

I think little good would be done by what I might suggest. I indeed said that a mare the result of the cross should not be bred to a thoroughbred, and in this I am confident that I am right, and I am equally confident that to attempt to lay down a rule as to what kind of stallion should be used for the second cross would be equally useless, for I doubt if the right sort exists in Canada, so I must leave the solution of that problem to others, believing that in the meantime plenty of good work can be done by laying a good solid foundation in the shape of direct crosses between the thoroughbred and the draught.

Now then, one word on your editorial criticism on my letter in your issue of May 1st. You say my suggestion "is by no means new, and has been tried by dozens in Canada and hundreds in the United States." According to their own idea probably this statement is correct, but with all due deference I beg to state it is entirely wrong for the following reasons. Hundreds certainly could not have tried it in the United States, for this very excellent reason, that it is not more than 12 or 15 years since Shire and Clydesdale stallions were imported there to any really appreciable extent. Cross-bred stallions were run over from Canada before then, and a few stragglers found their way across the Atlantic, but I maintain that even to-day the United States as a country is not yet in a position to try this cross. Canada is far before her in the number of well-bred draught mares, and in Canada, though I resided there twenty-seven years, I have no recollection of my suggested cross having been acted on in any intelligent manner. Then as to my being "an enthusiast for trying to introduce a hairy-legged breed of saddle and carriage horses," allow me to state for the information of THE BREEDER that nothing is so easily got rid of as hair; one thoroughbred cross will, in nine cases out of ten, entirely do away with it, and in breeding pure draughts the difficulty always has been to retain the hair. The suggestion that possibly Norman or Suffolk Punch mares would be preferable is easily disposed of. Suffolk Punches are celebrated for three things: 1st, heavy beefy bodies; 2nd, no bone; 3rd, no courage. The cross would be, 1st, all body; 2nd, still less bone; 3rd, courage enough and body enough to smash its little legs.

As to the Normans, I really thought they were forever discarded. Grey in color, loaded upright shoulders, bad uneven middles, with tail set half way down to their hocks—if this is a good foundation why pray try it, and recommend it, but at least have the consideration to tell Norman experimentalists where they can buy their ginger cheap, for they'll never get that tail up by any other means. As to your recommendation that almost any large, stout mare in good health would be preferable to the Shire or Clyde as a brood mare, is it not a pity to give such advice? Surely this sort of hap-hazard breeding is just what has brought about such a plethora of three-cornered brutes, neither fish, flesh, nor good red herring.

Yours truly,

C. I. D.

London, June 4th, 1885.

### OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

From our Special Correspondent.

LIVERPOOL, June 4th, 1885.

Business since the Whitsuntide holidays has assumed a better tone, and though prices for live cattle are not quotably higher, there is a general feeling of steadiness, which is very assuring. At Liverpool on Monday nearly 700

Canadian bullocks were shown (being fully two-thirds of the stock on offer), and though not all sold they were yet pretty well cleared out at fairly good prices. Some very choice lots made 14½c. per lb., and secondary qualities 14 to 14½c. Most of the cattle were in the hands of J. Sullivan & Co., Bate & Goodfellow, and J. Pritchard & Co. At Manchester and Wakefield the balance from Liverpool, together with the stock reserved for these markets, were readily disposed of at prices fully better despite the heavier supplies from other sources. In London a small lot of 84 Dominion steers made 14 cents, but trade in the Metropolis was disappointing, considering the favorable finish-up reported in the dead meat markets on Saturday. The fact is perhaps explained by the extra heavy United States supply at Deptford, where fully 1,400 very good bullocks were offered on same day (Monday). The Americans are quoted at 14c., with 14½c. for desirable weights.

In Glasgow several consignments of Canadian cattle have been received, the first to arrive being ex "Concordia," which well-known steamer landed her whole cargo of 442 head in splendid condition. The "Concordia" earns the title to a "double first," having got into Montreal ahead of the other steamers with a valuable cargo of Clydesdale horses, although she did not leave Glasgow till two days after the other liners from Glasgow, Liverpool, and London. At present writing I have no report how trade went this week in Glasgow open market, but from a private source I learn that very good business was had at the auction sales held yesterday (Wednesday), prices being \$6.00 to \$7.00 a head better than previous week.

### NO UNITED STATES STOCKERS WANTED.

The question of importing store cattle from America has been discussed by the Irish Cattle Trade Association at a meeting held in Dublin recently, when the committee of the association made the following report, which was adopted:—

"1. That Ireland being so largely an export country of store cattle and stock rears, and farmers so dependent upon their production as a main source of income, any attempt to import foreign stores would be fraught with great evil. 2. That such importation would undoubtedly lead to the withdrawal of those necessary restrictions on foreign animals which tend to prevent the introduction of those diseases which have proved so destructive to our best interests. 3. That the agitation of the question with any apparent success would paralyse the operations of store-stock producers, lessen the natural supply, ultimately leaving the country so dependent upon foreign imports that in the event of any failure of such supply from any cause whatever ruin to the graziers must follow as an inevitable consequence."

It will be seen from this strongly worded report that the graziers of Ireland do not consider the American stocker an unmitigated blessing. Strangely enough, the Dublin victuallers are urging the corporation to erect a foreign animals wharf in order that they may enjoy the same facilities as their English and Scotch brethren in trade. A speculative dealer recently took over from Liverpool some good Canadian bullocks to Dublin market, and their splendid appearance so struck the victuallers that they immediately convened a meeting and unanimously agreed it was imperative that Dublin should be open to the direct import of Dominion stock. The corporation, however, decline to do anything in the matter, so the Irish victuallers must get their stock second-hand.

Under the title of "The Prairie," Professor W. Fream has had re-printed his admirable essay on Canadian agriculture in the last part of the journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England. It is a pamphlet of 94 pages, and is issued by Messrs. W. Clowes and Sons, of Charing-cross.

Mr. Boughton Knight, of Downton Castle, a large landed proprietor and Hereford cattle breeder in Herefordshire and Shropshire, and largely interested in cattle ranches in the North-West sails by the Allan steamer "Polynesian" to-day (Thursday), as does also Major-General Turner, son-in-law of Colonel Gzowski, A.D.C.

Mr. Morse, jr., has arrived in Liverpool to assist Mr. A. J. Thompson during the season. He has taken very kindly to the walks, where he finds quite a few who can talk cattle.

### SUSSEX CATTLE.

Woking, Surrey, England.

June 3rd, 1885.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN BREEDER.

SIR,—The "Sussex" (a rising rival of the shorthorn and hereford) is a distinct and long-established breed, which has been bred almost entirely within a certain district of the South of England.

It has, however, made extraordinary progress in improvement within the last few years; and, if the breeders of Sussex cattle prove as careful to maintain the ground gained as they have been diligent to win it, this hitherto local variety must soon come prominently into notice among the heavy beef-making breeds.

Sussex cattle are not generally great milkers, although here and there a good dairy cow may be found among them. Their milk, not commonly abundant, is of good quality. Some breeders are trying to restore the dairy properties which belonged to the cows of former years, when the oxen of the breed were used for the plough. The Sussex beef is of prime quality, and has an ample proportion of lean. In color the Sussex are red, like the Devons, but are of much larger size.

Yours truly,

ROBERTSON & Co.

Exporters.

### CUTTING AND CURING GRASS FOR HAY.

At this season of the year everything that bears upon the subject of hay making will be read with avidity. We give below the views of W. M. K., in *Farm and Fireside*, which will be of value though, perhaps, not wholly endorsed by all readers. He says:—

"While it is true that with the modern improvements grass can be converted into hay in less time and with less trouble and expense than formerly, yet it is not profitable to wait until the proper time to begin cutting before making all necessary preparations to push forward the work with the greatest possible dispatch. It is always best to secure hands and labor-saving implements early, so that not a day need be lost when the clover or timothy is in just the right condition for cutting. It is better to begin cutting a week too soon than a week too late. It is a fact that red clover, when cut in full bloom or when hardly one-fourth of the heads are brown, contains nearly one-third more nutritive properties than when fully ripened.

"If one would have in hay an equivalent for grass the year round, haying must be begun at