

## Canadian Live-Stock &amp; Farm Journal

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE STOCK JOURNAL COMPANY,

48 John Street South, Hamilton, Ont.

Terms, \$1.00 per Annum in Advance.

THOMAS SHAW, RIVERSIDE FARM, EDITOR.

**To Subscribers.**—Subscription price, \$1.00 per annum in advance. Single copies, 10 cents each; sample copies free. No names will be removed from our subscription list when in arrears and without we receive instructions to that effect. Those in arrears will be charged \$1.25.

**Clubs.**—Any person is at liberty to form clubs. Clubs of *five* copies to any address, for one year, \$4.00. Clubs of *ten* copies to any address, \$7.50.

**To Advertisers.**—Advertisements of an appropriate nature will be inserted in the JOURNAL at the following rates: For a single insertion, 18c. per line, nonpareil (12 lines makes one inch); for three months, 15 cents per line each insertion; for six months, 13c. per line each insertion; for one year, 10c. per line each insertion. Cards in Breeders' Directory, not exceeding five lines \$1.50 per line per annum. Copy of advertisements should reach us not later than the 25th of each month (earlier, if possible). If later, it may be in time for insertion, but often too late for proper classification. Transient advertisements payable in advance. No advertisement inserted for less than 75c.

**To Correspondents.**—All communications intended for publication in the JOURNAL should reach us by the 15th of each month—sooner if possible. We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

**Remittances** may be made in registered letter at our risk. The receipt of the JOURNAL will be sufficient evidence to subscribers that their remittances have been received.

All communications to be addressed STOCK JOURNAL Co., 48 John street south, Hamilton, Ont.

HAMILTON, CANADA, JULY, 1887.

It is to the editor of this paper a matter of deep regret that he has been obliged to decline more than one half the invitations to attend farmers' institutes and farmers' picnics, held during the month of June. He hopes yet to see every farmer in the province face to face, and to be able to say to him to resist by means of organization the combined oppressions under which he is laboring.

MR. D. M. MCPHERSON, of Lancaster, Ont., and president of the Eastern Dairyman's Association, in a paper read at one of our dairy conventions, states that he had asked of several prominent farmers the important question, "What is the real starting point of 'all true farming?'" In no instance had he received what he believed to be a true answer. Some had said underdraining, some, dairying, others, producing beef; but he looked upon each of these answers as wide of the mark. He believed that the true answer was, *take due care of the manure pile*. Mr. McPherson has the right idea, and we would like to emphasize it. The answer might be given in various ways, but the principle is the same. *Feed the land properly* is another version of the same truth, for no man can do this rightly who does not take care of the manure pile. It is just amazing that so many farmers ignore this principle, but they cannot but ignore it, if they have failed to recognize it. Look at it, farmers. It is a principle that you cannot look at long without in citing you to action.

"DECENT men read in the character of the live-stock a farmer keeps the real secrets of his character." The above, penned by "Fairplay" in the *Breeders' Gazette*, is a trite sentence. We were a little startled at first on reading it, but there is a great deal in it. Indeed it is "much in little." It is certainly true that if one keeps scrub cattle, which have been shown over and over again to be less profitable than the improved, he is either an ignorant or a non-enterprising man, or both. If he keep them in an impoverished condition it proves him lacking in foresight, industry and calculation. If they are allowed

to shiver in the cold and to go but half fed, it proves him hard hearted, if not inhuman, and if he continue to live thus year after year with all the light of improvement that is being shed around him, it proves him a bigot to his blind prejudices. It will not be so bad if we can only get hold of his sons; but there is this difficulty, he guards the citadel of their ignorance so well that there is often neither crack nor cranny for the admittance of one ray of light.

WE heard a gentleman remark not long ago that professors of agriculture were looked upon by many of our farmers as "monumental humbugs," and we fear there is too much truth in the statement, not that they are monumental humbugs, but that they are too often looked upon as such. This state of affairs is simply too bad. Farmers must put away this jaundiced glass and learn to look upon them through the lens not of charity but of approval and even admiration. The professor who tells us that as salt is contained in considerable quantities in mangolds, it will be advantageous to sow salt on the land, is even more worthy of honor than the man who confirms this statement by actual test, for the former reaches his conclusion by a way that is far shorter and no less certain than the latter, and thus it is with a thousand other things. We can no more do without agricultural professors, men who can teach our sons more of the scientific side of farming in a day than they can learn in a month without such aid. The man who to day looks upon agricultural professors rightly equipped for their work as monumental humbugs, is making a monumental mistake in his conclusions.

THE earnestness with which the friends of the different breeds advocate the cause of each respectively, is full of hope. This earnestness is evidence of the conviction that they have faith themselves in the worth of what they are advocating. Men cannot be in earnest where conviction is lacking. This manifestation carries home to us the clear conviction that they have strong faith in the real worth of the animals which they have chosen as their favorite breed, which is in keeping with what we have said all along, that there is real merit in each of the improved breeds, and that each has its place. In choosing the line of breeding which the beginner will take up, he should therefore in the first place have a clearly defined idea as to his object, and next he should select that breed which he has reason to believe will best secure this object. It would not be wise in one who purposes making butter to select the Herefords for this purpose, nor in him who is seeking stall fed beef to choose the Jerseys. So long as the champions of the different breeds are fully convinced of their utility for the purpose for which they are kept, the interest in them will not wane. While each of the improved breeds is so well championed as at present, it must go forth conquering and to conquer; but if one becomes convinced that some other breed will subserve his purpose better, it is his duty to take up that breed instead.

**What Class of Horses shall we Breed?**

This question is surely not unimportant, however difficult it may be to deal with, and however much of delicacy may encircle it. Horse-breeding is not the greatest live-stock industry in the land, if we view these in the light of present monetary values, but if we view it in the light of utility, it stands second to none.

It must be conceded, too, that at the present time, there is a better demand relatively, and higher prices are paid proportionately for good horses than for any other class of stock, and with the demand which as

yet has shown no signs of diminution from the United States for heavy horses, and the new demand that has come to us from England for cavalry horses, the outlook for those engaged in breeding good horses was never more promising. Those breeding inferior horses do not deserve to have any better outlook. Although these are still in the majority, like the breeders of scrub cattle, it is perhaps to them an unmingled blessing that the outlook for them as to a paying market is like the face of a misanthrope, always gloomy.

We want different classes of horses for home work, and for which there will always be a more or less limited demand. These are carriage horses for the gentleman and for the farmer whose means will admit of this; road-horses for those who live remote from market, agricultural horses to till our fields, and dray horses for purposes of cartage in our towns and cities. But unless in the two last mentioned classes, it would be very easy to glut the market, and indeed the breeding of those might soon be overdone in the absence of any foreign demand, if a large percentage of our farmers were to devote their attention exclusively to the production of any one class.

We can only look, then, to foreign demand to furnish for us a market that shall be always equal to the supply; and if in any of the lines of horse-breeding we can perceive indications of this, it is in that direction that the efforts of horse-breeders should be concentrated.

Now there are but two classes of Canada-bred horses at the present time for which there is a large foreign demand. We have already referred to these horses that will serve as remounts for the English army, and heavy draught horses so largely sought by our American neighbors. It is to the breeding of these, then, that our efforts are to bend, not to the neglect of the breeding of other classes of horses in limited number, but with a view to an open market.

Now it is well that those looking in the direction of horse-breeding as a means of making a livelihood, and that all who are already engaged in it and about to extend it, should weigh well the comparative profits of breeding the two classes of horses for which we have a foreign demand. Nor should it be forgotten that the demand in the case of cavalry horses is limited in a sense, while that for heavy horses is practically without limit.

It is pretty generally conceded that the risk of raising the class of horses intended for the army is much more than in producing the heavy draughts. They are more likely to go wrong, it may be, owing to that overflow of spirit not so necessary to the usefulness of the other class. They must be kept to the age of four or five years before they can be accepted for the army. The examination which they undergo is a most rigid one, and the slightest defect in any one particular is tantamount to rejection. And for those accepted the standing figure is about \$175. This is not a large sum to wait four or five years for, in the production of one animal. Better results will be obtained from beef production, or the manufacture of butter and cheese. The rejected horses, and a large percentage of them are rejected, at once drop down to the normal value of a little better than a hundred dollars, and they are then only fit for certain classes of work on the farm, by no means the most important.

In the case of the heavy draughts there is usually a ready sale when rising three years; there is less risk in having them go wrong, the examination is very much less rigid, there being no definite standard of qualification other than in the mind of the buyer, and the price paid is from \$200 and upwards for horses bred from a pedigreed sire. The service fee is no