

pression, and the year 1852, the central point of our great prosperity. Our own country has always shared the alternations of prosperity and adversity in the United States, so intimate are the trade relations of the two countries.

It is thus manifest that periods of ebb and flow, of prosperity and adversity, have characterized the agriculture of the past, and we have no reason for expecting that it shall be different in the future. Men can explain the reasons for the various changes in the appearance of the moon. They can tell us to a nicety the causes of ebb and flow in the tides, but they cannot altogether account for the vicissitudes of trade. It may be true that war has a bearing upon these; that they are affected by periods of abundant growth; that mechanical invention influences them; but who will tell us why improvement refuses to come, often, when there is a general expectation for it; and why it comes sometimes when it is unlooked for? These periods are not unlike the wind which "bloweth where it listeth." We hear "the sound thereof," and yet we cannot "tell whence it cometh or whither it goeth."

Three years have not gone by since sages with the pen prophesied that wheat would never probably reach the figure of one dollar again. One dollar and a quarter has already been paid for it. But a few years since hay in country places could be bought readily for five and six dollars a ton, now it brings twice that amount in the same localities. There is a general tendency to improvement in all the lines of agriculture, in some of them very marked, in others of them less so. It is worthy of note that when one of those periods of depression sets in, it is apt to continue for some years. Improvement in some lines is sure to bring improvement in others.

Bearing this in mind we cannot refrain from venturing a few hints as to the opportunities of the present for investing in improved stock, particularly those of the beefing breeds. The prices of these have of late been at low water mark, but now it cannot be otherwise than that they will improve.

Good prices for grain, and hay and fodder, are sure to be followed by good prices for beef, as the latter is produced from these. Good prices for beef makes a brisk market for the breeds which produce the beef. There will never, in all probability, in many years to come, at least, be a more opportune time for investing in pure-breds than the present, and those who are wise will not fail to improve it.

Happy is the mariner who spreads all sail when the winds arise to waft him on to the distant port. Happy is the school-boy who makes the most of school and college days, which enable him when rightly utilized to look over the heads of ordinary men. Happy is the weather-beaten old farmer who is busier than the bee in getting in his seeds in spring time when the weather is favorable, and happy is the investor in pure-bred stock who can so discern the signs of the times as to decide upon investment when the tide is at its lowest.

Precisely the opposite of this is usually done. It is when potato seed is enormously dear that men are fidgeting to plant more potatoes; and it is when prices are ruling high that men are most prone to invest in pure-bred stock, the very thing that beginners at least should refrain from doing.

We fail to see where the risk can be in investing in pure-breds of the proper sorts at the present time. They have undoubtedly reached low water mark, and cannot but advance in price. Our numerous list of responsible advertisers, comprising the best in the Dominion, will show where good stock can be got,

and those who may not have the means to pay ready cash, by giving heed to our premium offers published in the September and October numbers of the JOURNAL, can have the object of their desires gratified. In any neighborhood a goodly list of subscribers may be easily obtained by means of a little earnest, personal effort, and in this way good specimens of any of the breeds of improved stock may be secured without cash outlay.

The best purchases of live-stock have always been made when they sold cheaply, and the most foolish ones when some boom was at its height.

The Clydesdales at Home

In scanning such a group of horses as those of Mr. R. Beith & Co., of Bowmanville, one cannot but reflect on the many continuous years of selection and discriminate breeding necessary to produce animals so uniform in type and good qualities. With such animals, the chosen representatives in our clime of the many that have given the "land o' cakes" a reputation throughout the world, need we wonder at the vast proportions that the importing trade has assumed in the past season? As long as others keep their standard of excellence as high as that of Mr. Beith, little need they fear the decadence of a trade so profitable to Canada and so lucrative to Scotland.

At present the stable harbors 2 five-year-olds, 3 four-year-olds, 6 three-year-olds, 12 two-year-olds, and 1 yearling; so it may be inferred that numbers were not lacking to draw conclusions as regards the proprietor's selective ability and acumen.

Of the five-year-olds the post of honor, perhaps, is due St. Gatien 3988, he being chosen to represent his compeers on our first page, and of whom an extended description is there given. Man o' War (4572) is a strongly-coupled, solid brown horse, wanting not in quality and finish. His sire, Warrior, was a noted prize-winner, having secured 1st prize at the High Land and Agricultural Society show at Glasgow as a three-year-old. His dam, Sally McKie (1650), was got by Cairn Tom (1171), by Rob Roy (714). The latter was one of the most successful horses in Scotland, and g. sire of the well-known Farmer (286) and Lord Lyon (489).

A fine trio are the four-year-olds, including Bounding Willow (5580), Guy Mannering (5849), and Knight of Craighburn (5118). The first mentioned is a heavily-quartered horse, fore and aft, strongly-muscled, firm-footed, with fine, silky feathering. He handles his short legs handsomely, not dishing or swaying his body, so customary with heavy horses. His breeding is of the richest, having fused in his veins the bluest of Clydesdale blood, being sired by the illustrious Good Hope (1679), a son of the yet more famous Darnley (222). On his dam's side he has for a g. sire Clyde (1621), a three-year-old prize-winner at Glasgow. Not to be outdone by his redoubtable ancestors, Bounding Willow has secured many prizes in Scotland, and has here earned 2nd at the Provincial and 3d at the Industrial. "Never buy a horse with four white feet, for he carries his 'shroud with him,'" is an Arab tenet that we would willingly overlook in considering the worth of Guy Mannering (5849), a worthy son of the renowned McGregor (1487). His dam, Dolly, was by Prince (609) by the famous Lochfergus Champion (449). The Knight of Craighburn (5118) is a light bay with two white stockings; a clean mover with good muscle and firm bone. The Prince of Wales (673) is his g. sire, Sir Wyndham (4728) being his sire, the winner of the £100 premium of Falkirk district. His dam,

Rosie of Canmuir (5393), was got by the well-known Prince Alfred (618).

The three-year-olds are a grand lot, among which we mention Granite City (5397), whose cut appears in our November number of last year; Gay Prince (5796), Royal Scotsman (5317) and Jubilee Model. The first was sired by the distinguished Lord Erskine (1744), who also sired Cairnbrogie Stamp, and the two-year-old filly Loyalty, that sold for £400. On his dam's side Bee (919) he traces to the Prince of Wales (673). It will be seen that Granite City is a horse of rare breeding, which is grandly upborne by individual merit. He is a handsome bay color, with two white hind points and one fore. He stands well on his well-set legs, which nobly support his deep, rotund body. His joints are broad and his shoulder well set, giving him an easy movement with plenty of leverage. The Granite City was first at Glasgow, second at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Newcastle, and 1st at the H. and A. S. show at Perth in 1887, and his record in this country has a similar ring. Royal Scotsman (5317) is an inbred Prince of Wales (673) horse of a light bay color, rangy and an easy mover, with plenty of fine quality. His chest is deep, and his shoulder fitted for a collar. He secured second prize at the Provincial this year.

Gay Prince (5796) was sired by Prince Edward (1254), dam Lady Wildflower (4974), by Blue Ribbon (1961). He is a solid brown color of good body and quality, with good limbs and splendid muscle. He has a good show-ring record, having secured among others the Upper Nithdale premium. His sire, Prince Edward, was got by the far-famed Prince of Wales (673), whose son, Prince of Albion, sold for £3,000 in August last. Gay Prince is also a full brother to What Care I (912), a winner of many prizes. The sire of Blue Ribbon was Darnley (222). Gay Prince secured 2nd at the Industrial and 1st at the Ontario and Durham show.

Jubilee Model (5902), is a horse of well filled and deep quarters, with extra bone, and is withal a more rangy horse than his brothers in arms. He was sired by McCammon (3818), his dam being Lossit Tibby (5617), by Abbey Prince (2). McCammon is a son of Blue Ribbon (1961), who in turn is the get of Darnley (222), and he is proving himself to be an exceptionally good breeding horse, and has gained 1st at the H. & A. S. Centenary show, and also sold for £900 when only 2 years old. On his dam's side he traces through one remove to the noted Lochfergus Champion (737).

It would be impossible to describe all the eleven two-year-olds, so we must content ourselves with a short description of a few of them. Believing that "the place is dignified by the doer's deed," we give first position to Invader (Vol. XI.). He is a well put together and excellently finished horse of a blocky type, with extra fore arm and neck. He stands firmly on his short legs, and moves easily and freely. Prince Henry, his sire, (1257), is only one remove from the Prince of Wales (673). Prince David (643), the sire of Prince Henry (1257), stood second only to Darnley (222), at the Royal at Carlisle in 1880. Invader's dam was Damson (2512). He gained first and the silver medal presented by the Clydesdale Horse Society at Annan, in 1887. McRaw (6057), was sired by Garnet Cross (1662), dam Darling (5624), by Breadalbane (3461). He is a horse of good substance, heavily muscled and finely topped. His sire, Garnet Cross (1662), besides winning many premiums and prizes, sold by auction for £700. His gr. dam, Polly (884), was got by Prince of Gowrie (1794), by the famous Samson (741), the sire of Keir Peggy, 187,