

In some cases the crown of the milk teeth that is being shed may remain wedged in between the permanent teeth, and cause a difficulty in masticating the food, leading to unthriftiness.

Lead poisoning is sometimes successfully treated. The bowels should be opened by a brisk purgative of Epsom salts. This, besides encouraging the removal of the lead by the bowels, also acts as a chemical antidote to some extent.

Iodide of potash in half ounce doses, three times a day, removes the lead by the kidneys, and also is an antidote.

All medicines should be given in skimmed milk that is thickened with eggs.

### Breaking Service.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—Would you please inform me through the JOURNAL if you or any of your readers could give me any information as to the following: I have a thoroughbred heifer two years old past, which I cannot get in calf. I have taken her to several bulls but she does not hold, and frequently she is in season, as about every nine or ten days; again perhaps not for eight or ten days. If Prof. Grenside or yourself would recommend something to overcome this, it would be a benefit to a great many readers besides your humble servant.

ENQUIRER.

ANSWER.

From the fact that the heifer comes on irregularly, and at shorter intervals than the natural period, would refer the source of trouble to some unhealthy condition in connection with the ovaries.

As ovarian derangement of this character is considered to be beyond the reach of remedial agents, no successful course of treatment of a medicinal nature can be recommended.

This heifer being young, and if she is otherwise healthy, I would not despair of her yet breeding. I have seen them act in the manner described for fully a year, and finally breed. It is wise in many cases to alter the diet to some extent.

### The Farm.

The article on "Management of manure," in the farm department of the January number of the JOURNAL, p. 15, should have been credited to Mr. A. E. Laidman, Binbrook, by whom it was written.

"ALL accounts unite in placing the crop of clover seed as a complete failure." This significant utterance is taken from the November report of the Bureau of Industries for 1887. We look upon it as nothing short of a calamity to the agriculture of the province, since nearly all the clover seed sown next spring must be imported from other countries. In such an event the farmers will have to buy most of what they sow. The price will rise to the extent at least of the carriage of the seed. The farmers with their shortage of cash will be likely to sow more sparingly than if they had an abundant crop of seed, or than if they had just enough for themselves. A less quantity of clover seed sown would mean a less quantity of both hay and pasture the following year. A diminished quantity of these would mean a diminished quantity of beef, milk, butter and cheese. A vigorous effort should be made, therefore, to sow a full average to clover the coming spring. Another difficulty consists in the amount of foul seed that will come into the country along with the clover seed. There is no kind of seed so liable to contain impurities as grass and clover seeds, owing to their fineness. In this way clean farms become polluted and in a manner as insidious as though an enemy had sown them while the farmer slept. Oftentimes they get a firm foothold before the farmer recognizes them as intruders. The protection here consists in purchasing

from a reliable seedsman, whose improved winnowing mills can separate the pure from the vile. On no account sow a less acreage of clover because the seed is scarce, and allow nothing to induce you to buy seed of a doubtful character, because cheap, rather than that which the seedsman will guarantee.

### Looking at the Situation.

The shortage in the Ontario crop of last summer is very grave indeed, compared with the averages for the past six years. In fall wheat it amounts to 5,162,693 bushels, or 21 per cent.; spring wheat, 4,080,762 bushels, or 42 per cent.; barley, 2,031,583 bushels, or 10½ per cent.; oats, 4,571,076 bushels, or 8 per cent.; pease, 759,118 bushels, or 6 per cent.; rye, 805,228 bushels, or nearly 47 per cent.; corn in the ear, 2,856,849 bushels, or 25 per cent.; buckwheat, 371,103 bushels, or 26½ per cent.; beans, 175,338 bushels, or 39 per cent.; potatoes, 7,682,115 bushels, or 41½ per cent.; mangel-wurzels, 1,764,714 bushels, or 23½ per cent.; carrots, 1,434,042 bush., or 40 per cent.; turnips, 7,546,093 bushels, or nearly 20 per cent.; and the deficiency was 4,937 tons in an average of 3,098,547 tons of hay, a difference scarcely appreciable. We find, therefore, in crops included above, and they are the principal crops grown by the Ontario farmer, a shortage all round of an average of 27 per cent., that is, averaging the thirteen per centages given in our enumeration, or not much less than one-third of all round shortage.

This deficiency should not give any alarm to the farmer, if as in the days of long ago a shortage in the crop was sure to be followed by a rise in price, which about equalized things for him. Such is not the case now. The deficiency in any country which sinks lower than the quantity consumed, only increases the price by the cost of carriage and duties, if any. If the shortage does not sink below the level of home requirements, the market will not be advanced materially. The prices in Canada may rise somewhat, but not very much, as we will not require to import much of the products enumerated. The farmers, then, of 1887, who live by growing grain, will find their returns lessened by 27 per cent. on an average, while their expenses were much the same as in former years. If, then, they were not laying by that proportion of their returns during previous years, this year they must come out behind. What, then, is to be done? Shall they give up in despair? Not a man of them, we trust, for when the farmers do not prosper in an agricultural country like Canada, few other persons can. Let them rather seek relief in other branches of agriculture. Dairymen, during 1887, have done well (the exact returns have not yet been given to the public), and meat producers have held their own with the promise of better things ahead. The agricultural greatness of Ontario must arise in future from growing stock and live-stock products. The limitless wheat-growing plains of the North-west now opened up, tell us this. So do the endless slopes of India, with their cheap labor. The 60,000 head of beefers sent to Britain every year tell us the same thing, so do the millions of English gold found jingling in the pockets of Ontario dairymen every year, and the 27,794 head of horses, 93,096 head of cattle, 588,163 head of sheep, and 28,437,238 doz. of eggs sent to the United States in the years 1885 and 1886, is but an echo of the same refrain. Would it not be supreme folly in our farmers to close their ears to facts like these, which cannot be gainsaid, and like the "running amok," continue to rush in the pathway of certain ruin?

### The Red Lyon Wheat Swindle.

It is now pretty certain that the farmers of Ontario have lost to the extent of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in the Red Lyon wheat swindle, concocted by the Ontario Grain and Seed Company, with headquarters in London, and operating under a charter obtained in the regular way. That is a somewhat large sum for the members of one guild to pay in a single year as the price of ignorance. It has been alleged that it is more the price of cupidity, which we desire may prove untrue, for in such a case every ground for sympathy with the aggrieved parties would be removed.

It is somewhat amazing that a fraud of so much magnitude could have been perpetrated in a community favored with so many opportunities of enlightenment. Its very possibility brings out in bold relief the very humiliating truth that a large proportion of the farmers of this Province either do not take an agricultural paper at all or that many of those who do are not close readers of the same.

Again and again we have warned the farmers against the machinations of those pitfall-diggers, but apparently without effect, for we have since learned to our deep regret that some of our subscribers have been taken in the net let down by those clever knaves, who have indeed made a large catch of our honest yeomen in the same.

It was in July, 1886, that we first got scent of the bloodhounds. Our attention was called to their depredations by Mr. J. Deane, Paris Station, who informed us in other language that a brace of robbers were at work in the neighborhood, and that they were playing on the credulity of the farmers by representing that their charter was from the Ontario Government, the farmer looking upon the charter as some special authority given to the company to deal in seed grain. We at once requested Mr. Deane to furnish us with a copy of the bonds they were issuing, the form of note they were taking from the farmers, and all the information he could obtain in reference to the company. The information sought came, but not in time for our August issue. We at once took the documents to our legal adviser, who told us that by publishing the same we would become liable to a suit for damages by the Ontario Grain and Seed Company. The question now arose, what course should be adopted. It was our own firm conviction that every farmer who gave his note for fifteen dollars for every bushel of the wheat purchased by him, was paying fourteen dollars and twenty-four cents a bushel too much for it, and that he would be cheated out of the price paid to that extent.

Some argued that was their own affair, and that if they (the farmers) allowed themselves to be thus duped, they deserved to pay such a price for their simplicity. That was not our own view. We felt obligation in virtue of our position in relation to the farmers. We had at our command a medium whereby many thousands might be reached in time to give them a note of warning, and so we determined. We could not put away the conclusion that if it was the duty of one neighbor to warn another the other side of his line fence, when he saw that reptilism was depositing eggs that would soon turn into vipers which would sting him, that it was also the duty of those who had it in their power to blow the trumpet that might reach the ear of many, and thus put them on their guard. Accordingly in the September issue of the JOURNAL, p. 246, we published the constitution, by-laws and copy of bond given by the company. Our comment at the close read thus: "In South Dumfries alone, we are told that notes have been taken