

pagated by *these impubescent children*, who have neither the requirements nor the necessary condition to generate. If private industry seeking its own interests, employs these animals as reproducers, it is a misfortune that the wise breeders have to deplore, but against which they can do nothing, by virtue of the liberty of every branch of industry.

But, how the Agricultural Association for Lower-Canada, as a body, can allow, sanction, protect, patronise, encourage, recommend and prize this custom, I cannot conceive. The association is the guardian and distributor of the sound doctrines of rural economy. It has the right, and it is its duty, to make the rural populations understand that products, *sprung from children* can be but middling; it has to tell them that this precocity causes the breeds to degenerate and that a two years old male coupled with a female of the same age, can only give birth to a rickety product, the bone of the sire and dam not being themselves endowed with the solidity which the adult age only can give them.

Now, rickets in the horse are all those afflictions of the boney system, called ring-bones, dry spavins, curbs, etc., stains mostly indelible, and hereditary, not by nature but only by filiation which makes that a great number, more or less, of generations have succeeded each other having for generators and dams, individuals not completely developed, and transmitting to their offsprings, in an aggravated manner, the defects they are themselves afflicted with.

This remark is very important; there a whole book to be written on the subject. I call the attention of all men, sincerely friends of their country and of its agricultural improvements on the reasoning which makes its base.

Individual avidity so encouraged, can become a source of degeneracy and extinction of breeds. It is understood that what we have stated in this paragraph of the two

year old *stallions* relates to the fillies of the same age, of which private cupidity persists in making brood mares.

No conditions are imposed to the proprietors of the prized stallions. Now can it not happen, and is it not often the case, that these animals are sold immediately after the show, for large sums of money, besides the premium, and brought out of the country? Of what use are they, and what services do they return for the prize given to them? The answer is absolutely and forcibly negative. Would it not be good to pay the premium only after obliging the proprietor to devote, during the following season, the prized stallion, to the mares of his locality, in fixing a number of females to be sired, and then to give the premium, which could and should be increased by the suppression of useless and even dangerous sections, only when this duty would be fulfilled?

This practise, followed in France, mééts the general approbation and produces the best results.

The programme contains a chapter under the head of *Thorough Bred Horses*. This chapter includes the 12th 13th 14th and 15th sections.

Though we have seen at the show but horses of the 12th section, and that for us, as for almost all (if not all) the papers, the 13th 14th and 15th sections are a fable, we must make the following remark:

The programme, in saying *Thorough bred horses*, says, in my opinion, nothing at all. What breed? What qualities must they have? What age and size will have the specimens exhibited? What use will they be fit to? On this there is a complete silence in the programme and hence, the show in the 12th section of four ill shaped jades, without any apparent qualities and of a doubtful age.

I would have yet something even a great deal to say, but I recollect that