

owing to the large amount of unoccupied land that will be available for both hay and pasture, should select a breed solely for stock purposes—the scarcity and consequent high price of labor giving the monopoly of dairying to mixed farming or co-operative factories. To encourage ranching in this Province a law should be enacted that cattle shall have a free range on all unfenced land, provided they are kept under control, and their owners made responsible for damage done to crops. The most suitable breeds for ranching are the Western Highland cattle, the Galloway or polled Aberdeen, and the Durham. The Highland cattle, I think, would feed themselves for a large portion of the winter, grubbing their living with their muzzles, and they would increase in size on our pasture. Their beef is highly prized in the English market. The black polled cattle are also a very hardy breed, and for a portion of the winter would support themselves—they are very weighty and of a docile temper. The Durhams are a good breed for all purposes, do well in this country, and can be more easily obtained than either of the other breeds. A useful animal for the country can be bred from the common Ontario cow with the Durham or polled Aberdeen bull, and I may here state that it is of the utmost importance, all stock raisers and farmers should be sure none but the best bred bulls for the qualities they desire their stock to possess—either in milking or beef. We have Europe, Canada and America to draw our stock from, with excellent particulars and books to guide us, so that it is merely a question of capital, and it is well for our farmers to realize that it is better to have five cows with a good bull than ten cows with a scrub.

There will be a demand for thoroughbred stock in this country, at advanced prices, so that there is a good opening for a number of herds of that class, and it is well to realize that if young bulls will fetch from \$150 to \$250 as yearlings, twice or thrice the amount can be obtained in one third the time, with less breeding power than for ordinary stock, it will pay to devote careful attention to the highest standard of perfection, or, in other words ten thoroughbred cows, costing the same as forty ordinary ones, will realize as much, with less expense in breeding. The same policy in regard to sheep will meet with the same result. I think that the Leicester or the Cotswold from Ontario are as good a seed to build upon as we can obtain with economy, but we must cross with the black faced Highlander, or the Oxford Downs to produce a

better class of mutton. The fault of the Ontario breed is that they run too much to fat, a most undesirable quality for mutton, so that a cross must be secured which will reduce that propensity. The coldness and dryness of the climate will improve the texture of the wool. In the western part of the Province there is a splendid opening for sheep raising. Mr. Bligh, on the Assiniboine between Fort Ellice and Shell River, killed two lambs on the 1st of November, weighing respectively 69 and 65 lbs. net. There is little damage from frost in the lambing season, and sheep thrive well on the prairie hay. The country is as well adapted for the breeding of horses as any other class of stock, and it has been proved beyond dispute that horses will not only endure the rigours of the north-west storms, but will also winter themselves and keep fat on the prairie, uncared for by man. I consider that a horse, raised on the prairie, is worth more than 25 per cent. more than an imported horse, as he is acclimatized, and, what is of more importance, he is accustomed to the water, which is generally impregnated with alkali and so as to affect injuriously the kidney of horses unused to it. Horses brought from Ontario require great care and attention, numbers dying every year from want of attention and from injudicious treatment, whereas the natives thrive and do well. The home market is the market we have to breed for at present and I think that a cross between a low Canadian stallion and an Ontario mare would make a most useful animal for this country. The mares should have good bone, good size, and some blood in them for speed, as no one wants to go home from market at a snail's pace on our winter evenings. As marketing grain is going to form no inconsiderable part of the farmer's work in this country his team should be fitted for the road as well as for the plough. For England, which no doubt will be our foreign market, a different class of horse must be bred. A good sized, roomy, and bony mare from Ontario, with a thoroughbred stallion carefully selected for his size and qualities, will turn out a valuable horse for export, and when the Hudson's Bay route is opened out, thus ensuring us cheap transport, nothing will be able to compete with us in horseflesh. A very useful beast for light driving can be built up from the same mares by a thoroughbred Ontario stallion, always taking care to secure size and bone; we shall then get a