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and

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## THE NADIAN BREEDER

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### CAN MIAN BREEDER,

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### A NEW CATTLE MARKET.

While we have no sympathy with people who have axes to grind at the public expense, we cannot but think it high time that something was done toward the selection and securing of a site for a new cattle market. It is very well known that while the present market is not suitably placed as far as general accessibility is concerned, that is no its worst fault. It is not fit for the reception of live stock, and were it made suitable at the cost of a very serious outlay, the investment would be a foolish one, as in a very few years the trade would outgrow the limits of such a small location. The forty acres between Dundas and Bloor Streets would be

easily reached by all the lines of railway centring in Toronto, and it might be many years before the demands of the trade would render necessary the acquisition of more territory. The question of accessibility from the city is not a very important one, as any site that might be selected would soon be served with street car communication. Extensive cattle yards would not render the streets in their immediate vicinity particularly desirable quarters in which to live and it is more than possible that a large proportion of the citizens of Toronto would not object to the selection of a site for the new cattle market even more remote than the one already suggested.

The live stock interests of the Province of Ontario, as well as the business interests of Toronto, demand that this cattle market question should be dealt with promptly and in a proper spirit.

### REARING HORSES THAT WILL LAST.

Among those who keep horses for pleasure it is always a source of sorrow that horses wear out so quickly. By the time a pair of carriage horses are well mated and sufficiently accustomed to each other so that they will drive well together, they are too apt to begin to show symptoms of wearing out. They begin to go a little stiffly when they first leave the stable, or flinch on a hard bit of pavement, cough and wheeze if the weather happens to be a little damp and, in short, one or both of them soon begin to hang out those signs which always mean that the horse showing them "has seen his best days." When one has become well accustomed and, as it were, acquainted with a really good driver or saddle horse that suits him in every respect, it is a painful experience to see him steadily deteriorating from the time he reaches ten or twelve years of age. And, apart from the uncomfortable feeling one experiences on seeing a favorite horse failing while he should be in his prime, and just as his owner has become thoroughly attached to him, the economic side of the question is a serious one. If a horse is to wear out in from from four to six years of steady employment, the cost of keeping a horse or a pair of horses becomes a very serious matter to a householder of anything short of the most ample means. But it

the early decay of the carriage or saddle horse be a serious matter, what shall be said as to the thousands of animals kept solely for the purpose of earning money? The cart horse, the dray horse, the express and omnibus horse, the livery horse and the street-car horse, and the farm horse? In the case of these it becomes purely a matter of dollars and cents. A horse that will last eight years in active service, and be well up to his work for the whole of that period, is worth double the price of one that will last only four years in the same kind of work, plus the value of the time spent in training or fitting a horse for the work. Mules are not, as a rule, handsome, and in many cases they are not pleasant to handle, and yet they bring good round prices because they will outlast horses in almost any kind of hard work. This is certainly not as it should be, and with proper care in breeding and handling, a horse should last nearly, or quite, as long as a mule. Another factor to be considered is, that while the mare is often valuable as a breeder after being more or less incapacitated for work, the mule of either sex is useful only for

There are several reasons why our horses do not last as they should. One of these is that proper care is not taken in the selection of a sire. Stallions are selected for almost everything except longevity. Among the many massive Clydesdale and Shire stallions to be seen at our Industrial and Provincial Exhibitions, how many live long enough to profit by the success of their first two or three years in the stud? At the annual exhibitions held by the Ontario Society of Artists none but new pictures are exhibited. One would think that some such rule prevailed among our exhibitors of big stallions. How many old Clydesdale or Shire stallions are there in Ontario to-day, taking it for granted that a stallion begins to be old after he reaches fourteen? It would be interesting to know what is the average age of heavy draught stallions now kept for service in Ontario. Unless we are very much mistaken, we should find that our big stallions come of a very short-lived race. If like begets like, how can we expect the progeny of such stallions to be long-lived? This is not the case with our thoroughbreds and light harness horses. Terror, one of our most popular and suc-