

Canadian Live-Stock Journal.

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All communications to be addressed STOCK JOURNAL CO., 48 John street south, Hamilton, Ont.

HAMILTON, CANADA, OCTOBER, 1885.

We will gladly furnish sample copies of the JOURNAL to any who may be desirous of canvassing for it, or of forming clubs, if they will please send us a line to that effect. Many of our subscribers have already sent us the names of persons in their respective neighborhoods who are likely to engage in this work. If those of our friends who have no time thus to aid in increasing our circulation will forward the name, occupation and P. O. address of some one in his locality who would take an active interest in getting new subscribers, we shall take it as a great favor, and will also forward sample copies to any of your neighbors who would probably become subscribers. We very respectfully request of all who think the JOURNAL worthy of a wider field to do what they can to extend the circulation.

SIR J. B. LAWES has ascertained, as the result of careful experiment, that ensilage is practically equal, as a fattening food, to a mixture of swedes and clover hay, and that in due proportion it is a very good food for dairy cows. This testimony is very important, coming as it does from such an impartial source. When the testimony of this great experimenter is added to the finding of the commission recently collecting evidence, it may be taken as a settled fact that in Britain ensilage will henceforth be a prominent factor in the formation of beef and milk. Though not so important as a food adjunct in this drier climate, where fodder may usually be cured readily, it may yet play a most important part in the feeding of cattle here. Some parts of this country will not produce roots readily. If ensilage will answer as well in the place of these, it will be a grand point gained. Or if ensilage can be produced more cheaply it will also prove a boon.

A CRV is being raised in some of our British exchanges, notably the London *Live Stock Journal*, in reference to over feeding breeding animals intended for showing purposes. The latter journal characterizes the practice as a costly and destructive custom, and recommends "disqualification" as the remedy for the evil, to be pronounced by a "specially appointed tribunal." There is no doubt that the game played by

exhibitors in the beefing lines at our own shows has been an exceedingly hazardous one. There appears to us, however, grave difficulties as to the determining of the degree of fleshiness that would come within any prescribed requirements that might be laid down. There is no doubt whatever that if the evil could be remedied the exhibits of live-stock at our exhibitions would be very much larger than they are. We would like to hear the views of our patrons who have any scheme studied out that is workable in reference to the matter.

MUCH attention is given in England of late to the breeding of "light legged" horses for driving purposes. It seems that while the price of heavy draughts has declined somewhat, that of the former class has materially advanced. This, in a measure at least, accounts for the commendable activity of the Hackney and Cleveland Bay societies of late, and for the recent formation of the Hunter's Improvement Society, of which Mr. Walter Gilbey is the chief patron. This society "hopes to encourage more horse breeding in "the United Kingdom, and to obtain improvement in "the size, shape, and quality of riding and driving "horses generally." No less than 197,092 light horses were imported into Britain from 1873 to 1882. While a good deal of attention has been given to the breeding of light horses in this country, the tendency is to breed them too small. We have far too large a proportion of the inferior sorts, so mixed in their breeding and characteristics that they are neither one thing nor the other. Our breeders, like those of Britain, should give more attention to the breeding of a class of horses which will answer the purpose for which it is intended.

Moss suitable for litter is shipped in large quantities from Germany to Great Britain; which fact at once conveys the impression that the farmers of Great Britain place much store upon suitable manurial absorbents. It is time that our farmers here in Canada were waking up in a body to the importance of this. Oftentimes do we see cattle lying down on bare floors with no litter under them, either to keep them clean or warm, or to absorb the liquid excrement; more particularly is this the case with beefing cattle. By far too valuable is the liquid excrement to have it lost. Unless collected and utilized direct, it should be all absorbed by some form of bedding. Sawdust makes a good absorbent; but after all, our great reliance is to be placed in straw raised upon the farm. Those who feed their farms well will usually have abundance of litter, while on the other hand, those who do not, will find their supply continually decreasing. It has an ominous look to see men trying to trample their straw down in the yard to get it out of the way, as it makes it very apparent the little value they attach to properly made manure. Straw should never be thus wasted, as if not wanted one year it may be the next.

A CANADIAN stockman once said to us, speaking through the medium of the press, "I intend that whatever leaves the farm, from a chicken to a horse, shall be all that the purchaser is entitled to." The intention here expressed has a fine ring about it, the echo of which every true stockman will catch up and repeat with all his powers. It is a splendid achievement to produce a beast that universal judgment places at the head of its line in a whole Dominion, but if the man who has accomplished this so far forget his manhood as to take advantage of the fellow-man bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh, in selling another beast, he plunges headlong from the pedestal on which his skill as a breeder has placed him into an awful mire.

Natural aptitude, diligence and constant attention, may place the stockman on the pinnacle of his calling but none of these can ever atone for one conscious deviation from the pathway of rectitude in dealing with his fellows. The little arts that are sometimes used to take advantage of honest ignorance are contemptible, and can only emanate from a mind of similar mould. Deception may flourish for a time, but ultimately the penalty recoils upon the head of him who practices it by a retributive law that is eternal as its Author.

"I HAVE had more real pleasure in my stock than money could afford me in any other way." Thus it is that one of the most earnest of our western stockmen expresses himself. This man is patiently building up a good herd of pure breds in a locality where good stock is not over-abundant, and although we have never had the pleasure of meeting this gentleman, we feel quite certain that if his life is spared his success is assured. The man who cannot wake up a little *enthusiasm* in stock keeping should not possess it, as in such a case he is doomed to disappointment. Enthusiasm, the dread of moss-coated corporations, and of priestcraft, is a splendid reality when applied to stock keeping. When one does not take a real pleasure in viewing his beasts, in seeing that they are properly housed and fed, and cared for in every way, he will not come to the front as a stockman. We do not say that he must do all this with his own hands, but he must love to do it when he has opportunity, otherwise when out of sight they will be out of mind, and he will fail to see that they are properly cared for. Enthusiasm in stock-keeping is far more important than in ordinary farming. In the latter case when seed has been committed to the earth it will in ordinary cases take care of itself, but in the former the care of the animals should be daily, unremitting, constant, and painstaking. The farmer who cannot awaken enthusiasm to this extent in stock-raising had better keep on growing grain.

TEMPORARY OFFER.

Present subscribers to the Journal will please bear in mind our temporary offer of last month. To those forwarding the names of two new subscribers, accompanied with \$2.00 cash, we will send a copy of the Journal for 1886 free. This offer remains open until 15th November next.

The Appointment of Judges at the Provincial Exhibition.

The plan adopted by the council of the Agricultural and Arts Association in selecting their judges is perhaps not the best under the circumstances. According to the present arrangement the Secretary forwards to each member of the Association the number of judges to be selected by him in the division which he represents, and within the bounds of said division. One of the arguments used in favor of this method is, that it secures the services of men from all parts of the Province, and who, therefore, are less liable to be biased by sectional influences. But it is open to at least two grave objections:

First. Oftentimes suitable men of the highest order cannot be found in any one division for judging in the various sections of the exhibit. One locality may be noted for the number of its skilful judges of horses, but at the same time be wholly destitute of efficient judges in the Arts department. Again, sections possessing first-class judges in the grain department may be wholly wanting in men who understand stock.