

## HORSES AND CATTLE.

## BEEF AND BONES.

These expressive pictures tell their own tale. The horns of the "Bones" illustration may seem somewhat exaggerated, but there is an English breed of Longhorns that sports just such head gear as the artist has represented. The pictures are not fancy sketches, but taken from life. It is probable that these immense horns will ere long be known only in history, and that the coming ox will have no horns at all. Unquestionably there is a strong tide of preference in the direction of hornless cattle. The Polled Angus and the Gallo-way breeds are coming to the front, while the Shorthorns hold their own as unmistakable favourites, one feature strongly recommending them being the smallness of the bony structure as compared with the mass of beef carried by it. Gaunt, bony cattle are everywhere at a discount, and farmers will do well to give them a wide berth. The maximum of meat with the minimum of bone is what should be aimed at in cattle-breeding. Our most prosperous farmers are those who are throwing their utmost intelligence and best business management into the feeding of live stock for the shambles. The grand secret of success is to make as large a proportion of the produce as possible walk to market. "No stock, no manure; no manure, no crops."

## CANADIAN HORSES.

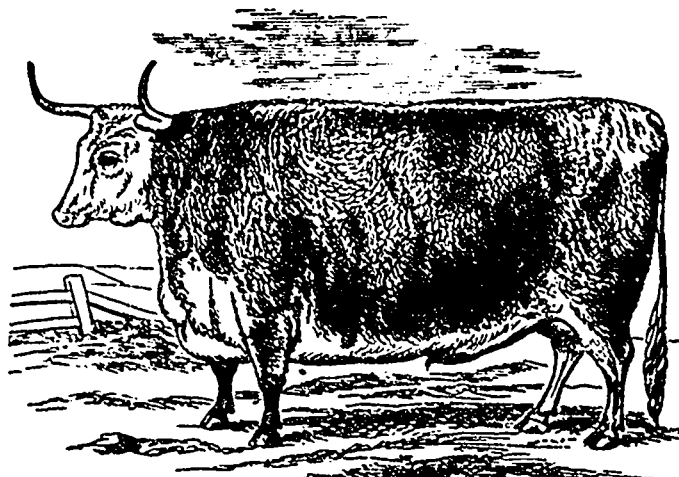
## A COMPLIMENT TO CANADIAN BREEDERS.

In 1880, two French army officers, Lieut.-Colonel Baron Taverat de Kerbrech and Captain Henri de la Chere, visited Canada and the United States, commissioned by the French Government to investigate and report upon the nature and qualities of the horses produced on this continent, with a view more particularly to their adaptation to military uses. Their report was published in Paris in February, and the following extract, referring to Canadian horses, is clipped from a translation published in the N. Y. Spirit of the Times:

## CANADIAN HORSES.

The Canadian horses have the distinguishing quality of all of them being more or less of English blood, and that none of those entirely worthless and shapeless animals are to be found among them that are so frequently to be met with in Europe. The English have continued, from the time of their occupation of the country to the present time, to introduce horses from the mother country. At one time stallions, then thoroughbred mares, or nearly so, were brought over by officers and colonists, and although the sires or dams may not have been so remarkable as those of Kentucky, for instance, yet the local breeds, especially in the west, have been considerably improved thereby. The Province of Ontario is another Normandy, from the richness of its pasturages, and the osseous and muscular development which they give to the foal. A great deal

of the country stock reminds one of the horses of the French Province, but they are more regular in their lines. The types are as varied as the sizes, and the *ensemble* is much like what one sees in England. The head is not always as light and finely shaped as might be wished; but the neck, which is sometimes a little short, is straight and pretty well supported; the chest is deep and comes down well. The windpipe is well indicated. The back is somewhat short, the loins straight, the crupper sufficiently long, the hips are prominent. In a word, whether large or small, the animal shows blood. He is built for the saddle, and made "wedge shape," broader in the hind than in the fore quarters, which makes up for his relative narrowness by his development in height.



BEEF.



BONES.

## THE VARIOUS BREEDS.

There is a whole category of horses issued or derived from trotters in Canada West. The former have, of course, their good points and their defects, that is, they are very good when coming from trotters of the right stamp and build, but are mediocre when the produce of the flat, long, thin, and blemished animals so common in the north-east of the United States. But although these latter are a source of mischief in Canada, their influence in this respect is much less, as the "cold blood" species have almost entirely disappeared from the Dominion.

A category of light draught horses, measuring from 15 to 15.1 hands, is also to be seen in Ontario. They are of peculiar build, and not so angular nor straight of line as those which approach the thoroughbred by their shape, but they are well constituted, slender, with enormous muscles in their fore limbs and the buttocks, a little round in their forms, and having too much pitch in their

backs, but very strong, with fine tissues, showing energy and staying power, and are rapid and very active in their movements. Larger ones, from 15.2 to 16.1 hands, are straighter in the neck and shoulders, back and crupper, and are heavier in build, with more of a mass. They show blood, however, and are said to be full of fire and light in their gait. The English make use of them for their artillery.

A certain number of Percheron stallions are made use of in Canada, while crossings between Clydesdales and thoroughbreds, or near thorough, are numerous. The issue of these latter couplings are large and heavy, but a great many have a good build and fine lines, but those issuing from these same Clyde stallions and fat mares are generally enormous and shapeless heaps of meat, having only in their favour the strength and dead-weight which they bring to draughting heavy loads.

## THE PONIES, ETC.

Finally, there are some very hardy, low, and heavily-built ponies in Ontario, that are very like those in the neighbourhood of Montreal. As for the saddle horses, of which we have spoken above, the best and the most numerous are those standing from 15 to 15.2 hands. Although this Province is the richest in the number and quality of horses, yet there are very few "park horses" produced. This is the *cheval de luxe*, of remarkable model, having length, substance and high action. This arises from a double tendency on the part of the public, who are too desirous to have the fastest trotters for the light waggon, and the largest animal for draught. Local breeders undergo two influences that are diametrically opposite—on the one hand looking for speed, which tends to "make slender," and increase the height and length to the detriment of strength, staying power, and the limbs themselves; on the other hand, the straining after bulk, the endeavour to increase thickness beyond measure at the expense of constitution, vigour, blood, and gait. These two ways only lead further away from the *cheval de luxe*, and the inevitable crossings of the deriva-

tives of two such dissimilar types can only give products outside the laws of nature—monsters, in a word. It is by placing more importance on the model, the chest, and the lines of the trotter, and asking for less weight, but more regularity, energy, and gait in the draught horse, that we can succeed in gradually lessening the dissimilarity that separates these two extremes, so that from either side the breeder may have his park horse by the simple crossing with a stallion of good pedigree—a Norfolk or a half-breed Anglo-Norman, for instance.

## COMPLIMENTARY.

The Agricultural Commission of Ontario, which is composed of men very skilful and well-informed on the equine question, seems to understand the great importance there is for Canada to produce the park horse, which is even rarer than in the United States. In fact, the equine resources of England and France, which are the principal producing countries as well as markets, are becoming