

mede 2076. This is a beautiful little mare. The third reserve was Blood Royal, a superb bay gelding, five years old, bred and owned by Mr. Wm. Scott, Carlisle, and got by his great stud horse, Mathias. The champion has not been in Scotland, but both King of the West and Vanity Fair were brought out by Mr. Alexander Morton's famous Scots stud at Gowanbank, Darvel, Ayrshire, as was also Royal Fair, one of the first-prize pony mares in harness. Scotland did wonderfully well at this London Show, and those wanting the Hackneys which win in harness must come north for them.

I have not space or time to write at present of the Clydesdale exports to Canada during the past month. They have been numerous. Almost every week large numbers have left the Clyde for the Dominion, and should the trade continue during the year as it has begun, we will have a good time among the Clydesdale men. Two excellent shipments of stallions have been made by Mr. Wm. Colquhoun, Mitchell, Ont., and Mutch Bros., Regina, Sask. One of the best horses sent for a long time was Blackband, in Mr. Colquhoun's shipment. He has both bred well and taken many prizes here. But most notable of all was the shipment of the Cawdor Cup champion, Baron Kitchener, by Mr. Butler, of Ingersoll, Ont. This great horse, fresh from his victory at Glasgow a month ago, should make a sensation in Canada.

"SCOTLAND YET."

THE INFLUENCE OF HEREDITY.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

At the annual meeting of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, Prof. Dean, of the Ontario Agricultural College, is reported to have said that the old adage, "Like begets like," is not true; that a good cow, mated with a bull out of a good cow, will not always produce a good calf. This, no doubt, may be partly true in so far as the calf is concerned, because it is an undeveloped specimen of a certain breed. But what about this calf at maturity, which, if reared under conditions conducive to the natural development of its hereditary traits, will probably be a typical representative of the breed to which it belongs, and not necessarily the facsimile of its immediate parents—thus proving the truth of the adage. I do not see how success can be obtained by any breeder who would ignore this great law, for upon it is reared the whole structure of scientific breeding.

Now, why did the Professor not quote the adage in full, for to quote a part is very misleading, especially to those who have paid little or no attention to either breeding or pedigree, and those are the persons who would be the most likely to pay attention to this teaching, as it would most certainly be in accord with their experience, and therefore give them a very erroneous impression of the great advantages to be derived from the intelligent use of these principles as applied to breeding.

To say that "like produces like" is not true, simply nullifies the whole value of pedigree. Now, I shall quote the great fundamental law of breeding and heredity in full, and ask Prof. Dean or any other breeder to prove it untrue in any particular. The full quotation is, "Like produces like, or the likeness of an ancestor," and I will go a little farther and say that my experience as a breeder has been that we are as apt to produce the likeness of an ancestor in the progeny as that of the immediate parents; if this is not true, why are breeders so anxious about pedigree? This hereditary tendency to reversion amongst our domestic animals accounts for many of the disappointments of the beginner in the building up of flock, stud or herd. Where great uniformity is present in any breed, the hereditary tendency is to follow the uniform type; and where little or

no uniformity is present in any breed, divergence in the progeny is both frequent and great, and any point which is not inherited is unimportant to us as breeders.

But once we have thoroughly studied and understood in a measure this great law in its entirety, and be prepared to give each ancestor due credit for the very important part they are bound to play in the general make-up of every animal, we will then be in a position to deal intelligently with the material at our command.

Now, the points I wish to call attention to are the great importance of selection and uniformity in type, and of using none but the very best sires at our disposal. What English breeders have actually effected by selection, is proved by the enormous prices given for animals of good pedigree. A correct view of this subject is of more practical importance than may at first sight appear, for upon it depends our success or failure in producing animals of a uniform type and standard of excellence.

We have learned through our Institute workers of the great success attending the proper selection of seed grain. A like success must attend the proper selection of our breeding animals, and be even more interesting financially.

This now brings us to the study of pedigree, which tells us the genealogy, the lineage of the animal to which it belongs.

Pedigree is to the breeder what the finger-post on a country cross-road is to the traveller—it points both ways, the way you should go, and the way you should not. Pedigree enables the breeder to choose the most prepotent strain of blood in any breed, which is a very important factor in the grading up of any stud or herd.

Good pedigrees usually produce good animals, but the true value in a pedigree is in what it enables its owner to perform.

In examining a pedigree, the greatest care should be taken in allowing each sire, and dam their proportionate influence in the general make-up of the progeny; for, like a chain, it is only as strong as its weakest link; consequently, the nearer to your sire or dam the inferior cross happens to appear, the less valuable the pedigree will be. Pedigree should always be studied in conjunction with nature's great law, which is "The survival of the fittest." Hence, we can see, in this great struggle for existence, none but the strong, vigorous and healthy survive and multiply.

After twenty-seven years' experience in breeding one particular class of stock, and winning the silver medals at Toronto two years in succession, for stallion and mare, both closely related on both the side of their dam and also the side of their sire, although neither from the same mare or same stallion, I must say that "like produces like" with a good deal more certainty than many of us are aware.

Peel Co., Ont.

W. C. BROWN.

ODDS IN FAVOR OF THE PURE-BRED SIRE.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have been reading with great interest the different breeders' views re licensing of stallions. I think the quickest way to get rid of the poor class of stallions is to put a tax on all unregistered stallions, for if a man pays from \$800 to \$2,000 for a registered stallion, I think he is taxed enough, for there is no fortune in owning a stallion and running all risks. I have been handling stallions for the last 18 years, and know by experience that there is great danger breeding from anything but a registered stallion; for, no matter how fine-looking a mongrel is himself, he may throw his stock after some ancestors he would be ashamed to own, whereas the pure-bred animal is not so likely to have those undesirable ancestors. I at present own a Clydesdale stallion, a grandson of McGregor on sire's side,

and a great grandson of Darnley on dam's side, and his stock is all stamped the best.

I would be glad if a wide-sleigh act were passed, as the sleigh of to-day is not in proportion to the horses of the day.

Prescott Co., Ont.

A SUBSCRIBER.

\$15 A MINIMUM FEE.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read a great deal in your valuable paper about how to improve the horse industry of Ontario. We all seem to agree that there should be some law that would tend to improve the horse industry. Let every horse-breeder in Ontario have the one grand object in view, "to make the Canadian horse the best in the world," to whatever class he belongs. If the breeder is not making a profit, he needs to adopt some other plan, as there are breeders making good profit. Now, what, in my opinion, would in a few years make a great improvement and adjust everything would be to impose a license or fine of one hundred dollars on the owner of any stallion offered for service at a fee of less than fifteen dollars. Make that the minimum fee. Then the breeders would pick out the best horses, and try to get the worth of their money. The man with the scrub stallion would not get business enough to pay for his hay. The breeders have been imposed upon to some extent by the would-be horseman, or the man one might call the low-class horseman, that will travel any kind of a scrub stallion, and try to do business by cutting prices and securing part of the trade, doing himself no good, and doing a great injury to the owner of the good stallion and the breeder as well. Let us pay what it is worth. Don't put the man out of business who is trying to improve the horse industry by starving him out by means of the fellow who is ruining the business for every breeder. Let us pay a fee that will pay the stallion owner, and we will be sure to have plenty of the very best stallions travelled. The man who travels the good horse will be encouraged to get a better one. The sooner the man is out of business that travels the scrub horse, the better for him, as he will not be able to command the fee, and therefore he will have to quit. Some breeders think there are heaps of money in the stallion business. Let us see how much money we can make: Cost of stallion, say, \$2,000; interest for one year, at 6 per cent., \$120; insurance, \$150; depreciation value, \$200; stand for season of 12 weeks, \$145; man in charge for 12 weeks, \$120; horse's keep and care for 9 months, \$100; horse and rig for 12 weeks, \$20; brushes and blankets, \$10; shoeing, \$10; advertising, \$10; expense for collecting, \$50; total expenses, \$935. Suppose he gets 125 mares at \$15 per mare. Five mares die, owners of five others have gone out of the country, and we have only 115 mares left. The horse foals 60 per cent of 115, equals 69 mares at \$15 each, equals \$1,035. We wind up by collecting about \$1,000, which it will take a whole year to collect, and one is very likely to come out at the small end of the horn.

I think the Ontario Government is aiming, in many ways, to aid the farmers and citizens towards higher standards in all lines of improvement. Now, let us try to help ourselves when we have an opportunity. Hoping to hear from many others on this important subject.

Grey Co., Ont.

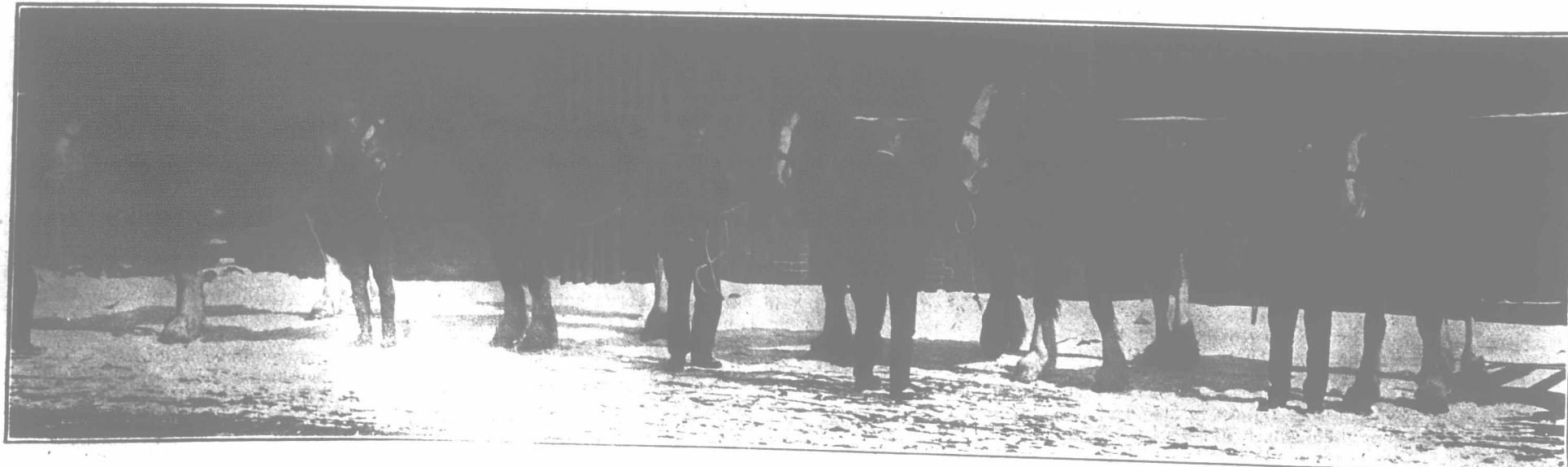
S. J. McKNIGHT.

GREAT VALUE IN PREMIUMS.

Just a few lines to let you know I received "The Farmer's Advocate" knife safe and sound. It certainly is a dandy. If all your premiums are as good as the knife, they are well worth working for. Wishing you every success with your splendid paper.

Simcoe Co., Ont.

WILLIAM WESTLAKE.



Young Clydesdale Stallions.

Bred and owned by Thos. Mercer, Markdale, Ont.