

# Canadian Live-Stock Journal.

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

HAMILTON, CANADA, JULY, 1886.

We will take it as a great favor if "A. S. H.," who at one time was on the list of our contributors, will forward to us his address.

PARTIES sending communications to the JOURNAL for publication will please give name and address at same time, even though they don't wish these to appear. No communication will find a place in the JOURNAL where the above has not been complied with.

In this country the price paid for the different classes of wools is very unsettled, especially in local markets, where the introduction of some of the short wool breeds is but recent. There is a disposition amongst buyers to class some of the short wools as medium and the medium as long. With a view of throwing light upon this subject and bringing about a better understanding all round, we invite sheep owners from the different sections to drop us a card in time for next issue, stating the prices paid in their respective localities. To be sure this matter will adjust itself in time, but in isolated parts ventilating the subject properly will hasten adjustment.

The London *Live-Stock Journal* says in a late issue, "It is preferable that the entire supply of cattle (stores) should be bred in this country, so that the risk, uncertainty and speculation of dealing in imported stores may be avoided." It was the interest of the British farmer that the writer had in view when he penned what we have quoted; yet we feel that what he has written is quite as much in the interest of the Canadian farmer who is wise enough to finish his stores here before sending them abroad. We have repeatedly commented upon the unwisdom of sending store stock to the British markets, and only wonder that our farmers don't all see eye to eye with us in this matter. The arguments against the practice we sum up again. We pay the same for sending over a store beast that we do in sending one finished. We pay the freight on the produce we send away to finish it over the sea, and we lose the manurial product.

THE fear that owing to their rapid multiplication pure-bred cattle will soon fall so low in price that it will not pay to breed them, is a groundless one. The best of the good will never become too plentiful even in the hands of the skillful breeders, while in the hands of the careless there is a constant tendency to deterioration rather than improvement. For first-class pure-breeds there will always be a place, and they will be sold at prices that will pay the breeders well. Examine many of the herds of Ontario to-day and you will not find many choice amongst the larger number that are good, and the larger number that are only medium, and we know that Ontario in this respect will compare favorably with any other clime. Let it be the constant aim of every breeder to produce really first-class stock, and the price will take care of itself.

PEDIGREE alone will not avail unless a good constitution, good shape, good feeding qualities and the possession of other prime requisites go along with it. It is therefore not only unwise but unkind, if not positively dishonest, when stockmen retain inferior specimens for breeding purposes, especially of the male sex, and palm them off upon the uninitiated as being of the right sort. The stock interest has thus been sorely wounded in the house of its friends and its progress greatly hindered. Those who purchase for grading purposes are most prone to fall into the mistake at first of buying pedigree weeds, when the results cannot fail to be disappointing. They are selected on the ground of cheapness. Once start with a good beast, possessing a good pedigree, and the results are not likely to disappoint anyone.

A CORRESPONDENT from Winnipeg remarks in a recent number of the JOURNAL, "The word amongst our ranchers of the west now is, the scrub must go." It is very cheering to hear that such good sense is prevailing in the councils of the cattle owners of the great lone land. They have doubtless come to this conclusion from looking at the matter from a monetary standpoint. They are to be superseded by good graded cattle because the latter are more profitable. If in a country where animals are fattened solely on grass, and where land can be obtained for from two to ten dollars an acre, the scrub must pale before improved stock, how much more should it vanish in Ontario where farming land brings from forty to one hundred dollars an acre. The poor scrub has his doom written. Our western contemporary, his champion defender, had better be tuning his harp to play a lament.

A BEAUTIFUL fuschia in our office window, neglected but for one day, sadly drooped, giving evidence of languishing in every leaf. It was then supplied with a drink of water larger than usual, and in a few hours was the beautiful fuschia again. As with plant life so it is with animal, with this difference, that it is more imperative that the stomach of a beast should be regularly supplied than the rootlets and the lungs of a plant. *Unfailing regularity practiced here* might well be written over every stable door in the land. Of the millions of live-stock kept in our country, not a single one of them can be neglected without a loss corresponding to the neglect. What a comment on the indifference so lamentably prevalent that makes the feeding of animals simply a matter of convenience, as though they were not possessed of appetites or were utter strangers to the sensation of hunger.

THAT exercise and plenty of it is essential to the well-being of the horse is becoming more and more apparent. Where this is neglected, particularly in

the case of draft horses, their usefulness is greatly impaired. They are not sure as stock horses, nor do they live to that age attained by so many of the roadsters and trotting stallions. There may be considerable difference of opinion as to the best form in which this exercise can be secured, but giving it in harness is a favorite way. Turning a horse out occasionally into a paddock is not always sufficient, as with the horse that has grown fat and has not been exercised much, there is a tendency to become inert. Exercising in some way that is useful, that is, that will accomplish some other end at the same time, is preferable when this can be done, and generally it can. The horse is too expensive an animal to keep boxed up in a stall simply that he may be admired.

THE great factor of improvement in stock-keeping is the sire. This cannot be kept too prominently in view by those who are seeking for a superior class of stock. In this age of shows one of the very best tests of the value of a sire is the number of his progeny that come into the show-rings from year to year, and bear away prizes. Oftentimes we find a sire, an easy prize-winner, which seldom or never produces a descendant that enters a show-ring, while on the other hand a plainer one will produce progeny that are numerous in every exhibition in the neighborhood. Our exhibition directors should generally note this fact, as they have already done in some instances, and offer prizes for so many individuals grouped, the offspring of one sire. Where a sire of this class is found it is well that his merits be made public, and that he be not perpetually hidden by the shadow of another sire which never produced a prize-winner, and yet the fame of which resounds throughout the land. Of famous sires that never figured in the show-ring we may mention the old Knight of Warlaby, for so many years the stock-bull of the Messrs. J. & R. Hunter, of Sunnyside, Alma, Ont., amongst bulls, and amongst horses the equally renowned Hackney stallion Denmark, owned by Mr. George Bourdass, Hunmanby Yorks, England. Of renowned prize-winners that were not good stock-getters, the wonderful Hereford bull Archibald furnishes a noted instance.

## A Most Destructive Fire.

About one o'clock on the morning of Sunday, 31st May, the entire outbuildings of Mr. Harold Sorby, of Gourock, near Guelph, were swept away by fire, with the larger portion of his pure-bred stock. The stock consisted of Galloways, Herefords, Berkshire pigs and Plymouth Rock fowls. Nearly all the implements, and the whole of the harness, hay and grain were wiped out of existence. But a remnant of the Galloways is left, and the milch cows and horses, which were in the field at the time.

It will be remembered by our readers that Mr. Sorby's splendid herd of Galloways had only been purchased from Mr. Thomas McCrae, of Janesfield Farm, Guelph, as recently as last winter, and that a description of it appeared in the March number of the JOURNAL, page 63. The pick of the herd were lost both male and female, as they were inside being fitted for the show-rings, including the unrivalled bull, Macleod 2nd, of Drumlanrig (1675) [553], bred by the Duke of Buccleugh, the two-year old Milligan, and the one-year McAlpine (19634), his sons, along with a number of choice calves and cows. The imported bull, Mochrum, with true Scottish determination, broke his chain, and dashed through the flames only to die by the rifle shot, mercifully aimed, to cut short his terrible agonies.

The Hereford bulls saved from the wreck of the Brooklin, at Anticosti, were only brought to perish in