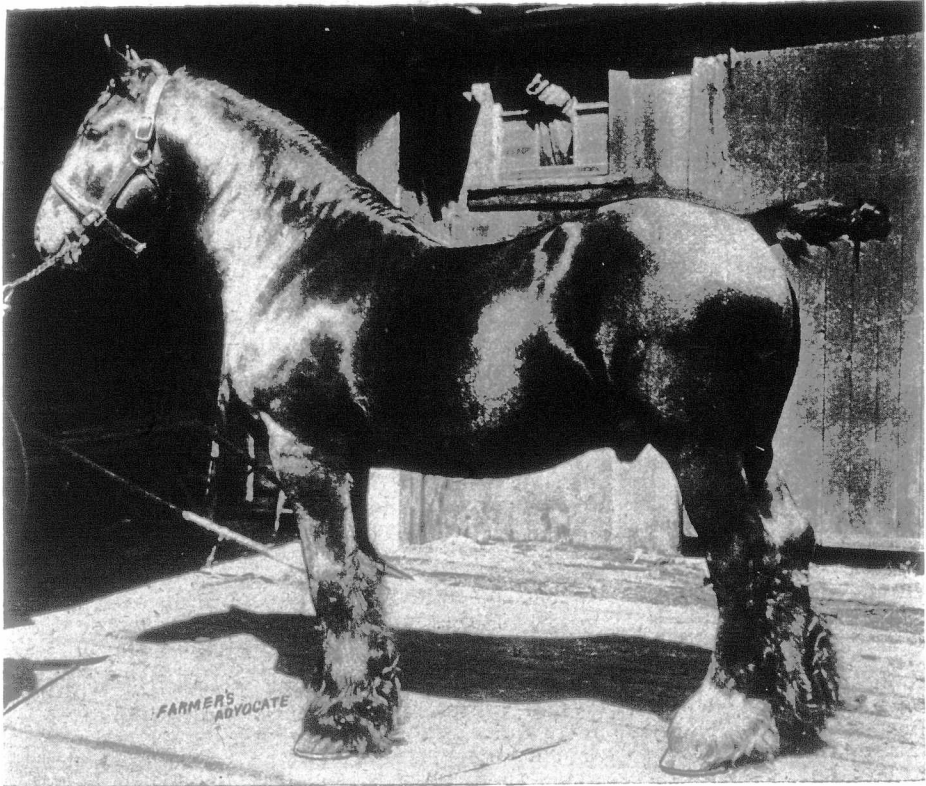


The British Embargo on Canadian Cattle.

In the House of Commons, Ottawa, on May 9th, Lieut.-Col. Hughes, M. P., asked whether any steps had been taken to obtain permission from the Imperial authorities to land Canadian cattle at Belfast? There was no reason why, under existing regulations, that Canadian cattle should not be landed at Belfast and Dublin and slaughtered there, instead of Liverpool and then shipped back to Ireland.



WILCOTT THUMPER (18452).

Shire stallion. Second prize at Military Tournament and Horse Show, 1901.

IMPORTED AND OWNED BY MESSRS. BAWDEN & M'DONELL, EXETER, ONT.

Hon. Mr. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, replied that the Imperial authorities had flatly refused to open up new ports for the importation of cattle. However, a strongly-worded memorandum was on the way to England on the subject of the scheduling of Canadian cattle. He intended visiting England shortly, and would follow it up by the most strenuous representations against the injustice and unfairness of scheduling our cattle, the result of which is not only to affect our trade with Great Britain, but to cast an aspersion and almost a libel against Canadian cattle. He believed that it could be proved there has never been a case of contagious pleuro-pneumonia in Canada. The scheduling was done in 1892, upon the finding of English veterinarians that three head of cattle were affected, but Canadian veterinarians, after examining the lungs, declared it was not a contagious disease which afflicted the animals. Of the 800,000 cattle which had been sent to Great Britain since 1892, not a single case had been found, and if it had existed here, it could not possibly have failed to show itself. Upon the merits of the case, the Imperial authorities have not a leg to stand upon, and he proposed to present, in the strongest possible manner, the case of Canadian breeders against this injustice and the aspersion which it casts upon the health of our cattle.

Mr. Henderson (Halton) thought a golden opportunity was lost for obtaining the abrogation of the regulations scheduling our cattle when in 1897 a preference in our market was given to British manufactures. The farmers had suffered a loss of \$6,000,000 in this one item alone.

Mr. Jabel Robinson said the Canadian farmers suffered severe loss owing to their cattle being slaughtered immediately upon landing, and the Canadian Government will be to blame if they do not make a great effort now to have the regulation removed. The Government should also take steps to induce capitalists to start abattoirs in this country, and this would pay better than to send the live cattle across.

Our readers will await with great interest the result of the effort which the Minister of Agriculture is now making to have the embargo removed.

Sore shoulders are common nowadays. Watch the harness, that it fits the animal wearing it. You might bathe the shoulders with cold water in which some salt has been dissolved, or a dram of tannic acid to the pint of rain water.

Draft Horse Breeding.

I will try to give a few points on horse-breeding to show those who are unconcerned what the market is paying for, which is a draft horse with plenty of size, quality, and of a good color—bay, brown or black. I think there was never a time in history when the general breeder could raise colts with as much assurance of a fancy price as last season and the one approaching, if he is careful in making his selections and has a higher motive in view than just simply breeding to please some clever fellow that happens to have a stallion. I think one of the greatest causes of common horses is that too many breeders' only object is to raise a colt, regardless of what its future will be, realizing that the breeding season is a very busy time for farmers, and thinking that they cannot afford to give a day or two in order that they might be able to find just such a sire as is producing the kind of stock the market is paying long prices for—and not until too late do they find out their mistake.

And now let us consider this important question and use our very best judgment in selecting sires this spring. If we do we shall surely reap a reward for our trouble, and in a short time will have an inducement for buyers to come to our homes. We will feel proud to show our stock, and we can truthfully say it well paid us even if it did cost a trip into another county. After we do raise good horses of the right type, we won't be satisfied unless our names are on the list as successful horse-breeders.

One of our greatest mistakes in horse-breeding, I think, is in not sticking to a certain type of horse. I am sure the cross breeding is one of our greatest errors. It does not make so much difference if of different breeds of similar type, but I think it does make a great difference when we go to crossing draft horses with roadsters, as the offspring is neither a drafter nor a roadster. This sort of breeding is a great source for the chunks that are flooding the market and causing a good many would-be horsemen to think it does not pay to raise horses. I have in mind a successful horse-breeder that claims he made more money in breeding horses than in anything he ever undertook, for the amount invested, and says he owes his success largely to the selection of sires and always keeping his stock in show condition. He has quite frequently gone forty miles to a stallion, and has the last three years been going twenty miles, owing to the fact that he is unable to find his model horse any nearer. It would be wise for us who are not expert judges to pattern after this same breeder, breed good mares and take good care of the colts, especially the first year of their lives. Their future depends largely upon their care the first winter and never being neglected thereafter.

Good Stock Water Scheme.

Mr. J. W. Fagner, a progressive stock farmer, built a 1,000-barrel brick and cement reservoir, which was arched over like a cistern. Then he plowed and scraped the dirt up over it, making a mound perhaps a dozen feet high. The water is pumped in by windmill, and, no matter how cold the weather, is always at the proper temperature for watering stock. He has it piped to the hog house, cattle stable, and all the feed lots, and does away with the necessity of tank-warming devices. It works like a charm, and Mr. Fagner says he does not see how he could get along without it.

FARM.

Farm Siftings.

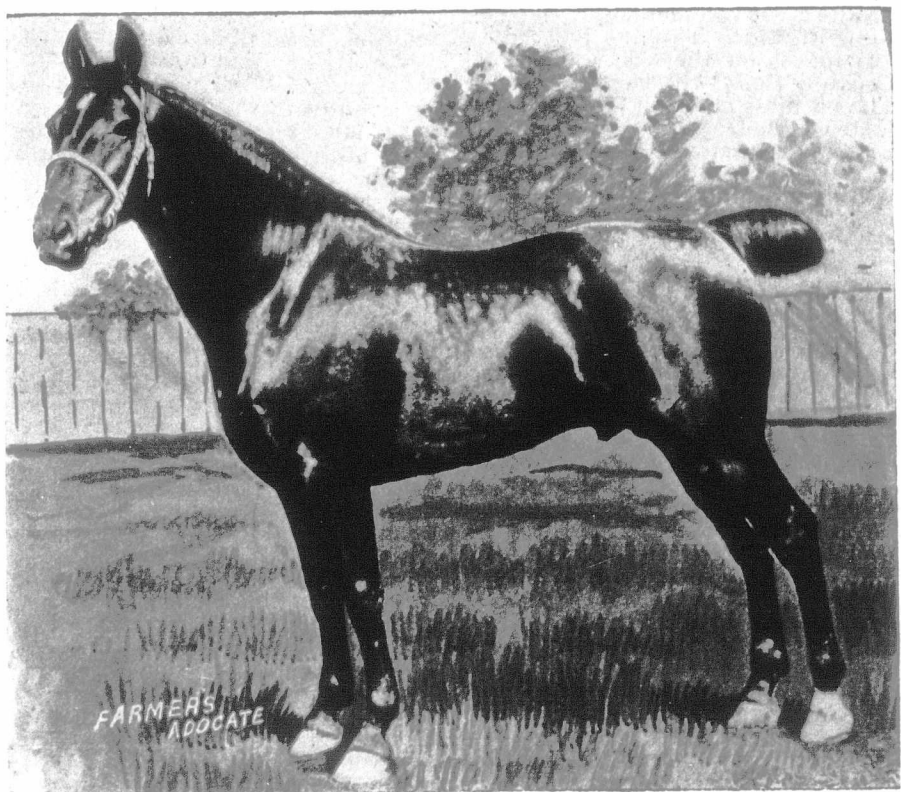
Building is one of the farmer's summer diversions: it may be a house, a barn, granary or other outbuildings. The farmhouse should be planned for comfort and convenience, care being taken that its arrangement is the handiest possible. Most people like a good cellar; the getting to that cellar is not always by the easiest route possible. In this connection, for the convenience of the housewife, have a dumb waiter (a miniature elevator from cellar to kitchen) installed, and thus save the endless running up and down steps, one of the hardest forms of work a woman has to do. The soft-water cistern should be connected by a pump with the kitchen sink. Hewing of wood and carrying of water is not woman's work.

The source of the summer's meat supply is often a serious one on the farm. Some patronize the butcher (not the most economical way from the farmer's standpoint), others belong to a beef-ring, while the majority depend on the cured pork they have stored away. Variety in diet tends to aid digestion, so that the following method of curing mutton hams might be tried and found beneficial:

The legs of mutton are first dressed into the required shape, and then have well rubbed into them a mixture of equal parts of salt and brown sugar; after this they are left to drain for about 24 hours. At the end of that time the hams are placed in pickle made by dissolving 2 lbs. each of common salt and bay salt, 6 ounces of saltpetre, 1 lb. of brown sugar, and 1 oz. of sal-prunella, all slowly boiled together in a gallon of water for about two hours. After cooling, this pickle is poured over the hams, which are allowed to remain immersed in it for a period of from 10 to 12 days. At the end of that time the hams are removed and hung up to dry, after which they are smoked in order to give them the requisite flavor. Mutton hams cured in this manner keep for a long time, and though somewhat troublesome to prepare, they are such a novelty that in many places they are considered well worth the trouble of curing.

To the farmer that milks cows for the sake of the money to be made from the work incurred, the project of Prof. Grisdale, Agriculturist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, is worth taking note of. Few realize as yet that their cows are only paying cents where they should pay dollars! It is time for a change, to use the hackneyed political expression, so get a spring balance, find out what each cow is doing, and thereby enable yourself to have a balance on the right side of your ledger.

Speaking of balances, brings up the question of farm bookkeeping. Many a one will not start to keep farm accounts because they are afraid it re-



SQUIRE RICKELL—74—.

Hackney stallion, by Cadet—15—. First prize and sweepstakes at Military Tournament and Horse Show, 1901.

OWNED BY R. BEITH, BOWMANVILLE, ONT.

quires the training of an accountant. This is not so: a set of farm books can be kept by almost any farmer, that will show him at the end of each financial year how he stands with the world. Prof. Reynolds, of the O. A. C., Guelph, had a very suitable system of farm bookkeeping, so I am told. Wm. Rennie, in "Successful Farming," also outlines a system. Give farm bookkeeping a fair trial and you will always keep books afterwards.