

somest return of anything that he has ever done, relating to things sublunary. This work was not deferred till the family had grown. They were not cheated of opportunities to learn at the right time, and then rewarded with that mockery of compensation, a year or two of finish where there was but little to finish, but were given fair play in this matter from the first.

The fates seem to bring the good professor of dairying at the Ontario Agricultural College and ourselves very frequently together. We met again at Wroxeter on the 14th of March, and were met there by a large number of the sturdy yeomen, at the Institute held there, who, along with their wives and daughters, were eager to gain information relating to the farm and dairy. Mr. Gibson, Wroxeter, presided in the absence of the president, and the secretary, W. Bishop, Brussels, is evidently intent on doing a good work well.

We saw too little of this country by sunlight to say anything regarding it. The only products of the soil that came under review were good, strong, broad-shouldered, very respectable looking men, wives strong enough to take their own part, and young men and maidens of no little promise.

At Hillcrest, the home of Mr. Christopher Barker, on the 17th instant, we found the same faultless neatness, both in the home and out of it, that so caught our attention during the visit of last June, when making the farm awards. The out-buildings, in a state of chaos then, owing to improvements under way, are completed now. We hope to give the plan in some future issue. The cattle, the horses, indeed everything in the shape of live-stock, looked well. Every implement had a place assigned it, and it was in that place, and in good order. It is refreshing to see a farm kept thus, where disorder reigns supreme in so many homesteads. Mr. Barker is deserving of much praise for demonstrating so completely the extent to which neatness may be observed in the management of a farm, without interfering with an ample balance-sheet on the right side. One generation of such farming as that observed at Hillcrest would turn our country into a rural paradise. But it will never be done until the parents show the children an example. Neatness is not a product of spontaneous growth. Like every other useful fruit that grows in the garden of life, it is the product of a most careful cultivation from very early years, a cultivation either self-imposed or done by the hand of others.

Mr. Barker has increased his herd of late by the purchase of some choice Shorthorns at the sale of Mr. Thor. Stock, Waterdown. His ideal seems to be plenty of substance without roughness, keeping at the same time an eye to the milk-pail.

### Importing Cattle from the United States.

Not very long ago we received a letter from a subscriber in Middlesex county, Ont., quoting as authority the *Weekly Journal* of Chicago for a statement to the effect that certain parties there had completed a contract to deliver 6,000 head of Texan cows and heifers to a firm in Montreal in the month of May or June. The writer expressed himself very strongly in the letter in reference to the injustice of the thing, and argued that it should not be allowed. On receipt of this letter our convictions were, that there was no truth in the rumor, knowing as we did, that cattle from the United States could not, under existing regulations, be imported into this country at all, unless for breeding purposes, in which case they would have to undergo a ninety days' quarantine at Point Ed-

ward. To make doubly sure we communicated with the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, and received the following reply:

Ottawa, 29th March, 1887.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—In reply to the inquiry in your letter to me of the 28th instant, I have to say that I cannot say if the statement in the *Weekly Journal*, of Chicago, referred to, to the effect that 6,000 head of Texan heifers and cows are contracted to be delivered in Montreal in May or June next for \$90,000, is or is not true; but this I may tell you, with positiveness, namely, that no Texan heifers or cows will, on any consideration whatever, be allowed to pass the frontier. They are absolutely prohibited.

For the CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

### Three Cases of Milk Fever and How They Terminated.

As a common farmer we tell our story as it took place. The animals where Shorthorn, registered in the B. A. H. B., and eligible for entry in the D. H. B. I mention this, as some of your readers seem to think the Shorthorn has lost milking qualities; some think they have lost all quality. The writer was raised among Aberdeen Polls, and fearlessly states that the Shorthorn of to-day is better than ever, and for that part of it, better than any. The first cow calved in June, and was on good red clover pasture. Being a moderate milker we had no fear or concern regarding her. We can invariably tell from eight to twenty-four hours before our cows calve, and we took this cow to stable about ten hours before calving. Everything went well until eighteen hours after calving, when symptoms of this terrible (and to the herdsman) terror-striking disease showed itself. It is easily known by the slight stagger in the gait, or by a bracing of themselves as they get up, until it soon becomes impossible for the animal to rise. Being prepared for it, we at once gave our cow 1 lb. of Glauber salts, followed by another pound one hour after, and followed this with a bottle of black molasses, an excellent purgative for a cow. Took our seat and awaited her lying down, probably to rise no more. She kept lying and rising alternately for an hour, when she failed to get up again, trying hard. We then used the syringe, the bowels being moved, but we thought not to their full capacity. We discharged our duty faithfully, but with no success. We stayed by her, blanketed her when her skin got cold, rubbing at times, and using the syringe all we could. She was in great pain sometimes, but occasionally looked as if there was little ailing her. Twenty-four hours after she had fairly gone off her feet, her bowels were moved, but what it was neither a neighbor or the writer could tell. It was more like a piece of half boiled soft meat than anything else I know of, and we examined it closely. In one hour or so our cow got up; inside of two hours she was eating hay as only a hungry cow can, and scoured as one would expect; she had plenty of milk for her calf, while she lay, and did well after.

Our next case was a cow we had nearly \$300 invested in, a good milker. For weeks we have taken a large sized tin pailful, night and morning, and her strong calves got all they wanted three times a day besides. She gave us considerable apprehension at calving, but always did well previous. On this occasion she calved in August. We intended taking her in for two weeks before calving; the pastures were poor and dry, necessitating the feeding of our other cattle in the stable twice a day. She did not make as big a bag as usual. As day by day went past we considered her safe, under the circumstances. She calved at noon in the stable, as nice as could be. We went to our work satisfied our cow was safe. Got up early next morning; went to the cattle stable first thing. She got up as we opened the door, and to our surprise we saw what we thought a slight bracing of herself after rising. Started her around her box, which soon gave us unmistakable evidence of the presence of milk fever. Only a few minutes elapsed until she had one pound of salts followed by another inside of an hour, and almost two bottles of molasses a little later. Her bowels had been moved during the night, but not as they should have been. By noon she was off her feet; we repeated the doses due to the other cow with no success; blanketed her heavily; rubbed her chilled skin, and used the syringe faithfully, but of no avail. All night long we did for our cow what we could only do for our fellow-creatures. She died in

agony almost twenty-four hours after we saw the first symptoms. Strange to say, as her last breath was about departing, her bowels moved, and again the same half-boiled looking meaty substance. We feel confident, had this taken place half an hour sooner our cow might have recovered, for she was strong.

Our third case was a cow that calved in April, consequently was on dry food. A fairly good milker; had to take half of her milk from her calf for quite a while. She had no grain for more than a week before calving. Seeing that she was to calve in a few hours, we gave her a bottle and a half of molasses. Everything went well; the molasses had operated a short time after calving. We had a little suspicion, but did not expect trouble. Twenty-four hours after calving to our horror indications of this frightful trouble were too visible. However, we had a good start, inasmuch as the bowels were all right. We gave one pound of salts immediately, and another inside of an hour. Her skin got cold, and we covered her with a thick horse blanket, covering her all we could with others about her neck and shoulders; put our wife's irons on the stove, heated them all we could; ironed our cow on the blanket as fast and as hot as it was possible to do. Never stopped all one night, and day. The animal seemed pleased, if not greatly relieved. From the hour we started it was a hard job, but we were amply rewarded. After twenty-four hours steady ironing our cow's skin became moist, as it were with sweat, and now she mended steadily. She was off her feet at least twelve hours; was weak in rising for a day or so, but did well. We are convinced the hot irons saved her. Our opinion is, good milkers, if in good or high condition, from five to eight years old, will have milk fever on the poorest of dry feed, if not physicked or milked freely at least a week before calving.

### Judging by Points.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—Now that the matter of selecting judges for exhibitions has come up, I hope you will favor me with space for a few words on that subject. I was not at the meeting of the Agricultural and Arts Association, and I do not know how far this subject was discussed, but I think there is a system of judging which, though going further than the one you mentioned in the March number of the JOURNAL, would meet the conditions you seem to require. It is that of using a score card and scale of points in judging. This system was given a trial by Prof. Shelton in a county in Kansas, and proved very satisfactory, so much so in fact that the Kansas Shorthorn Breeders' Association, after hearing the professor's experience and the matter discussed by members of the association, passed the following resolution:

"That it is the sense of the association that the one judge expert system of awarding premiums will secure more uniformly correct decisions in the showing, and we earnestly request all fairs in Kansas to adopt the same."

And some writer has mentioned the advisability of forming a national standard for the United States.

Now this system has many advantages, among which may be placed the fact that exhibitors will see upon what grounds the awards were decided, the actual measurements being taken there will be no opportunity of showing favors, and every person will get his due. Therefore we have but the eye and the hand as the source of knowledge upon which to make decisions, but by this system we would have the eye, the hand and the tape-line, contributing to that knowledge, making it more extensive, and consequently the decisions more in accord with the real excellency of the animal. Of course it would require a person capable of making the measurements perfectly. But I think it would be a much easier matter to find a man who could do that than to find one who could make an equally sound decision by the method formerly pursued.

SUBSCRIBER.

Brussels, Ont., March 17, 1887.

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