

HOP-BINE SILAGE.

The English papers give an account of the opening of the silo of Mr. H. A. Brassey, M.P., which many will remember as having been filled during the week of the show of the Bath and West of England Society at Maidstone, last June, when the public were invited to inspect the filling of several of its compartments and the compression of the food by different appliances. About 100 visitors assembled on the same spot again a few weeks since, to witness the opening, the chief topic of interest being the condition of the hop-bine silage contained, Mr. Brassey having caused a considerable quantity of this substance to be pitted, with the view of testing the point whether such a waste substance could be converted into a serviceable food for cattle. It came out of the silo in admirable condition, of a nice color, and with no unpleasant smell; the stout, sticky portions of the stalk also crumbling easily to pressure, where the fermentation had been sufficiently effective. The chief test was, however, as to whether it would be eaten by stock or not; but on a bag of it being taken to the cattle yards and laid before some fattening steers which had recently partaken of their midday meal, it was devoured with evident relish. This will be good news for hop growers, hop-bine having been hitherto a waste product for any higher object than littering or to serve as fuel.

ANGORA GOATS.

From the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture.

Whether sheep-growing has been a great success or failure in many parts of the West, has been well ventilated through personal experience of breeders in their letters to live stock journals during the past year. We know of a surety that the pioneers and present handlers of Angora goats have had no cause to complain of their investments in the breeding of this hardy and valuable animal. A year since we formed the acquaintance and enjoyed a brief association with one whose success as a breeder of fine and profitable fleece-bearing Angoras has given to him the title of the Goat King of America. We refer to Mr. C. P. Bailey, president of the Angora Robe and Glove Company of San Jose, Cal., whose income, derived from this manufactory and his herd of 5,000 goats, on a ranch near Little Humboldt, Nevada, reaches above \$50,000 a year. Last year he shipped East some 15,000 pounds of mohair, and shipped large numbers of Angoras to the Sandwich Islands, Texas, and Wyoming. His pure-bred males find ready sale in Texas at from \$50 to \$100 per head, and his females but little under those figures. He had one wether in his last year's shipment to Texas that clipped 11 pounds of mohair worth 60c. a pound.

Twelve years ago Mr. Bailey was reduced in pocket by stock and other ventures in California to less than \$500 in available means. With this sum he purchased a bunch of common goats and a pure Angora buck, and with a burro packed with cheap camp outfit and provisions, he went with them to a mountain range, and devoted several years to herding, breeding up, and increasing the numbers of his flock. Sales of wethers for mutton and investing the proceeds in pure Angoras soon convinced him that he could, with the common goat as a base, and the use of pure Angora males, produce animals with dense fleeces of merchantable mohair. The result has been success and great profit to him, while giving an impetus to an industry that is destined to add material prosperity to live stock interests. Lands that cannot be profitably utilized, owing to their broken sur-

face and scant fertility, are suitable grounds for goat ranches. North-western Arkansas and Southwest Missouri furnish a profitable habitat for these animals. A few pure males and 200 common nannies will soon increase to a large and valuable flock. Goat meat, as food, is healthy and very enjoyable. The cost of production is light, the increase rapid, and the business, properly followed, pays well. Col. Robt. Scott, of Ky., recently deceased; Polk Prince, of same State, Richard Peters, of Atlanta, Ga., and C. P. Bailey, of San Jose, Cal., have each fine flocks of Angoras, and have been prominent breeders of pure-bred stock.

REGARDING VICIOUS HORSES.

From the National Live Stock Journal.

In a recent number of the *Turf, Field, and Farm* is reported the narrow escape of a valuable thoroughbred stallion from the vicious attacks of a large draught stallion, weighing 1,800 pounds. The latter, it appears, broke down the door of his loose box and then succeeded in breaking in the door of the box where the thoroughbred was tied up and attacked him furiously. The stableman was absent at the time, and the fight is supposed to have lasted nearly half an hour. The lighter horse was badly hurt and evidently saved his life only by rapid kicking, for the draught horse was severely marked. This incident suggests a feature noticed by the writer in the horse stables of one of the largest horse breeders and importers in the country. While built very strongly, the upper half of every horse box was made of heavy hardwood slats, the spaces being about one and a half inches broad. The door was fashioned in the same manner. By this means each horse could see and hear and indulge in horse talk with his neighbors. Indeed, looking down the barn, he caught glimpses of several of his fellow-occupants. This plan was found to cultivate a kindly disposition in the animals, which had been further fostered by allowing the younger stallions to run together in small bodies until two years old. In a former issue, we said a few words about working stallions; this should be emphasized again here. What we said then referred solely to the health and constitutional vigor of the animals; its effect on temper and disposition is equally beneficial. Solitary confinement and enforced idleness are bad for both man and beast.

TRANSFERS OF THOROUGHBRED STOCK.

American Berkshire Record.

Prima Donna IV., 12,622, Geo. W. Penney, Newark, Ohio, to Geo. C. Corning, Topeka, Kan.
Walnut Grove Ranger, 12,750, Cass & Burns, Buffalo Hart, Ill., to Wm. Davis, Omio, Kan.
Elmwood Champion, 12,751, Chas. F. Mills, Springfield, Ill., to T. W. Harvey, Turlington, Neb.
Alpha, 9,742, Bryan & Wheaton, Agency, Iowa, to C. A. Bryan, Agency, Iowa.
Ingo Gem, 12,689, Wib. F. Clements, Agency, Iowa, to A. A. Arnold, Galesville, Wis.
Minerva's Spiteful II., 12,665, Geo. W. Penney, Newark, Ohio, to H. Pollard, Last Chance, Iowa.
Sambo's Kingscote VII., 12,733, Geo. W. Penney, to Geo. C. Corning, Topeka, Kan.
Elmwood Champion II., 12,781, Chas. F. Mills, to L. A. Tomlinson, Seipe Springs, Tex.
Elmwood Lass XXVIII., 12,795, Chas. F. Mills, to T. W. Harvey, Turlington, Neb.
Elmwood Gem XLIV., 12,796, Chas. F. Mills, to J. E. Mann, Woodbine, Iowa.

WINTER PASTURE OF HORSES.

Every horse turned out for winter grazing, says the *Tribune and Farmer*, should have a shed, well protected from the north, west and east, and well littered with straw, to which he can resort whenever he desires rest or protection from the cold or wet. If no shed be provided, then the horse should be taken into the stable every night. All horses are not benefitted by a run at winter pasture; some on account of their thin skin and delicate constitutions, rendering exposure to cold productive of coughs and other complaints; while others are provided with a long thick coat of hair, that protects them against cold but not wet, and therefore are not so readily affected by extreme changes of weather. Winter pasture is best for horses where the legs are to be improved, while spring or summer pasture is best for the renovation of the general health. The barrenness of pasture in winter keeps the carcass light, and the coolness of the atmosphere fines and improves the legs. Horses that have become "gaunted" up, as the phrase is, or that have little appetite, are really benefitted by winter pasture, as the grass at that season, although capable of supporting life, has no laxative or medicative qualities to change the action of the system. Such horses should be kept in warm stables, and fed with roots and cut feed. Others again, that have become stiffened in their joints, or subject to swollen legs, are oftentimes almost entirely recovered by a winter's run at pasture, when good sheds or stabling are provided for them against the night air and storms.

Correspondence.

THE PERCHERON.

PARIS, DEC. 26th, 1884.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN BREEDER.

From our French Correspondent.

DEAR SIR,—When I received your letter dated Dec. 10th, I must acknowledge that I felt very much surprised or rather puzzled at your questions. You seem to ignore the fact that the "Percheron" has nothing whatever to do with the Norman. How is it possible for American horsemen to couple both names when it is evident that the two breeds differ as widely from each other as the Norfolk roadster differs from the Shire horse in shape, origin, and purpose? The Norman horse is *par excellence* a half-bred carriage or saddle horse, with a grand blood-like appearance perfect action, generally bay, brown, or chestnut, and the "Percheron" is a combination of the Flemish cart-horse and Suffolk Punch, rendered lighter and finer in the bone by crosses with a badly defined breed of French horses thought to be descended from Arabian stallions brought home by the Crusaders.

The most striking features of the Percheron horse are a very high carriage of the head and neck, with broad chest and low fore-quarters, good shoulders united by poor middle pieces, with still worse hindquarters, drooping croup, supported by longish and crooked-looking legs. The "Percheron" Stud Book is a very recent institution, and will certainly be conducive to a great improvement in the breed, but it will be necessary for the American buyer to refer constantly to the Suffolk Stud Book, as the best specimens of the French breed are the result of crosses with stallions imported from England. In this country very little attention has been paid to pedigrees until quite lately, when the attention of breeders and stud inspectors has