equidae family; in scientific nomenclature, *HITTARION*." Now you know what a horse is!

Don't set out raspberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberry or grape roots with much wood. Cut it back within two or four eyes of ground, and you will get a strong healthy growth this season.