

Canadian Live-Stock & Farm Journal

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To Subscribers.—Subscription price, \$1.00 per annum in advance. Single copies, 10 cents each; sample copies free. No names will be removed from our subscription list when in arrears and without we receive instructions to that effect. Those in arrears will be charged \$1.25.

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To Advertisers.—Advertisements of an appropriate nature will be inserted in the JOURNAL at the following rates: For a single insertion, 18c. per line, nonpareil (12 lines makes one inch); for three months, 15 cents per line each insertion; for six months, 13c. per line each insertion; for one year, 10c. per line each insertion. Cards in Breeders' Directory, not exceeding five lines \$1.50 per line per annum. Copy of advertisements should reach us not later than the 25th of each month (earlier, if possible). If later, it may be in time for insertion, but often too late for proper classification. Transient advertisements payable in advance. No advertisement inserted for less than 75c. Contracts broken by insolvency or otherwise will revert to the usual rate of 18 cents per line per insertion.

To Correspondents.—All communications intended for publication in the JOURNAL should reach us by the 20th of each month—sooner if possible. We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

Remittances may be made in registered letter at our risk. The receipt of the JOURNAL will be sufficient evidence to subscribers that their remittances have been received.

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

HAMILTON, CANADA, DEC., 1888.

Subscribers to the JOURNAL paid to December, 1889, get free our beautiful picture of the Ontario Agricultural College and Experimental Farm at Guelph, Ont.

GIVE the old as well as the new office if you desire your post office changed. Give the same name as appears on your label or two JOURNALS may be sent to the same house. We this month received a communication requesting a change, signed only T. S. Of course we cannot do as desired, because the person gives neither name nor post office.

NOT the least danger in putting young steers into winter quarters is to endeavor to force them along too rapidly. Until the time arrives for fattening, it is best to keep them in a healthy growing condition. If this is once checked it means diminished returns. The effect of forcing the first winter shows itself markedly the next season when they again return to the pasture. It is safe to give them all they will eat up clean, provided condiments are not used, and what they leave in their mangers should be at once removed. The skill of the feeder finds greater scope in knowing his charges and their foods thoroughly, than in the knowledge of nutritive ratios, desirable though the latter may be.

PROBABLY no animal of the farm is more easily affected by surrounding conditions than sheep, and hence the desirability of all flock masters being thoroughly posted as to the conditions under which the various breeds thrive best; and not only that, but their own conditions must not be slighted. Transplant the Highland from his airy home to the lowland, and he becomes so subject to foot rot that he has to feed from his knees, while by his side the Leicester may graze untroubled. Bring the Cheviot out from the snow drifts of his native hills to bear the least confinement, and he sheds his valuable fleec in small portions. Active, deep, though narrow chested, with the

finest of wool, he is essentially a child of his conditions. It takes but a year or two to test the shepherd's knowledge, of these important considerations, as told by the flock that once were prize winners, but now degenerated.

WHAT would be thought of the merchant that would daily pass goods over his counter and not know the cost of the articles that he was selling? Such a want of business tact on the part of a merchant would soon run him aground. Yet it may be asked how many of our farmers know what it costs them to raise a certain crop? To know the exact cost of every crop requires a minutiae of details beyond ordinary comprehension, and hence it is pardonable. A knowledge of book-keeping allows of sufficient accuracy in this respect to answer all practical purposes. By carefully debiting each department with that which it receives and crediting it with that which it gives in return, the profit or loss of each may be roughly determined.

THE main source of demand for our heavy horses comes from the city, where they are attached to lorries and drays, and made to do service on roads of hard pavement, which results in more or less concussion. If the frog of the foot is left unpared, and the pastern is of the right angle, this is greatly lessened, and for this reason we think that fineness of hoof and slant of pasterns are qualifications too often overlooked in the judging of draught horses. A healthy hoof is firm but not dry, elastic in texture but not spongy, with good breadth and running well back. Have with this a pastern not too long, but at a good angle, and this is all nature can do for the prevention of concussion. A short, upright pastern is a fertile cause of ring bones and other bone diseases, and hence worthy of attention. If too long, it loses the element of strength, and there is then a tendency to what is known in race horses as breaking down.

A FEW days in the Province of Quebec gave Mr. A. Macdonald, of the *Mark Lane Express*, time to ferret out the weakest threads in their agricultural fabric. Hear him: "At the same time I cannot help expressing surprise at the evident disinclination that prevails to clean and enrich the land and to improve the character of the live-stock. On what appears to be tolerably good land—land, which most old country farmers would bring readily to a high state of fertility, miserable crops are raised, while native cattle and horses of inferior and unimproved types, predominate." This is a pill unsugar-coated that may require many efforts to swallow, but as it cannot be controverted, it must necessarily be taken. We hope it may serve as an incentive for our co-workers in that province to furbish their weapons afresh, and do battle until they have brought about a reformation of present conditions. But it must not be forgotten that Quebec has some very enterprising breeders. Coming to Toronto, the same writer gives equally frank expression to his views, but they are highly complimentary to Ontario herds. "I hardly expected to see so many high-class stock at any point of my journey as came before the judges here. They were, indeed, worthy of any country in the world." This does not call for comment further than to say that it should be highly valued by Ontario stock-breeders, and especially by those who had representatives of their herds among the animals that gave rise to such a remark from one so well fitted as Mr. Macdonald to pass judgment on anything relating to stock or farm.

Objectionable Advertisements.

I like your JOURNAL very much for many reasons, but especially because you think enough of yourself and JOURNAL to avoid many trashy and injurious advertisements which many editors publish for the sake of the few ill-gotten pence received from vampires of different kinds.

JOHN D. FRASER.

Warwick West, Ont.

We are continually receiving very flattering testimonials from our many correspondents as regards our advertisements, but we have retrained from presenting them to our readers, deeming such action unnecessary. It has always been our endeavor in the past and shall ever be so in the future, to refuse space in our journal for advertisements other than those known to be reliable and of a pure and healthy character. We have, however, seen several advertisements that were refused space in our columns appear in other Ontario farm papers. We feel that in keeping our standard ever on high we shall not only make our columns better advertising mediums, but shall also aid our readers in distinguishing between that which is reliable and worthy of their patronage and that of a questionable character and worthy of their censure.

Pure-Breds vs. Scrubs.

We understand it is the intention of Prof. Shaw, of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, to carry on a series of tests with pure Shorthorns and scrubs to ascertain the relative cost of keep and returns in the production of beef. He proposes to select two pure Shorthorn calves and two scrubs, males, and the former of faulty colors, that the first cost may be reduced, and to keep an accurate record of the amount of food fed and the cost of the same until they are three years old.

One pair of each will be fed on skim-milk and one on new milk. He is desirous of securing the calves at an age as near the birth period as possible, and is on the look out for them now.

We can readily conceive the immense value of such a test to the province. Some argue that the great difference in the results in breeding animals is in the feed alone. If so, those men who lay out large sums of money in the improvement of their stock should be shown their folly. If, on the other hand, scrub stock will not lay on beef as pure-breds, and if they will not give so large returns for the feed, it should be proven beyond the possibility of contradiction.

Another valuable element in the proposed test is this, that it will determine the exact cost of production of beef with an accuracy that has never been given to the world before, and also the quantities of food consumed.

The experiment is to be repeated until there is no room to doubt the accuracy of the conclusions arrived at.

Fair Criticism or Adulation—which Is It to Be?

In preparing the description of a herd or of the live-stock shown at an exhibition, two courses are open to the writer, and he may adopt either without doing violence to truth. The first is, to say not a word in reference to anything that is defective about the herd or exhibit, or any animal in either; the second is to speak of both just as they are. Now if the question were put to our readers, which of these methods is preferable, we believe there is not a man of them, from Newfoundland to Vancouver, but would answer, the latter. The world expects truth, however widely its inhabitants swerve from it in their individual dealings, and the generations of the living will never be