

Tamworth Swine.

There are no animals on the farm that have so nearly followed the type of the pure-bred herds as that of swine. If we examine them as they are being loaded at any shipping point they will be found to be nearly the pattern of the pure breeds that are most popular in the locality where these have been fed. This can easily be accounted for by the quick manner in which swine may be reproduced, as the produce of one sow in the third generation would supply breeding animals for a large area of country. Therefore we find that a large proportion of pigs that have been fed for slaughter are to all intents and purposes purely bred. The pork packers claim that by judiciously crossing the different pure breeds a suitable hog may be produced for the English bacon trade. Among those who are much interested in this business are Messrs. J. L.

How to Dishorn Cattle.

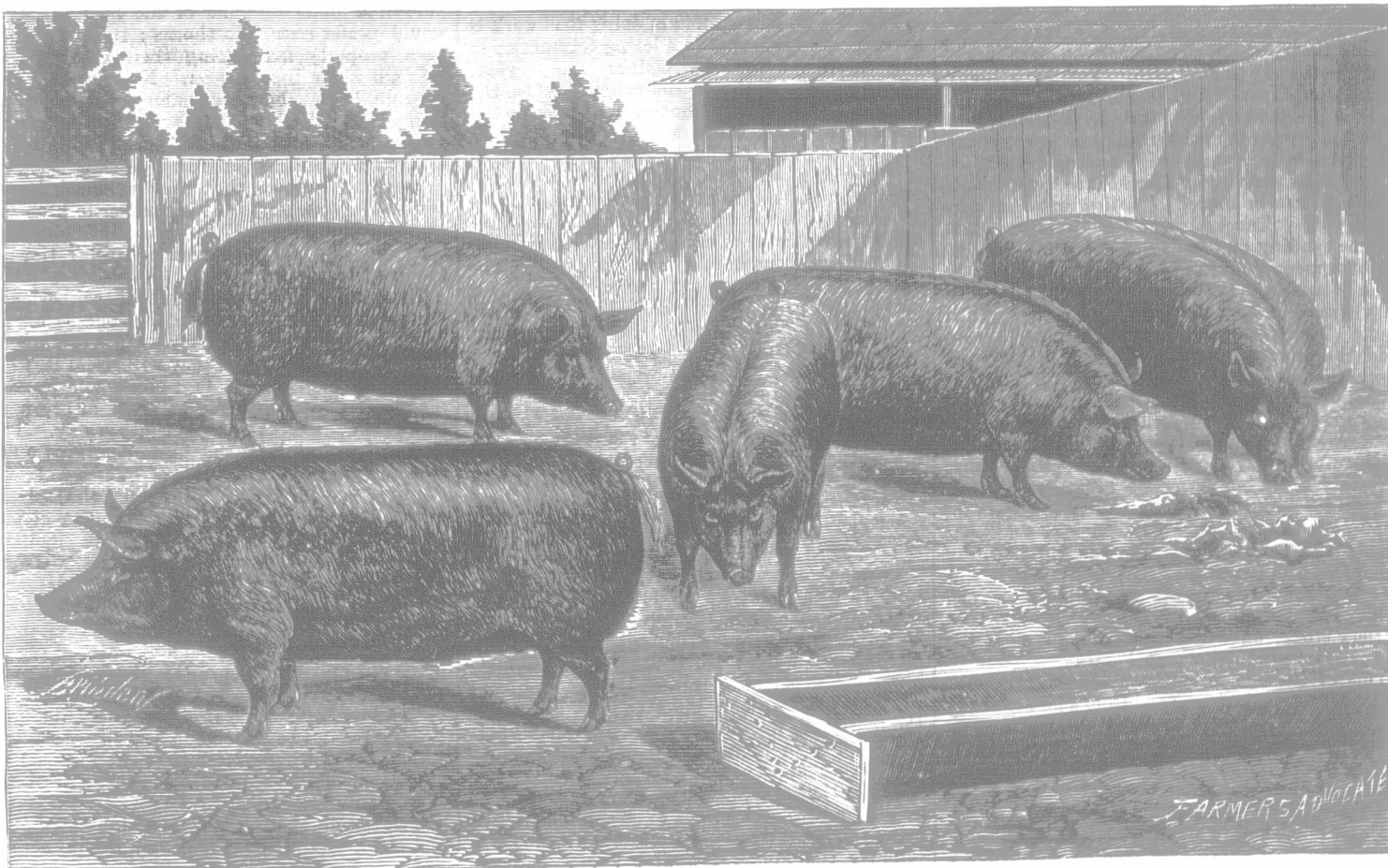
BY J. BEVERIDGE, CLEARWATER, MAN.

As many wish to know how to dishorn cattle I will tell them how to do it. In the calf up to perhaps eight weeks old the embryo horn is loose on the top of the frontal. Cut around the embryo horn and take it out. Gouge off a little of the bone directly under where the horn was and the job is done. The head soon heals, and you have what looks like a born mulley, and no harm done. If the horns have become attached to the frontal bone, use the saw and cut well down, so as to reach the bottom of the embryo horn. The saw should be a very narrow one, that it may be turned and enable you to saw in a gouging manner, and filed like a butcher's saw. Cut yearlings' and two-year-olds' horns a quarter of an inch below the hair; older cattle close to the hair at the matrix. Sometimes the ring of pulpy flesh lies outside the hair; if so, cut it off or the horn will grow. In most cases the matrix lies back of the edge of the hair; cut well down—if it takes a little hair, no matter.

The Selection and Feeding of Steers.

JOHN S. ROBSON, MANITOU.

The steers that were let out to feed last season in this locality were given to farmers at \$2.75 per hundred pounds (five pounds off), and were taken back in the spring for \$4 (five pounds off). There were a few let out for \$1.25 per month for feeding, Mr. Ironsides, the cattle exporter, finding chop and hay, the feeders the stable room and straw. They were all tied from fall till when shipped in spring. In this part of the country there was plenty of feed grain that the farmers could not sell, and this arrangement paid some of them very well. They got paid for grain they could not sell, and also for feeding. As far as I know, the feeders were satisfied; but I believe it would pay better for a feeder to buy the cattle. Then they could secure a class of cattle



A LITTER OF HALF-BRED TAMWORTHS AND BERKSHIRES.

Grant & Co., Ingersoll, Ont., who claim that the Tamworth cross between the thoroughbred Tamworth swine and the Berkshires, Chester Whites, Poland Chinas and Suffolks, is rapidly becoming more favorable with those interested in raising hogs for profit in Western Ontario. The packers of pork have long seen the necessity of trying to introduce a cross that would lengthen the hog, deepen the side, with a heavier ham and lighter shoulder. The result of the cross with the Tamworths on the shorter breeds above referred to fairly supplies their needs, and for this purpose the firm mentioned above imported 52 head of Tamworths last June from the celebrated herds of Messrs. W. H. Mitchell, E'emdene, Kenilworth; Watson Norman, Ibbotson, and Egbert DeHamal, Middleton Hall, England. The accompanying cut represents a litter of half-bred Tamworths and Berkshires that were delivered at Messrs. Grant's factory, weighing, at six months old, an average 205 pounds, which had been winter fed in an ordinary barn yard.

It is important that the animal be securely and firmly fastened. Put the brute in a strong stanchion, take a strong rope fifteen feet or so long, with two rings at one end two or three inches in diameter; put the rope over the brute's neck, double the rope through one ring and draw the loop over the nose; put the rope over the top of the stanchion a little to one side, have your men raise the head as high as possible and draw up on the rope tight, put the rope through the other ring and bind around the bar again. Have a man hold the rope while you saw away. If you cannot reach the second horn, let down the head and bind it up the other side. Examine the horn, saw close to the hair or at the matrix in a gouging manner. Let the brute loose as soon as the operation is over. Don't be afraid of a little blood; you are not within four inches of the brain, and the bleeding will stop soon after being let loose. The horns of cattle a year or more old are hollow at the base. When first cut off they look a little bad, but they soon heal, skin over and hair out, and look like a natural mulley. It takes the viciousness mostly out of them, and renders them quiet and in-

offensive. that would feed to better advantage. I believe that any person raising cattle for beef ought to use a good pedigreed bull of some of the beef breeds. The cattle that pay the farmer best are those that are "finished" before they are three years old. Steers that are good grades will fatten better than old "natives," and the kind of steers I would like are good, thick, heavy Short-horn grades. I think that the dairy breeds will never supply the right class of beef steers. Steers for feeding ought to get some feed as soon as the grass gets dry in the fall, so that they will not lose flesh before being put into the stable. I would keep them in until shipped. As for food I would rather have a mixed ration than any one kind of grain—if a steer will not eat one kind, give him another. I like barley, bran and oats better than frozen wheat; but farmers have to use what they have grown. Sheaf oats make a very good feed for cattle and horses that are not working, and not a very expensive one.