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WINTERING LIVE STOCK.

There is no subject requiring the strict attention of the farmer, at this season of the year, so much as the proper management of his stock; and there is none perhaps more commonly neglected. The inconvenience and loss arising from such neglect, cannot be easily ascertained. Many a well-bred animal, from winter exposure and stinted food, has been rendered worthless. Indeed, the general character of our live stock, particularly cattle, including likewise sheep and swine, has suffered materially from the want of proper care and attention, especially during the winter months.

We believe that the climate of Canada is not unfavourable to the rearing of live stock; and it is a well ascertained fact, that most animals here are less liable to disease than in the mother country; a fact that will appear surprising, when it is considered how little attention they receive. Our climate, it is true, is somewhat extreme, the thermometer having a very wide range, but the atmosphere being generally clear and dry, there is, consequently, an absence of those physical conditions—such as dampness and fogs, which appear in other countries so unfavourable to the health and comfort of animals. The notion which generally obtains at home, respecting the extreme severity of our Canadian climate, is very much exaggerated, and, from experience, we find the difference between the climate and agricultural capabilities of Upper Canada and the British Islands much less than we anticipated.

The two great essential conditions, of the proper management of live stock in winter, are *shelter and food*. These belong to that large class of truths, which, however obvious, require to be constantly repeated. A large and substantial barn, with adequate sheds and yards, thoroughly protected against wet and cold, and combining the necessary conveniences for feeding and watering cattle, are absolutely necessary on every well managed farm. In a country where timber is plentiful and cheap, and of a kind easily worked, there are but few farmers that might not in a few years obtain most of these requisites. We have seen farmsteads in

Canada, that would be thought highly creditable in much older countries; but they, it is true, are but few and far between. We went over a farm the other day, consisting of but little more than a hundred acres, having almost as complete a suite of buildings and offices as we ever saw: a capacious barn, with fixed thrashing mill, chaff cutter, turnip slicer, furnace and boiler, with warm sheds, and well littered open yards, convenient piggery, hen house, &c., all inhabited by thriving and happy tenants, in much larger numbers than could be maintained in the same condition under other circumstances. We, therefore, earnestly recommend our readers to pay the utmost attention to the proper sheltering and feeding of their domesticated animals; being convinced that such attention will receive an ample return. Animals thus cared for consume less food, and maintain a healthier condition. It is, however, of importance to observe, that live stock require, even in the severest weather, a free circulation of pure air. Ill ventilated buildings, therefore, may prove as injurious as undue exposure. The management of sheep in particular requires that they should not be crowded together; and the utmost attention should be paid to regular feeding, cleanliness, and ventilation.

It may not be uninteresting to some of our readers, if we state briefly the philosophy of what we have been recommending. It is a well known fact, that the temperature of animal beings is nearly uniform at all seasons and in all climates. According to a recent theory of Liebig, this temperature, or *animal heat*, is kept up in the living body by the process of respiration; the *oxygen* of the air uniting chemically with the *carbon* of the blood, thus causing a sort of combustion or burning, the result of the combination being carbonic acid gas, a kind of dense air often found in wells and mines, and ill-ventilated sleeping rooms. Whenever this kind of air largely preponderates, neither animal life nor combustion can be supported. Now this carbon is furnished to the blood by the food which the animal eats, and, if in a larger quantity than is required to sustain the necessary degree of animal heat, the balance