

CANADIAN BREEDER

and
AGRICULTURAL REVIEW.

Vol. II.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 8, 1885.

No. 39.

THE CANADIAN BREEDER AND AGRICULTURAL REVIEW.

Weekly Paper, published in the Stock and Farming interests of
Canada.

SUBSCRIPTION, - - \$2.00 per Annum

ADVERTISING RATES.

Per line, each insertion, 10 cents.
(Nonpareil measurement, 12 lines to one inch.)

Breeders' cards, five-line space, \$20.00 per annum, each additional
line, \$5.00 per annum.

Condensed advertisements under classified headings, one cent per
word, each insertion, for which cash must accompany order, as accounts
will not be opened for them.

Contract rates on application.

All communications to be addressed to

CANADIAN BREEDER,

COR. CHURCH AND FRONT STS.,
TORONTO.

S. BEATTY, MANAGER.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 1885.

Advertisements of an objectionable or questionable
character will not be received for insertion in this
paper.

THIS PAPER may be found on file at Geo. P. Rowell &
Co's Newspaper Advertising Bureau, 10 Spruce
Street, where advertising contracts may be made
for it in **NEW YORK.**

N. W. AYER & SON, *Times* Building, Phila-
delphia, are agents for this paper. Files may be
seen and contracts made at their office.

The CANADIAN BREEDER is represented in
Liverpool, England, by Mr. J. F. Reid, Chapel
Walks, where contracts for advertising may be
made and subscriptions sent.

A PLAN FOR PROMOTING THE HORSE- BREEDING INTEREST.

A correspondent of the *London Field*, makes a
suggestion regarding the promotion of the horse-
breeding interest in England, which with a few
modifications might be made applicable to Canada.

The suggestion is that a depot should be estab-
lished in each county for the purchase of promising
foals and one, two, and three-year-olds. That each
year the animals that have reached four or five
years be sold at auction to make room for the in-
coming crop. The writer points out that so many
youngsters go wrong in that country, that the risk,
together with the cost of maturing them, deters

many farmers from going more extensively into
horse-breeding.

As a matter of fact, comparatively few colts go
wrong in Canada, especially if they are allowed
half a chance and are not ruined with hard work in
their baby-hood, while as for the cost of rearing
them, too many of our farmers make very sure that
it will not cost much to rear their colts because
they are too mean and stingy to feed them decently.
This, however, does not prove that depots for the
purchase of foals, and their sale when matured,
might not be profitably worked in Canada. It has
long been an established fact, that farmers can do
better by selling their milk to cheese factories and
creameries, than by making it into butter and
cheese themselves. The reason of this is not
difficult to discover. Cheese and butter can be
better made and more cheaply made on a large
scale by experts, than on a small scale by people who
have never thoroughly mastered the business. Why
would not the same reasoning apply to the feeding,
rearing and training of foals? Many farmers are
located where good pasture is scarce and dear, and
where hay brings the highest price. It will not pay
them to journey thirty or forty miles with two or
three colts for the sake of getting them into good,
cheap pasture, nor will it pay them to build a
stable for them and leave a man to take care of
them that they may be wintered where hay is
cheap.

If, on the other hand, a company should secure
a tract of good pasture at a dollar an acre and a lot
of first-class hay marshes at the same figure, if
these tracts were located far enough north in the
Laurentian Hills to make the land of little value
for cropping other than with coarse grains and roots;
then it would appear that men thoroughly versed
and experienced in the business could feed, mature,
train and sell young horses more cheaply than
ordinary farmers could. A drove of 500 foals could
be fed and looked after at an expense per head that
would be much less than that required to cover
the cost of caring for half a dozen. Foals matured
in this way would, in all probability, sell for twenty-
five per cent. more than those raised by the average
farmer, as they could hardly fail to be well fed and
properly educated. It certainly looks as though
such a project might be well worth trying.

CONCERNING COB BREEDING.

We have again and again pointed out the evils
of breeding small mares to large horses. The
temptation to do so is often very strong. Size
always tells in a horse's favor where other things
are equal, and the farmer who has a small mare is
very apt to think he can better himself by breeding
her to a big horse. And yet this practice is of a
certainty lowering the character of our horses and
prejudicing the interests of the Canadian horse
breeder in the markets of the world. Our farmers
do not appear to know anything about the value of
really high finish and quality independent of
size. They do not seem to know that there is a
market for cobs because they seldom or never
breed one. Take for example a man with a snug,
compact, little mare, fifteen hands high, or even
under that mark, and weighing perhaps 900 pounds.
Should he breed such a mare to any handsome
and compact thoroughbred horse standing on
short legs (such as Springfield, Strachino or Day
Star), and he could hardly fail to get a stout,
stylish cob, full of quality and courage, having
good bone, pace, and action, and being up to
almost any weight. But in nineteen cases out of
twenty he will not do this. He will be far more
apt to breed his little mare to some big Clydesdale
or Shire horse seventeen hands high, weighing a
ton or more, and as dull and stupid as he is big.
Perhaps the foal may, by a strange freak of nature,
closely resemble the sire in most respects, and
when three or four years old sell for a good strong
price to some one who is willing to pay a strong
price for size and weight independent of all other
qualities. On the other hand, however, the small
capacity of the little mare is apt to cramp and
starve the foetus ere it sees the light. It is foaled
a big, raw-boned, ungainly colt, and, as the little
dam has not nourishment enough for him, the
youngster continues as he was foaled, the big
frame which has the first claim on his sustenance
being built up at the expense of the muscles, which
are attenuated, weak, and flabby. Every farmer
in Ontario has seen many just such horses as the
colt we are describing will grow up to be, and
unfortunately for us, buyers from the United States
and the other side of the Atlantic have seen them
too.