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Vilmorin and the Kleinwanzlebener. It is absolutely essential that a fine, mellow, but well-firmed, seed-bed be secured in order to a good even seeding and speedy germination. We presume that experimental work, in the nature of that carried on by Prof. Shuttleworth last year, will be conducted again this season, and Mr. C. A. Zavitz, Experimentalist at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, and Secretary of the Experimental Union, is sending out, for a feed-growing test, to the members of the Union, two varieties of beet seed, one being the same as those used for the production of sugar. It has also been announced in the Ontario Legislature, by the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. John Dryden, that sugar-beet seed is to be distributed by his department in municipalities where agricultural societies, Farmers' Institutes, boards of trade or other representative bodies furnish the names of a number of farmers who would undertake a trial of beet culture under proper arrangements. In this way, and by what progressive, intelligent farmers will undertake on their own account, we shall accumulate valuable experience and lay the foundations securely, in so far as the root-grower is concerned, for a permanently successful branch of agriculture.

Sensible Suggestion to Governments.

Lord Salisbury is convinced that it is quite possible for Parliament to meddle too much with private enterprise and commerce. This constant interference with personal liberty is a formidable danger, he says, tending to discourage labor and to dry up the sources of capital. If there really is a decadence of British trade going on, His Lordship thinks its cause may possibly be traced to this interfering spirit. "The sensible old Premier is perfectly right," observes the *Toronto Globe*, which adds: "Legislation should in general confine its function to the removal of obstacles, natural or artificial, from the path of labor—that term embracing capital as simply one of its forms." Not only is it a bar to enterprise, but it tends to pauperize and enfeeble the energies of those it is supposed to benefit, and when the cost which the general taxpayer contributes is also counted up, it will usually be found that it would have been in every way better to let people manage their own affairs rather than by means of officialism. Canada has in the past had a good many unfortunate examples, both federal and provincial, arising from the various ill-advised efforts of this description in connection with agricultural affairs.

The Process of Beet Sugar Manufacture.

I shall not attempt here to give a detailed description of these manufacturing processes; that would require too much space, but, in brief, they consist in first thoroughly cleaning the beets and then slicing them into thin pieces, after which warm water is employed to dissolve out the sugar. The juice thus produced is clarified with lime, then concentrated, then evaporated, and finally crystallized. In about twelve hours from the time that the raw beet enters the factory to be sliced, the pure, white-grained sugar comes from the crystallizers, ready to be barreled for market. In making cane sugar, the factories on the ground usually produce only the raw sugar, and this is purchased and refined by the great sugar companies of New York and elsewhere. This work of refining at a point far distant from the place of production has enabled what is known as the U. S. "sugar trust" to control, in large measure, the output of fine granulated sugar. But the advent of the beet-sugar industry, with every factory producing the white sugar directly from the beets, may play an important part in placing sugar again among those commodities the prices of which are regulated solely by the law of supply and demand. A sugar factory requires large quantities of lime for clarification, plenty of pure water and coal for fuel, and the success of the factory is governed to a considerable extent by the abundance and cheapness of those commodities. The factories of Michigan are very fortunately provided in regard to all of these particulars; coal is especially cheap, the mines being located only a few miles from the factories.—R. S. Baker, in *Review of Reviews*.

STOCK.

"Some Horse Talk."

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—Have read with interest your editorial on "The Horse Breeding Outlook" in the March 1st number of your excellent paper. The following from the daily papers might be described as the "Canadian," the "American," and the "South African" episodes of the "War Horse Question":

REMOUNTS FOR THE ARMY.

Toronto, March 1.—Lord Strathcona, replying to what was in effect a protest by Hon. Geo. W. Ross against the ignoring of Canada in the purchase of the horses recently shipped from America to the British army in South Africa, writes to the Ontario Premier under date February 15th. The reply shows that the Imperial authorities still regard Canada as the "frozen north" at this season of the year.

"I am, at the present moment," says Lord Strathcona, "in communication with the Imperial officer, Major Dent, who visited Canada last year to purchase horses, and although he is now at home in Yorkshire, I hope very soon to have an opportunity of seeing him here, and of talking the matter over fully with him. Afterwards, I will take the question up with Mr. Broderick, the Secretary of State for War, and in any other quarter that may seem desirable, and will press it in whatever way may appear most advantageous."

With regard to the reported purchase of horses in South America and the United States by the Imperial authorities at the beginning of the year, I drew the attention of the Secretary of State for War to these statements, and expressed the hope that if anything of the kind were being done, the capabilities of Canada would not be lost sight of. In reply, I was informed that it did not seem advisable at this season of the year to ship horses from Canada to South Africa, but that if animals were required later on, the capabilities of Canada would certainly not be overlooked. You may rely upon my giving this important subject my best attention."

AMERICA AS SUPPLY BASE.

Washington, March 1.—Secretary Gage yesterday submitted to the House a reply to the resolution of enquiry as to whether United States ports or waters have been used for the exportation of horses, mules or other supplies for use in South Africa. Mr. Gage says:

"1. Our ports have been used for the exportation of horses, mules or other supplies for use in South Africa.
"2. Between October, 1899, and January 21, 1901, horses, mules and other supplies to the extent of \$26,343,692 were exported to South Africa.
"3. No steps have been taken to prevent the lawful exportation of horses, etc.
"4. The number of horses and mules shipped from our ports during this period was 76,632."

Mr. Gage adds that it is not feasible before Congress adjourns to give the shipments by ports in detail. A table shows all the shipments to South Africa, the chief ones being horses, mules, wheat, canned beef, and rum. The items of gunpowder and firearms are very small.

CANADIAN HORSES GOOD.

All the returning soldiers report the Canadian horses as equal to any that were sent to Africa. Captain Mackie, Canadian Staff Officer, brought back two Canadian horses which went through the whole campaign.—From *Toronto Globe re Strathcona's Return*.

Why England should go to the United States to purchase horses for South Africa is a matter of considerable surprise to many Canadians, particularly when we have the horses required right here in Canada, for no doubt you noticed a letter some weeks ago from Mr. Walter Harland Smith, of "Grand's Repository," Toronto, in one of the daily papers, in which he stated, if my memory serves me, that there were over sixty thousand (60,000) horses in Canada to-day suitable for service in South Africa, and that the reports to the War Office proved that the horses from Canada gave the best satisfaction.

Now, while our newspapers are daily devoting space to "Imperial Federation," "Preferential Tariff," the proposed "Pacific Cable," etc., etc., it is rarely one of them refers to this surprising and important matter of hundreds of thousands of British dollars being spent across the line for horses, when it could, and should, be spent—all things being equal—among the farmers of Canada.

Welland Co., Ont.

JAMES BATTLE.

Horse Training and Educating.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—I read with interest the short articles on "Colt Breaking," "Breaking Vicious Colts," etc. We farmers, as a rule, need all the good advice we can get on this very important question. Your footnote, regarding the breaking of vicious colts, was in good keeping. The articles referred to are found in February 1st number. May I ask a question here? Would it be going too far to include the whip and the hard word "breaking," together with the "comanche bridle" and the "double half-hitch," referred to in footnote. I consider that all of these articles are useful, but a word of caution is good to the inexperienced, and others as well: The use and abuse of these contrivances will bring about very different results.

In the first place, the colt has a capacity for affection, we must all admit. Then why not try to cultivate it in him. He can learn who his friends are very quickly. He is intelligent. The farmer who is a true friend to the horse must not forget to put up the bars or the colts will be after him. If he wants a colt, he does not need to call in all his neighbors to help him catch one. The animal will follow him to the barn and may ask for a taste of oats, as usual, and the farmer may load all the harness onto him that he can find. Now, I contend that such a colt is not necessarily "broken" to this business, and will not need to be, either.

The colts that require "breaking" are the ones that are neglected and abused. They are strangers to man's kindness. They are rushed to the ring by brute force in too short notice. No time to make friends; not even time to get acquainted with the new surroundings. If he shows fight, then throw him down, hold him there, and then whip him up. Show him that he is weak. Whip him into the collar and expect him to pull a good load tomorrow. To-morrow comes, he is loaded, driven off, and comes back with sore shoulders, sore limbs, and broken spirits. He is discouraged. How many horses are ruined before they reach maturity! One reason for the breaking down of these animals is this: Many colts are tied by the neck all winter. Young and soft, they are taken out and forced into heavy work in the spring, before their bones and muscles are able to stand it, ruining their constitution and their cheerful disposition, and destroying their market value also. Would it be a waste of time to give the colt 15 minutes per day, during the cold weather, talking, brushing, feeding from the hand, carefully harnessing and unharnessing him, leading him to the pole, rubbing it on his side, etc. There are lots of little things that we may do without annoying the colt at all, and at the same time the colt is being educated by these very simple movements. We may just call them the A B C's, and not giving the big, hard word "breaking" in his first lessons.

SANDY COLTS.

Grade Sheep Judging at the Fat Stock Show.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

In reply to the letters of Messrs. J. T. Gibson and H. Noel Gibson, in your issue of March 1st, there is little to add, as my published statements 1, 2 and 3 are admitted correct, with a very lame attempt made to make me a party in the doings mentioned in 2 and 3. I had no more to do with the appointment of any one of the four acting judges than the "man in the moon." Mr. Richard Gibson is my authority for statement 2, but never did he mention that his request was for a fourth judge, nor did he mention Mr. Hamner's name as the extra judge of his choice, and that for obvious reasons well known to exhibitors of sheep. My first intimation of a fourth judge acting, and that one Mr. Hamner, was when the judging began. Previous to that, I supposed it was the third judge Mr. Gibson had selected. Regarding the reply to statement 3, I neither asked for nor objected to the change in question when Mr. H. Noel Gibson made the request. By that time, the strange irregularity of the proceedings throughout led me to my guard, and so give the closest attention to the work in hand. For proof of statement 4, I might well rely on the list of awards published in January 1st ADVOCATE, which Mr. J. T. Gibson states to be incorrect. But I will add further proof, by asking anyone interested to look in the list of awards given in the official publication of the live-stock associations, where can be seen the list just as I gave it, for class 28, sec. 4. Regarding statement 5, it also is admitted correct, but in his reply, Mr. H. Noel Gibson asks: "If not, why call in a referee?" My reply to that is, when the referee was called in, and gave his decision, how was it that the said referee was, as stated in my first letter, given "further instructions by the gentleman who held the book"? And that gentleman was the owner of one of the pens in dispute. As Mr. H. Noel Gibson is manfully shouldering the responsibility, I will ask what his thoughts would be were I to step up to a referee and whisper him instructions in the ring, leading him to reconsider his decision? In case it may seem that I am drawing on my imagination, allow me to state that the said referee's letter to me, under date of Dec. 28, 1900, will fully bear me out.

I maintain that no exhibitor, whether holding a sheep or the judge's book in the ring, has any right to give instructions to the acting judge or judges.

So long as the moral atmosphere of our show-rings is purified, even if strong doses of bitter medicine are administered, my object is attained.

Victoria Co., Ont. JOHN CAMPBELL.