

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED)

JOHN WELD, MANAGER

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

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is published every Thursday.

It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely
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ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 25 cents per line,
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duction of the two-furrow plow is another fea-
ture of present-day farming acting adversely
to the plowing-match. Besides all this, there is
the fact that a much smaller percentage of the land
is plowed than used to be the case. The adop-
tion by many of a four-year or other short-course
rotation, and the leaving unplowed the land on
which corn and roots have been grown, have oper-
ated to bring about this result. In such a case
fields are plowed but once in three or four years,
and fancy work is not so much regarded as when
the plowman had more practice. But though
plowing-matches may have passed away, the plow
itself, that most ancient of all implements of till-
age, is indispensable still, and in one form or an-
other will probably continue to be so till the end
of the chapter.

HORSES.

Mange in Horses.

I would like if you will give me some informa-
tion through your Questions and Answers depart-
ment as to mange in horses. What is it? What
causes it? Is it contagious, and how spread? Also,
please give symptoms and a cure, if it can
be cured.

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Mange in horses is a skin disease, due to
a parasite, and is extremely contagious. Other
skin diseases of a comparatively innocuous char-
acter may be mistaken for it. There are three
forms of mange, due to different parasitic insects,
and these are usually found on different parts of
the body. The least harmful is found on the
legs, below the knees and hocks, and is seldom
troublesome, except in winter. The animal af-
fected shows itchiness, biting at the fetlock, strik-
ing the ground with his hind foot, or kicking.
Another form is found chiefly in the mane and
tail, though in severe cases it may spread to space
between the branches of lower jaws, the breasts
and the thighs. The parasites live on the surface
of the skin, and, owing to the discharge of pus
and serum which issues from the pimples they
raise, the parts affected are kept in a moist con-
dition. The skin becomes thickened, hardened,
wrinkled, devoid of hair, and more or less covered
with sores, because of the irritation caused by the

insects, and by the animal rubbing himself. The
worst form of mange is caused by insects allied to
the itch parasites of man. Their attack usually
begins on the withers, and from thence they spread
over the neck and body. Their punctures cause
an eruption of small pimples, which can be felt
in passing the hand over the skin. The skin is
dry. As the disease becomes advanced, the skin
becomes thickened, rough and wrinkled, vertical
wrinkles of the skin, neck, shoulders and sides be-
ing seen in bad cases. This is the most con-
tagious form of the disease, and has the worst
effect on the general health.

To treat, clip off the hair and wash the af-
fected parts thoroughly, using the ordinary car-
bolic soap and a brush, and afterwards apply any
of the coal-tar dips, as advertised. Continue the
treatment every two or three days for two weeks.
Another treatment recommended is as follows:
Take one pound of sulphur, four ounces of mer-
curial ointment, two pounds of lard, one-half pint
of olive oil. Mix and combine thoroughly, and
apply liberally to every part of the skin. After
the first application, wash with warm water and
soap, and apply again. Except in bad cases,
not more than three or four dressings are neces-
sary.

With the two worst forms of the disease, no
time should be lost; they should be taken in
hand vigorously at once, as they do not tend to
spontaneous recovery. Affected animals should be
quarantined, and stables and harness should, after
a case has been cured, be thoroughly cleansed and
disinfected.

Not What He Is, But What He Gets.

Not all is gold that glitters. Not every prize-
winning horse is a safe investment. The intrinsic
value of a stallion depends upon the stock he gets.
It is of the utmost importance that he be a sure
and prepotent getter. There are cheats and
blanks among horses, as in every other class of
stock. When, for example, you hear a reputable
exhibitor at a prominent exhibition declare that
of the horses in a particular class, one didn't get
anything to speak of, another wouldn't, and a
third couldn't, it is calculated to lead a pros-
pective investor to enquire searchingly into a
horse's stock-getting record before investing. Is
he prompt and sure in service? Does he get
good stock? Then show us his progeny recorded
in the studbook, provided he is old enough to
have any in volumes issued. And, if possible,
let us see his offspring exhibited at the shows.

There is a too common tendency to place the
emphasis in stallions upon the points on which
geldings would be scored; that is, upon the in-
dividual excellence of the horse in scale, conforma-
tion, action and quality, with a certain propor-
tion of stress, of course, upon the appearance of
masculinity, but without the positive evidence of
procreative power. Grant that in a stallion class
this is impossible. Grant also that the judge
has no business to heed rumors, recollections or
impressions in handing out the awards, it still re-
mains most desirable that such evidence should be
forthcoming, and the best means of producing it
in the case of sires or dams that have been suf-
ficiently long in the country, is progeny classes.
There were several such at Toronto this year, and
while they were not very numerous filled, the
classes were nevertheless quite interesting and in-
structive. To be sure they are difficult to judge
fairly, but even this obstacle should not stand in
the way of the development of so commendable a
feature.

A guarantee to take the horse back and re-
fund his purchase price if he prove not to be a
getter, while as far as a seller may be reasonably
expected to go, is nevertheless inadequate com-
pensation for the expenditure and loss of time in-
volved in the trial of an impotent horse, and al-
though a certain element of risk has always to be
run, especially with untried colts, the discreet pur-
chaser will minimize it by declining to take
chances on doubtful horses until they have been
proven, and by letting no paltry considerations of
price stand between him and a true and tested
horse. It may be fairly regarded as the duty of
an importer or breeder to prove uncertain propo-
sitions before offering them to the investing pub-
lic.

Sleepy Grass.

It is reported in an American exchange that a
traveller has found in New Mexico a narcotic
grass that may prove of medicinal value. It is
known as "sleepy grass." Cattle and horses will
eat it the first time they see it. It makes them
fall to the ground in their tracks, and lie in a
state of coma for two days. When they wake up,
they have no ill effects from the opiate. But
they will never eat it again; in fact, they will
run away if it is offered to them. This "sleepy
grass," it is explained, is not to be confused with
the loco weed. The grass is a real grass, not
unlike the Kentucky blue grass in appearance. The
loco weed is a different plant, bears a flower,

LIVE STOCK.

Our Scottish Letter.

August was the only month in which we had
real summer weather this year. The change which
the three weeks of good weather wrought in the
crops was something marvellous. At the time of
writing (Sept. 3rd), every crop on the farm is
looking well, harvest is in full swing, and in some
places it is completed.

Lamb sales opened badly, but prices have grad-
ually hardened, and, quality considered, prices now
are about as good as they were a year ago. Mut-
ton, however, is a very bad price, but wool is
selling pretty well. The remarkable feature of
the year so far has been the high price of beef.
Not for many years has so long a period of sus-
tained good prices been experienced, and there is
every prospect that that good figure will be main-
tained for some little time to come. Another
deputation, representing butchers, transport com-
panies and co-operative societies, have waited up-
on the Prime Minister, and endeavored to convince
him that he ought to repeal the legislation of
1896, anent cattle disease. His answer was the
most pronounced negative which has yet been ut-
tered on the subject by his side of politics. I
imagine it has given the quietus to this agitation,
and not a moment too soon. The situation in
the United States makes it hopeless to expect
that any Government could possibly risk what is
involved in opening the ports to oversea stores,
and the figures regarding imports from Canada
make it certain that, from the standpoint of the
consumer, the policy of 1896 has only increased
the volume of importation. To those of us on the
spot, who know something about the condition of
affairs before the policy of 1896 took definite
shape, the Prime Minister's reply comes as a posi-
tive relief.

Export trade in Clydesdales to Canada has
this season again been unusually brisk. Many
good serviceable horses have been exported, and
there is reason to hope that the success of the
Percheron at Winnipeg may cause the patrons of
the Clydesdale in Canada and here to look to their
laurels. Of course, some of us here are rather
skeptical concerning the possibility of any Perche-
ron being able, at the hands of a competent judge,
to beat a horse like Lord Ardwall, and our skep-
ticism is not at all modified when we further
learn that Lord Scott beat the same Percheron at
Brandon. Lord Scott was a good colt when he
left here, but no one who knew the two horses
could ever have imagined him capable of beating
Lord Ardwall. We are informed here that Pro-
fessor Carlyle's defence of his Winnipeg award is
that the Percheron was not in his view a better
draft horse than Lord Ardwall, but that he was
a better representative of the Percherons than
Lord Ardwall was of the Clydesdales. It may be
so, but we rather think the Percheron must be a
phenomenal representative of the French horse, if
such could be affirmed of him. Yesterday, the
stud of entire horses owned by the late Walter
S. Park, Hatton, Bishopton, who was well known
to many of your readers, came under the hammer.
Several Canadians were present, but they did not
operate. The twenty-one head sold made an aver-
age of £102 2s. each. The highest price was 570
gs., paid by Alex. Rennie, of Paisley, for the big
black three-year-old, Laird of Erskine. This price
included his season of 1910, which has already
been booked, and may, perhaps, be worth £250.

The country is much concerned at present with
political affairs. In an unusual degree, the high
policy of Parliament with reference to Finance
has an important direct bearing on agriculture.
The battle rages around the land clauses and the
licensing clauses of the Finance Bill. The former
opens up questions which are little better than
Greek to Canadians. You are happily free of the
dual interest of landlord and tenant in land, but
the question of increment is bound to arise with
you as well as with us. Briefly, this means the
enhanced value of land, due to nothing which the
owner has done, but solely to the enhanced value
of everything, due to commercial and industrial
prosperity. The Government proposal is that,
when a piece of land is sold at an enhanced value,
arising from such causes as these, the owner shall
pay a certain tax, about one cent in every five
dollars, on his "windfall." This is denounced in
many quarters as "Socialism" and "Henry
Georgeism," and the imposition of such a tax is
being opposed by every possible tactic in the
House of Commons. At first, proprietors and
occupiers of rural land were almost compelled to
take up active opposition to the proposed taxa-
tion, but the Chancellor of the Exchequer has in-
serted clauses exempting purely agricultural sub-
jects from the incidence of such taxation, and this
action on his part has rather drawn the teeth
of agricultural opposition. Still the battle rages,
and now the proposal to impose a high license
tariff on the sale of alcoholic liquor has developed
renewed antagonism. The allegation is made that
this will operate to the detriment of agriculture
by restricting the demand for barley.

In any case, it is gratifying to know that the