

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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not merely a matter of chance or the favor of fates, but the result of the operations of well-established laws which may largely be controlled, and, as a consequence, find profit and pleasure in directing those forces to their own advantage. In this fact lies the hope for the future, and encouragement to further effort.

The acquirement of this broader knowledge, and its utilization, will mark a dividing line between two classes of farmers—those who will succeed and who will extract from life a fuller enjoyment, and those who continue to grope along, merely securing as remuneration for their efforts sufficient to maintain them in straightened circumstances. The youth of the land may well ponder the situation. Upon him will soon devolve the responsibility of citizenship, of the maintenance of a home, of the cherishing of the lives of wife and family. His obligation is to provide himself with a knowledge of his business, of life, and of public affairs, that will enable him to discharge his duties in a manner commensurate with the immense advantages available to those who make the effort to acquire them. Parents must also lend their support and sympathy to the rising generation. They must not assume that the education that sufficed to make a farmer fifty years ago will be sufficient for the more intense life of to-day and the future. The problems of to-day are not those of the past. Our conditions are more complicated, our problems more intricate, and to cope with these requires a mind supplied with a knowledge of principles, as well as a body endowed with physical prowess. A young man, in whatever condition of life, owes it to himself and his country to avail himself of the opportunities his country affords, and the man who "makes" himself will have the satisfaction of knowing that the task has been faithfully performed.

Give Name and Address.

Some of our subscribers are again forgetting the rule that the full name and P. O. address must invariably accompany every enquiry; otherwise attention cannot be paid to it. We do not require this for publication, but as evidence that the enquiry is genuine.

HORSES.

Prepare to visit the great show of Clydesdales and Shires at The Repository, Toronto, February 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

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Light is one of the most essential features in a stable. It preserves the sight, and prevents the development of disease germs.

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When training a colt to work, it is important that he never be allowed to know that he can run away, or that any load is too heavy for him.

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Has anyone some practical suggestions on the question of working stallions?

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Exercise and proper food is what the brood mares and colts require these days.

* * *

The British Government has intimated that it will purchase five hundred horses annually in Canada for army remounts. This should encourage the breeding of those big, strong Thoroughbreds and Standard-breds for which the race-track has little use.

* * *

Anent this subject, A. E. Tipon, a noted authority upon the harness and saddle horse trade, both in England and America, says: "The Hackney sire, mated with a sizeable mare of not under fifteen hands two inches, begets a big horse. Too big a stallion is not to be commended, size, it is hardly necessary to add, coming from the dam. Hackney stallions of fifteen hands one inch or fifteen hands two inches, if mated with suitable and sizeable half-bred or blood mares, produce foals which develop to any height between fifteen hands two inches and seventeen hands."

* * *

Galtee More, the Irish horse that won the Two Thousand Guineas, the Derby and the St. Leger, 1897, was sold to the Russian Government for £20,000, and his progeny have won in the last three years £36,600, more than half the sum being gained by the three half-brothers, Irish Lad (£14,000), Waraty (£4,500), and Galitia (£2,000).

The World's Horse Supply.

In the paper read at the Royal United Service Institution, on the supply of horses in war time, Major J. Monio, of the British Army Veterinary Department, said it was estimated that the supply of the world was about eighty millions of horses. In Europe there were forty millions, in North and South America twenty-five millions, in Asia eleven millions, in Australasia two millions, and in Africa one million and a quarter. Great attention was paid to breeding by the Government of Russia, with its supply of twenty-three millions of horses. Germany had 4,183,000 horses, and it was essentially an importing country. France, with 2,900,000, and Algeria with 205,000 horses, required all the animals they possessed. In Austria-Hungary, there were 4,020,000 horses, 99 per cent. of them being bred by the peasants. At the present time there was a great exportation of American horses to Canada, while the exportation to the United Kingdom had fallen off. In the British Empire as a whole there were only eight millions of horses. There was a shortage in the colonial supply, and he suggested that encouragement should be given to horse-breeding in the colonies, so that more custom might be given to them, instead of our having to go to foreign countries in time of need. In his judgment, also, South Africa would in time become a great field for horse-breeding operations, because a good foundation stock had now been laid, though the subsequent breeding operations would need careful supervision. For the home supply of the army, 20,000 horses were registered to meet immediate requirements on mobilization.

Working Stallions.

In England there is considerable discussion going on at present upon the subject of working stallions. The question was precipitated by the decision of the authorities of the London Hackney Show to arrange classes for stallions in harness. The subject of working stallions is one that might be debated with some profit in this country. It is a remarkable circumstance that we are attempting to produce animals for heavy draft purposes from sires and quite frequently from dams that have never spent an hour at draft work. The question might aptly be raised if this is the most rational system of handling heavy draft breeding stock. In breeding, we are not to be satisfied with producing colts having simply the semblance of their sires. We raise horses for the work they can perform, and it is only to be expected that when a sire displays an ability to stand hard work, and a natural aptness at such work, he should be a more satisfactory sire, other things being equal, than one that had never been put to any test and whose muscles had never been strengthened by hard work.

Breeders of road horses would never think of

using a sire that had never been tested to see what he could do, and during the interval between seasons most of these stallions are given constant work, much to the benefit of their health, and the development in them of those characteristics which are most desirable in their offspring.

Generally, it is urged against a practice of working stallions that they are restless in harness, awkward to manage, and that when continually worked it robs them of that spirit and courage that should characterize an impressive sire. As for the first two objections, we believe that training would very largely overcome them, as it does in the case of a green colt, and as for the latter, it is just an open question whether or not a horse whose spirit falls and courage fails when put to a reasonable amount of work is the kind of sire that will get colts with sufficient spirit to make them really valuable.

STOCK.

King Edward, Farmer.

Of the 11,000 acres of land which King Edward owns at Sandringham, he farms rather more than 2,000, and he controls the Shaw, the Flemish and Frogmore farms at Windsor. Of late years, and particularly since his accession to the throne, the cares of State have so multiplied upon him that he has had less time for the personal management of the live-stock breeding that is conducted on these farms than he could have wished, but for the greater part of the time when he was Prince of Wales he attended to the business himself down to the minutest details. Every morning in his little business-room, just off the reception parlor, Sandringham, he would receive reports and interview farmers and others, deciding on the advice of the stock-keepers what cattle of his should be fattened for show purposes, and what others ought to be killed or sold. He began breeding as far back as thirty-eight years ago, making his first essay with Southdowns, for which he has since become very justly famous. After them came the Shorthorns, and then the West Highlanders and the small Dexter cattle. He began at the beginning, and determined that from small things, by dint of his own efforts, he would come to be a great breeder. It was hard work to commence with, and it required much patience. Sandringham was fitted up in perfect style for the new purpose. Some of the land upon which cattle graze the e has been reclaimed foot by foot from the seashore, not far from Wolferton, and hereabouts the King had pine trees and shrubberies planted, so that the cattle should have some protection from the keen east winds which so often come from the sea.

SANDRINGHAM SHORTHORNS.

For all this effort he was certain of reward, but it was not until he had been breeding for some eleven years that he felt himself in a position to sell, and the Shorthorns that were then brought out realized an average of £34 15s. a head. In 1896, by which time his farming arrangements were vast and consolidated by age and wise experience, forty-nine head that were sold realized the highest price of the year, an average of £70 a head. His Majesty has achieved this result again since then, and such is the fame of his Sandringham Shorthorns that they are coveted by breeders everywhere, and fabulous prices have been offered for picked bulls from among them. A thousand guineas was paid for one of them that it might be taken to Argentina, where so much of the world's meat comes from. The offspring of these Sandringham bulls have won prizes at the big shows. There are no Shorthorns like them, say the farmers. The King has good reason to be proud of his thirty-eight years of work as a farmer. At Sandringham he has a great array of cups that he has won at shows. At a single exhibition on one occasion he won no fewer than fourteen prizes. Moreover, he has never, like some people, shown a single creature of any description that he has not bred himself, and the cynics who suggest that, of course, the King must win because he is King are vastly mistaken in their idea. The farmers say that he always wins on his merits, and usually wins by a comfortable margin.

Twenty-three years ago the King applied himself to the breeding of Shire horses, and in this pursuit he has, if possible, taken an even greater delight than in the other departments of his farming, whilst he has been attended by extraordinary success. Six years since, fifty-four of his horses that were offered for public sale realized an average of £224 each. The King is the complete farmer, and there is scarcely a kind of English breeding to which he has not given attention. Thus, while in cattle his famous specialty is the Shorthorn, he has achieved success with the Devon and the Alderney also.

Sandringham is famous as well for the fine breed of pigs that are to be discovered thereabouts, "Improved Norfolks," as they are called, and there are still stories told of how the King, when Prince of Wales, and going away for his tour of India, would be satisfied with nothing less