

animal, to the age of five, when Dr. McPherson says the light horse is ready for the market.

When the Hackney horses were first imported they were very popular, but we find that they do not give us the expected results when crossed with our cold-blooded mares. Unlike a cold-blooded colt, the half-bred colt matures much younger and is ready for the market at the age of three, although he would grow into more money at the age of five or six. Also, the get, of any Thoroughbred stallion is eligible for registration in the half-bred register.

Now, one more point before I close. There is at present a great agitation, "Keep the boy on the farm." Does Dr. McPherson think he can solve that problem by telling us farmers to raise all heavy horses? What boy, who will make a successful farmer, does not love horses? And what boy will take any pleasure driving a pure-bred heavy horse on the road, while riding him would be out of the question?

Every farm should have at least one driver, and this animal, to give the most satisfaction to his owner must have a streak of Thoroughbred blood.

Wellington Co., Ont.

A. E. CURRIE.

[Note.—The register referred to in case of half-bred colts is not a "pedigree" register.—Editor.]

Satisfied with the Thoroughbred.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The letter of J. Gordon McPherson, V.S., in your issue of March 18th, does not do justice to the Thoroughbred as a sire of useful and profitable horses. Dr. McPherson says the only profitable horse for a farmer to breed is the pure-bred heavy-draft horse. Now, I do not agree with him. High-class saddle, carriage and roadster horses are sometimes quite profitable for those who breed, feed and attend to them properly. I own a mare of the roadster type, for which I have been offered as high as \$350, but she is such a grand all-round farm horse that I would not like to farm without her. She is in place hitched to a binder, disk harrow, buggy or ridden under saddle, and can be driven by women and children, and she has won prizes in both the roadster and carriage classes at exhibitions. This is the type of horse that will help to keep our boys and girls on the farm.

If all farmers take Dr. McPherson's advice and raise nothing but pure-bred, heavy horses, who is to raise our saddle and carriage horses, the highest-priced horses in the Montreal market to-day? Farmers who are breeding and working heavy-draft horses, should, if up-to-date, have at least one horse of the general-purpose type. I don't mean a chunk but a clean-limbed horse of a somewhat rangy appearance, showing considerable breeding, one that will in a pinch do any work on a farm. A cold-blooded mare of good conformation and size, bred to a good typical Thoroughbred stallion will be almost sure to produce a good general-purpose horse—one that will not be out of place hitched to a plow, buggy or ridden under saddle.

But Dr. McPherson says these Thoroughbred crosses cannot be sold till five years old and then the price will be \$160 to the army, or a maximum price of \$200 to an outside party. Now this is not my experience. I sold a thirteen-month-old colt by Athel, a Thoroughbred out of a grade mare in May 1912 for \$175. One month later I was offered by the same man \$200 for a ten-month-old filly out of a small mare of mixed breeding. This offer I refused and several other offers for this filly as I wish to keep her for a brood mare. This filly is now nineteen months old, drives well both double and single, girths 70½ inches, 15-1 in height, and weighs 1,000 lbs. Her dam weighs 1,060 lbs., and is 15-1 in height. Next winter I expect this filly to earn her feed by doing some driving, churning in a team, etc.

I have also another colt ten months old for which I was offered \$125 recently, but I am asking \$150 for him now. These colts are by Athel, a Thoroughbred sire.

Owing to his prepotency and breedy appearance as well as his possessing stamina and gameness in the highest degree, the Thoroughbred will lay the foundation for high-class saddle, carriage and roadster horses; for the mares by good Thoroughbred sires out of ordinary cold-blooded dams, should be ideal brood mares to breed to Thoroughbred, Hackney or Standard-bred sires.

Dr. McPherson is a veterinary surgeon and I should judge has a country practice, for he claims to be an experienced farmer. Is he satisfied to drive a pure-blooded, heavy-draft horse on his sometimes hurried professional trips?

Argenteuil Co., Que.

J. FRED MORROW.

Breeding Remounts in the United States.

The United States Department of Agriculture has completed for the present the purchase of stallions for use in the encouragement of the breeding of horses for military purposes. Four Morgans, ten Standardbreds, eleven American saddle horses, and nine Thoroughbreds have been purchased. These stallions, with four or five Morgans from the Morgan Horse Farm and six Thoroughbreds presented to the Government, will be available for public service during the season of 1913, making a total of at least 44 stallions. The first requisites of these horses required were that they should be good, sound individuals, and registered in the proper stud books. Good breeding was therefore essential, and in many cases stake and showing winners were obtained, but no horse was bought solely because he was a race winner or solely on account of his pedigree. The owners of sound mares, with a square trotting gait, may breed such mares free of charge, provided they give the Government an option on the foal during the year it is three years of age at \$150. However, the Government will not hold the breeder of a foal to his option if he wishes to be released, but will allow him to cancel the option at any time by paying the service fee. This fee will be \$25.00 for mature stallions, and less for those under five years of age. In buying the colts, the War Department has agreed to purchase both mares and geldings. No service fee will be charged unless the owner elects to cancel his option. If the Government buys the colt, no fee is charged; if the colt is offered to the Government and purchase refused, no fee is charged.

Only those mares will be bred which are free from the following unsoundnesses: Bone spavin, ring bone, side bone, heaves, stringhalt, lameness of any kind, roaring, periodic ophthalmia, and blindness, partial or complete. Mares must also be free from manifest faults of conformation, such as curby hocks; pacing mares will not be bred. Approved mares will be given a certificate of registration in the Remount Brood Mare Register of the United States Agricultural Department.

LIVE STOCK.

A Profitable Flock of Sheep.

About two weeks ago the reports of Toronto markets contained an item of interest, to all those engaged in sheep breeding. This report stated that John Beamish, of York County, had marketed in Toronto twenty-two very choice

ewes, \$319 in the spring of 1913 and \$264.68 in the spring of 1912, or a total of \$583.68 for two years, not counting wool.

Mr. Beamish describes his feeding as follows:

"I run them on cabbage for three weeks in the fall, which I sow among the mangels. After the mangels are taken up the lambs are let in before being penned up for fattening, and then I begin feeding as follows:

"All the alfalfa hay they will eat night and morning, and pea straw at noon; a feed of turnips in the forenoon and afternoon of about seventy pounds each time, and for the last four weeks the turnips were omitted in the afternoon, and they got a feed of grain which consisted of half a bushel of mixed oats and barley. They got all the water they would drink, and rock salt was kept in the pen all the time."

Neither lamb crop was exceedingly large, although a fair crop. A lamb and a quarter to a ewe is often reckoned as very satisfactory, but it is often possible to raise a lamb and a half, and sometimes more. Mr. Beamish's results have not been attained by the unusual productiveness of his ewes, but rather by the using of good ewes and good sires, and giving good care and feed. Who will say that there is no money in sheep?

Handling the Bull.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

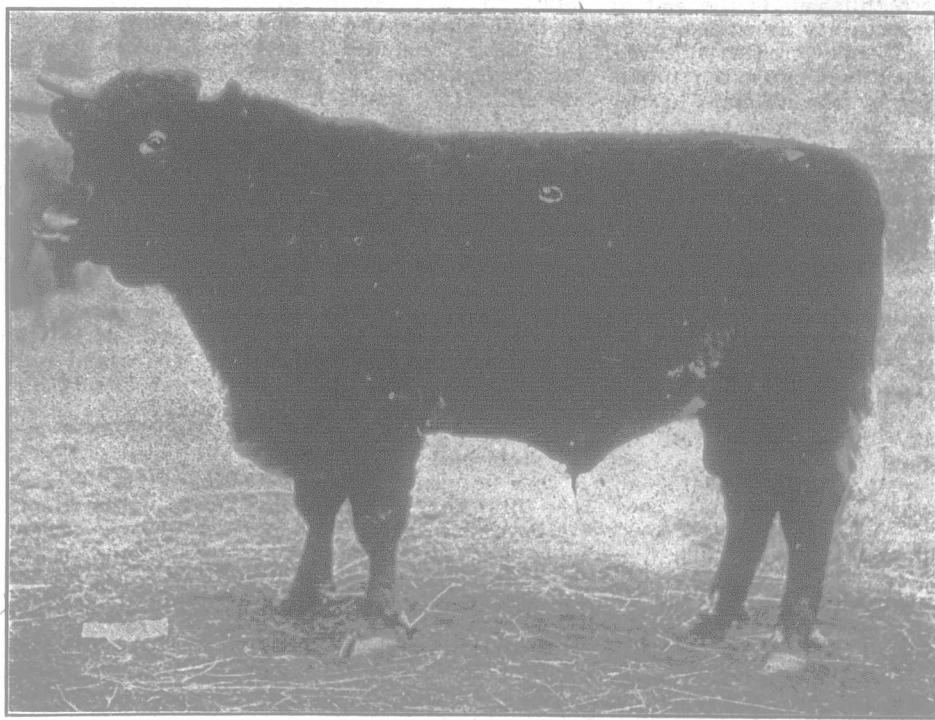
As I have been keeping bulls for nearly thirty years, I thought perhaps it would not be out of place to have a few lines put in your valuable paper to let your readers know of my experience in handling the bull.

It is worthy of note that peoples' ideas differ widely regarding the treatment of the bull. Some men think the more harshly the bull is used the better he will keep his place. I had a certain man working for me, and when he would go into the stable if the bull would bellow or bow his neck, the chances were he would get a kick or a crack from a club or a jab from a fork, and be told to take that and keep his neck straight.

My experience has taught me that a bull deserves to be treated as kindly as any other animal, as long as he keeps his place. If he does anything wrong, which deserves a whipping, give him one, and be sure you give him a good one. When you are through whipping him leave him, and don't go near him for two or three hours. When you go back to him be sure you are in good temper, and approach him with a whistle or a song in your mouth and a pail of turnips in your hand. Pet him, talk kindly to him and you and he will be good friends again, and the chances are he will not do anything wrong again for sometime.

Some years ago

I had a Shorthorn bull so much under my control that I could lift his hind foot and have it pared with a drawing knife when he was in his fourth year, and weighed over 2,300 pounds. I never allow a bull to run in a box stall after he is a year old, as he will likely get hard to catch. He may sometimes, when you are not aware, pin you in a corner. You need to be always on guard for them, for nine times out of ten it is the quiet bull which kills the man. Do not let him run in the pasture with the cows, as you may wake up some morning and he may be in with your neighbor's cows or in your field of grain, or he



Pierrepont Peer.

Winner of first prize in a strong class of Shorthorn bulls, between 10 and 20 months old, at Birmingham Show. This bull sold for £1,522.

lambs (one year old this spring) for which he received \$9.75 per cwt., or \$14.50 per head, the lambs averaging nearly 150 pounds each. This is very good returns. We wrote Mr. Beamish for further particulars, and his reply bears out the statement. These twenty-two lambs were raised from sixteen Shropshire ewes crossed with a Leicester ram, and were just eleven months old when sold. These same sixteen ewes in 1911 produced twenty-six lambs, twenty-three of which were raised and sold on Toronto market at \$8.40 per cwt., weighing 137 pounds each at ten months of age. Very good returns from sixteen

and all the herd may be in your root crop.

If you keep one keep him in the stable where he ought to be, or do not keep any at all. To give him exercise let him out in the morning or evening with the cows when they are in the yard. Do not try to catch him in the yard. Have some chop or turnips in his manger, and he will learn to go into his stall as quietly as a cow.

I do not ring a bull until he is over a year old. I ring him myself, and I could do it alone if no person were within miles of me. I have a piercing iron for the purpose, made by a blacksmith out of a tooth of a sulky horse rake,