

CANADIAN BREEDER and AGRICULTURAL REVIEW.

Vol. II.

TORONTO, AUGUST 21, 1883.

No. 34.



PROGRESS BELLE.

DERBY BELLE.

JERSEY HEIFERS. Bred by Mr. James Blyth, Wood House, Stanstead, Essex.

DERBY BELL, First Prize under One Year Old; and, with PROGRESS BELLE, First Prize as pair of Heifers, Essex Agricultural Show, Waltham Abbey, June, 1885.

FEEDING AND DRIVING HORSES IN HOT WEATHER.

From the National Live Stock Journal.

Cold is one of the best tonics as an invigorator of digestion, as well as of nervous energy and muscular contractibility. Heat, on the other hand, takes out the tension from all the tissues, chemically, as it does out of over-heated metal; and physically, by lessening the appetite, and in the manner stated relaxing, and thus enervating, the functions. If the owner or driver could but realize that *ennui* overtakes the horse precisely as it overtakes the man when oppressed by heat and fatigue, and however much the lash may be brought into requisition for the purpose of infusing new energy,

the reaction—relaxation—following the hurt caused by the whip, leaves the poor beast more exhausted than before.

The trouble in hot weather is, that the horse, as mentioned, cannot replenish rapidly enough to enable him to keep up a severe strain continuously, simply because the appetite and digestion are weakened and the relaxing effect of the heat is enervating. This emergency may be met by driving in the early morning and in the after part of the day. If the drive continues all day, one of the best modes of relief is to now and then get in the shade for half an hour, loosening the check; and while taking this little respite, if the horse can get access to a bite of grass for five or ten minutes, this will be

found to be wonderfully inspiring. Driving with a check short enough to give weariness to the neck when the heat is debilitating is one of the most unwise practices that can be ventured upon. The horse, if checked up at all, should have this done very moderately, and an occasional stop at the water trough, the check being taken off, will give great relief. Frequent watering, a small amount being indulged in, is best; and the principal feed should be given at night, that it may be eaten at leisure and digested and assimilated before morning. To impose the carrying of half a peck or more of oats within the digestive organs when under exertion is unwise, and should, whenever possible to do so, be avoided.