

more persistent, does not so readily yield to treatment, and is more liable to recur; hence, in most cases, a longer rest is necessary. In severe cases where there is rupture of a part or whole of the ligament, with greater or less descent of the fetlock pad, it is necessary to place the patient in slings, pad between the hoof and fetlock joint behind with batting and bandage, in order to support as well as possible and prevent to some extent the descent. Soothing treatment, as in other cases, should be adopted at first, followed by cold and stimulant liniments, and this followed by repeated blisters. A rest of several months is necessary.

"WHIP."

## LIVE STOCK.

### OUR SCOTTISH LETTER.

#### THE SHORTHORN SALES.

Only one theme could be of much interest to readers at this time. The great Shorthorn sales of the season are over, and once again "Old Amos" comes out very much on top. He was a wonderful man, the old Quaker (Cruickshank), and, in the Shorthorn world, "his soul is marching on." All the same, in the midst of our northern jubilation, let us not forget Tommy Bates. The only remaining Bates herd of cattle in England of any dimensions is that of Mr. Joseph Harris, at Brakenburgh Tower, Carlisle. It was formerly at Calthwaite, in the same grassy county of Cumberland. Mr. Harris sold a draft from his Bates herd, under Mr. Thornton's hammer, a few weeks ago, and got capital prices. His cattle have a style that you do not quite find in the thick, fleshy Cruickshank type. A blend of the two, if you get them to "nick," does splendidly, only wisdom is profitable to direct in work of that kind. Forty females at the Brakenburgh-Tower sale averaged £99 18s. 8d., and nine bulls averaged £50 19s. 8d. The buyers were all home breeders, and, indeed, one feature of all the Shorthorn sales lately has been the comparative inaction of the Argentine buyers. Mr. Harris got 285 gs. for Duchess 139th, a four-year-old cow. He had 270 gs. for another Duchess, a year older, and 265 gs. for a two-year-old Duchess, as well as 200 gs. for a Duchess heifer calf. The yearling bull, Duke of Cumberland 21st, made 260 gs., his buyer being the well-known Gloucestershire stockman, J. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford. Other Duchess cows made 150 gs., and a red heifer calf out of the 270-gs. cow made 155 gs., the buyers being Messrs. Dean, Dowsby, Lincoln, who were also extensive buyers last week at the northern sales. They are very extensive breeders, both of Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep. A two-year-old heifer of the Wild-Eyes tribe made 155 gs. Another of the Duchess race made 150 gs., and a Duchess-of-Cumberland heifer calf, 14th of the race, made 160 gs., to Mr. Cazalot, a well-known dairy Shorthorn breeder in Kent. These figures show that, given good cattle, well cared for, and not "run to seed," nothing can beat a "bit of Bates," when you come to the sale-ring. Style and milking qualities always count in the female, and that is as it should be.

Mr. Thornton has also had a series of quite successful sales in other parts of England. At The Duffryn, Newport, Mon., Mr. Richard Stratton has a fine old herd of the Moss Ross tribe. He sold 55 of these lately, making an average of over £36 each, which was quite good. Great Shorthorn sales are also to be held this week in Yorkshire, where Mr. Thornton conducts sales every year. The demand for good cattle continues

very brisk, but anything of secondary character does not make much money.

The Northern Shorthorn week of 1907 will not soon be forgotten. Mr. Duthie broke all his previous records, making an average of £409 16s. 3d. for 17 bull calves, or not far short of ten times the average which he made in 1889. Twenty-eight bull calves in that year made an average of £45 each, and the averages have, with little intermission, steadily increased ever since. The highest figures this year were 750, 720, 700 and 536 guineas. Last year the highest figure was 850 guineas, but the average for 18 bull calves was £304 15s. 10d. Mr. Duthie and his neighbors may well be congratulated on a week of phenomenal trade. The four bull calves from the new Uppermill herd of Mr. John Marr, which were sold at the same time, made an average of 100 gs. each, but the next best sale of the series to Collynie was that of Mains of Sanquhar, Forres, on the Friday. There, the 56 head catalogued made the splendid average of £75 9s. 9d. There was a two-days' sale at Aberdeen intervening. On the first day 120 head made the average of £49 13s. 10d., and on the second 96 head made an average of £38 10s. 1d. At all of these sales, home buyers took the "plums." There were Argentine operators, but they either had not deep enough purses or were afraid of the vagaries of the tuberculin test in Buenos Ayres. Aberdeenshire breeders, as the readers of this letter are doubtless aware, have set themselves resolutely against recognizing or giving any guarantee that cattle will pass the test. Mr. Duthie has led them in this, and he certainly has lost nothing by assuming a resolute attitude.

On the first day at Aberdeen, Mr. A. T. Gordon, who was recently judging at Toronto, got as high as 180 gs. and 120 gs. for two-year-old heifers. Mr. Anderson, Saphock, Old Meldrum, who has an excellent herd, got 500 gs. for a yearling heifer, which, if not a record, is certainly a very high price. Mr. Bruce, Heatherwick, who also owns a fine old herd, got 116 gs. for a yearling heifer from an Irish buyer. On the second day, Mr. Anderson, Wardes, had 120 gs. for a two-year-old heifer. A new breeder, Mr. Corneliuss, from Cheshire, was a good buyer. He gave 260 gs. for a two-year-old heifer bred by Mr. Morrison, Phingask, Fraserburgh, and 300 gs. for a yearling heifer bred by Mr. Godfrey Hill, Little Haddo, Methlic. Generally after the first day at Collynie the chief demand was for heifers. Yearlings and two-year-olds of superior breeding and merit were making big prices.

The Messrs. Law, who are leaving Mains of Sanquhar, Forres, for another big farm in that neighborhood, had a capital sale the same week. Mr. Duthie gave 170 gs. and 150 gs. for a couple of cows. Mr. Crawford, Co. Tyrone, gave 200 gs. for a third cow. A two-year-old heifer from Holl made 120 gs., the Messrs. Dean, Dowsby, being the buyers. A third Morayshire breeder, Mr. H. M. S. MacKay, Burgie Lodge, made a notable contribution to this sale. He got 106 gs. for a two-year-old heifer, and 160 gs., 240 gs. and 200 gs. for yearling heifers, the two highest-priced heifers going to a Ross-shire farmer, Mr. John Gordon. Messrs. Dean gave 240 gs. for a bull calf bred at Mains of Sanquhar. In the afternoon of the same day another sale was held in the town of Forres, and an Irish breeder, Sir H. H. Smiley, Ardmore, Laine, had the honor of selling heifers at long prices to three of the most noted Aberdeenshire breeders. Mr. Duthie took one at 155 gs.; Mr. James Durno, Jackston, took a second at 130 gs., and Mr. James Durno, Westertown, took a third at 150 gs. The week was rounded off with a sale at Perth on the Saturday,

at which 83 head from the principal breeders in Fife and Perth made an average of £28 10s. 3d. Colonel Munro, Mains of Murthly, who has a fine idea about a Shorthorn, sold a heifer for 160 gs. to Sir. H. H. Smiley, Laine, and Mr. Stephen Mitchell, of Boquhan, got 100 gs. for a two-year-old heifer.

Stockmen generally have had a splendid season. The worst thing about agriculture just now is the wet weather. September was a lovely, dry month, but deficient in hard, drying winds. October is half gone, and the rain has been falling almost every day. An immense amount of grain is still in the fields, and unless there be a cessation of the rainfall, the outlook for the grain-grower and potato-grower, in spite of good prices, is black enough. It is not ordinary rain; we are having downpours and floods which threaten to work disaster in many districts.

Several of the principal cheese shows are over. The summer was too damp for the cheesemaker, and the quality is not up to the mark. Whether any great improvement may be looked for in price cannot be foreshadowed, but meantime there is nothing wrong with the price in Scotland, although the English maker has had to take 10s. to 12s. less per cwt. of 112 pounds than he was getting a year ago. The Scots cheddar is expected to hold its own, because your Canadian make seems also to have suffered this year.

At the London Dairy Show, last week, great interest was taken in the mechanical milking of cows by the Lawrence-Kennedy machine. The practical demonstrations were eagerly followed, and the system of milking in this way is likely to become more general than it has been. The Lawrence-Kennedy machine is certainly a wonderful implement. Another machine is being prospectively from the ingenious workshop of Messrs. T. & R. Wallace, Castle-Douglas. It, too, has its advocates, and sooner or later—and sooner rather than later—we will see cows more and more milked in this way.

"SCOTLAND YET."

### BUYING AND FEEDING BEEF CATTLE.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

About the same number of cattle as usual will be fed in this locality this winter. There are quite a number of feeders, but it is hard to get the right kind. I think the best kind to buy would be good, well-bred yearlings, so that they would make good butcher cattle or light exporters next June. Prospects are for good prices.

When putting the cattle up, I generally feed them on cornstalks. I have fed them rape, and they do well after it. We stall feed, and do not dehorn. For bulky feed, our main reliance is oat straw and turnips. I feed hay twice a day and oat straw three times, and enough that they will leave sufficient to bed themselves and their calves. Two of such turnips as I have this year make a good feed for a yearling. My grain ration is oats and about one-quarter peas, for both wintering over and finishing. I think that oats are the cheapest feed to buy, for they are the best and safest.

Ontario Co., Ont.

JAMES LEASK.

### THE CATTLE TRADE IN ALBERTA.

Pat Burns, the genius of the Alberta meat and cattle trade, has been cogitating upon the conditions which prevail in the cattle business. The settling of the range, the tightness of money, the hard winter, the disinclination on the part of farmers to feed cattle, the rapid increase in population, and the prevailing strong tone of the meat markets the world over, have all contributed to shaping the conviction in the cattle king's mind that prices for beef will be high next spring. This fall cows and young stock are being forced off the ranges and farms, and out of the country. Mr. Burns, seeing this cleaning-up process going on in Alberta, has been preparing to insure his trade against any serious lack of supplies next spring by contracting with farmers and ranchers to pay from four and one-half to four and three-quarter cents per pound, live weight, next spring, for winter-fed steers, an increase of about two cents of spring over fall prices. It is not a question of whether or not live cattle will reach these prices next May; that point is settled for a large number already, and the dressed-meat market will stand it, for the simple reason that Mr. Burns controls the trade. But there is a question whether an unlimited number of cattle can be sold for four and a half cents and upwards. If local butchers do not have to hustle for their cattle, the Calgary man will be able to dictate an arbitrary price on account of the protection of distance and tariff walls. This is the galling aspect of the cattle trade from the Alberta farmer's standpoint, that, no matter if cattle are worth 10 cents per pound live weight, the Alberta dealer is protected by duty and freight, and if he pays full value, it is largely a matter of sufferance.

There is a probability, however, that the winter-fed cattle will command a price two cents



Solving the Labor Problem.

Photo by R. R. Sallows.