

We do not expect that the prices of produce will rule very high this winter, neither do we suppose that prices will be very low. Barley is scarce this year, as we anticipated, and sells at a fair price, but this scarcity is the consequence of brewers only giving, last year, about two-thirds of what it should have sold for in proportion to the prices of other grains. The price last year, was much under what it was worth by weight, compared with oats. It is, however, imprudent for farmers to give up sowing barley, although brewers may not purchase it, as an acre of land suitable for barley may produce as much food in barley as it would in oats, and it is the best crop that land can be seeded down with for grass. It is also prudent to have a variety of crops to suit the soil, time of sowing, &c. We hope, should we be spared to see the close of the present year, we may be able to congratulate farmers on having so favorable a season as the past has been. We know the general average return has not been very large, but we must not expect very large products, until we take more pains to cultivate for crops. We do not know any country that will yield a larger produce in proportion to the cultivation the soil receives, than Lower Canada. The rapid progress of vegetation here in summer, on well cultivated and fertile land particularly, is most astonishing, and it is in reality surprising the quantity of produce that we obtain here from a very inferior and defective system of husbandry, although we are proud to say there are very many farms well cultivated and managed.

December 31, 1850.

THE CANADIAN HORSE.

We have frequently expressed our regret that it was difficult to find many of the pure breed of Canadian horses in the neighborhood of Montreal, and that in consequence, the quality of our horses in the country was considerably deteriorated and lessened in market value. There are particular characteristics that distinguish

this breed from any other in Canada, that cannot be mistaken, and the slightest cross with other breeds is quite perceptible. The pure breed of Canadian horse, is a perfect picture, for strength, and durability, a fine head, neck, and shoulders, the latter well thrown back, the back is short and strong, the body round, the chest deep, broad, and very full at the girth, the arm, or forethighs full, strong, and muscular: the legs clean, strong, and flat-boned, the pasterns straight and short, the hoof circular and broad, the legs on the back part having strong hair in considerable quantity for two thirds of its length from the knee joint to the pastern. This latter characteristic is the most certain indication of pure breed, and we have never seen an instance of the pure Canadian horse without this long strong hair on the legs, short straight pasterns, and a broad circular hoof.

These horses may be brought to a sufficient size, by careful breeding, and sufficient feeding, but we have seen small sized horses of this breed, of great strength and durability. The grand point is, to have the breed pure, and to make a business of raising good horses as an agricultural produce for the market, that will probably be always in good demand. It is necessary that farmers should endeavor to have such products as will sell at remunerating prices, which certainly would be the case if good Canadian horses were raised. The neighboring States will be a sure market for them, and let us only have a good description to command a fair price. This past year we have seen horses of every quality and size selling readily in Montreal, and throughout the country, at good prices according to quality. It would take a considerable quantity of the farmers' grain to make up the amount at present prices, that he could obtain for even a small sized horse. For more than twenty years we have constantly endeavored to recommend attention to the breed of the Canadian horse, and to bring them to as great perfection as possible.