

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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Camera Competition Results.

It is with pleasure that we publish herewith the results of our camera competition which closed on Oct. 1st. No less than eighty-eight photographs were received from different parts of the Dominion, thereby showing the wide-spread interest which is being taken in amateur photography. The quality of the work, both in regard to choice of subject and execution, was in many cases of a very commendable character, some almost equalling that of professionals. The winners have, therefore, just reason to be proud, and to several of those whose names do not appear we must say considerable credit is due. Their failure to get inside the prize-money was, usually, not due to the choice of subject, nor the timing of the photograph, but rather in the developing and printing. In a few instances, excellent prints had to be set aside, owing to failure of competitors to comply with the conditions of competition as to mounting, etc. From time to time, we shall publish in the "Farmer's Advocate," as engravings, selections from the photos received in competition. The list of awards are as follows:

- 1st—Frank T. Shutt, Carleton County—"Harvesting Oats on the Experimental Farm, Ottawa."
- 2nd—R. F. Waring, Lambton County—"Curiosity."
- 3rd—Fred. J. Wilson, Middlesex County—"Country Blacksmith Shop and Post Office, combined."
- 4th—A. T. Brown, Halton County—"A Curve in the Grand River near Acton."
- 5th—S. R. Sheldon, Waterloo County—"Autumn."
- 6th—A. M. Johnston, Middlesex County—"At Pond Mills."
- 7th—V. E. Hobart, Compton County, Que.—"Scene in Woods four miles from Compton."
- 8th—Frank Hustler, Peel County—"First Brick House West of Toronto."

We are Up Against It.

The farmers of the West are producing more wheat than the railroads can handle in the short time between harvest and the closing of the lake ports. With all the increase of storage and rolling stock that has been provided since last year's blockade there is still not enough accommodation. The farmer is advised not to rush all his grain to market at once, to distribute the transportation of it throughout the year: and on the other hand, he is advised not to hold his own wheat for speculation, to convert his wheat into cash as quickly as possible and meet his liabilities, and save the shrinkage and interest on the wheat. Everyone knows that the best time to sell is the early market, and the man who gets his wheat off first makes most out of it, consequently the desire to sell early while there is storage and rolling stock available. To build granaries and handle wheat over several times adds greatly to the cost to the producer. It is all very well for the city press to advise the farmers to insure against loss through the grain blockade by building granaries, but as the railroads can't find cars enough to haul lumber to build the granaries, what would they advise next?

HORSES

The Training that Horses Should Have in Order to Show to Advantage at Exhibitions.

Horses of all classes should receive sufficient education before being taken into a showing to enable them to perform the functions demanded from animals of their class in such a manner as to reflect credit upon themselves and their attendants. Unfortunately there is often seen an evident want of training of any kind, and this is especially noticed in the classes of young horses shown on the halter. Many exhibitors evidently think that as long as their colts can be led into the ring in any way it is all right, and nothing more should be asked. They are not taught to even stand to allow the judge to look them over carefully, and when the attendant is asked to walk or trot his entry, the colt will either refuse to move without urging from behind, or will commence to rear and plunge in all directions, or in some cases he will run around in a circle, the extent of the circle depending upon the length of the lead rein, but positively refuses to go in a straight line, either from or towards the judge, at either a walk or a trot. For show purposes a colt should be handy on the halter. He should be taught to stand well, and to walk and trot well in any direction he is asked to. In all classes of horses action is a most important factor, and in order that a judge may be able to observe an animal's action he must see him go from him and come towards him in a straight line at any gait he may ask for. It is impossible to form a correct opinion of a colt's value or right to win a place in the ring unless he has been trained to act well and to show himself to the best advantage. Apparently exhibitors do not recognize this fact, but consider that training colts for exhibition is not necessary. It is not unusual for a judge to be told by an exhibitor, when looking at his colt, that he never had a halter on until a few days ago, and in some cases not until the day of the show.

In the heavy classes horses shown either on the halter or in harness should be taught to perform well. As in these classes it is most important that an animal be a good walker, it goes without saying that care should be taken to teach him to perform well at this gait. He should also be taught to trot well and stand well. Many horses that look well standing (probably out-look all others in the ring) have such a poor way of going at all gaits (due largely in many cases to want of education) that they must be placed behind their competitors. In the lighter classes action and manners may be said to be of as much, and in some cases more, importance than conformation. The light harness horse, either in the roadster or carriage class, being largely used for pleasure, must have good manners as well as action and stylish appearance. In order to give him the necessary manners, time and care must be given to his education. We often notice horses of good appearance and action that behave badly when lined up for inspection while standing. It is not uncommon to see a horse or team that will at once commence to rear and plunge under such circumstances and render it necessary for the driver to keep them moving. Animals of this kind cannot win in good company, and the judge is often severely criticised for not placing them; the public and exhibitor forgetting that manners are essential for either the business or pleasure horse. Another point that is frequently neglected by exhibitors of light horses is to teach them to

walk well. Some will prance or amble if required to walk, others will walk very slowly or in a slovenly manner. When asked to trot they will probably perform well, but they have never been taught to walk. This is a mistake, as a good walking gait is valuable in light as well as in heavy horses. The roadster should be taught to trot fast, not necessarily at a racing gait, but the faster he can go the better. The carriage horse should be taught to trot in a stylish, graceful manner, with high, attractive action whether going slow or fast, and of course in this class also the faster he can go the better, so long as he retains the quality of action, but here we are always willing to sacrifice speed for action, but we are better pleased if we can get both. The desired action in either class is, of course, largely inherent, but it requires education to develop it. We cannot develop carriage action in the ordinary roadster, neither can we develop speed in the average carriage horse, but education will improve the inherent characteristics of style, speed and action in any horse. Another class is saddle horses. Manners in this class is fully as valuable as in the others. He should be taught to walk, trot and canter well, to change gaits readily at the will of his rider, to stand well for inspection, go out singly if asked to, and perform as well and as willingly, with the other horses standing, as he would in company. He should have a good mouth and respond readily and promptly to the rein without lugging, and should perform in a small circle or in the figure eight at any gait. If exhibitors would recognize the fact that horses for exhibition purposes require at least a certain amount of education, that in awarding the prizes the judge must value the exhibits as they appear before him, not considering what they have been or what they would be if properly trained, but their adaptability for special purposes as they are at the time of exhibiting, it would make matters much easier for the judge and would give exhibitors less fancied cause for complaint. No person but those who have acted in the capacity of judge can fully appreciate the awkward position a judge is placed in when an ill-mannered horse comes before him in a class in which he would probably be an outstanding winner provided he had the desired manners. What is the judge to do in such a case? He must either set the ill-mannered fellow back altogether or place him first notwithstanding his want of manners. He must go first or nowhere, and I think it is the duty of the judge to overlook him when selecting the winners. The sooner exhibitors become aware that in order to win, their exhibits in the horse ring must at least be safe and have fairly good manners, the better.

"WHIP."

Feeding Linseed to Horses.

Though linseed meal does not admit of being given in any large quantity to horses, it is frequently employed to great effect in imparting a gloss or bloom to animals in preparation for exhibition or for sale. Judiciously used, it may be advantageously included in the ordinary everyday rations of working horses, as a pinch of crushed linseed cake added occasionally to the ordinary grain allowance of the animals not only supplies a valuable food material, but also exercises a beneficial influence upon the digestive functions. Ordinarily, linseed meal when used for this purpose is given in a raw state, but some experiments recently carried out abroad go to show that even better results are obtainable by scalding the linseed intended for horses before it is fed to the animals. As is well known, linseed gives the best results when given to calves in the form of muckilage, and it is possible that the same conditions that enhance its value as a food for calves when given cooked have something to say to the results obtainable from its employment when used as a food for horses. In giving highly concentrated food of this kind to horses, great care has to be exercised, as if fed in large quantities, more injury than benefit will result. As a commencement, a small allowance should be given, say twice a week, and then the quantity could be increased as the system becomes accustomed to it.—[Exchange.]

Renovate the Stables.

Before the stables are filled with stock for the winter, it is good practice to give the entire inside of the building a thorough cleaning. Little time will be required to do the work, and it will pay not only in the improved general appearance, but in the better health of the animals. All cobwebs, bark, etc., the hiding places of disease germs, should be removed from the ceiling and its surface treated to a coat of whitewash with the spray-pump or brush. If to this work be added a small amount of some disinfectant, such as crude carbolic acid, or bichloride of mercury, the operation will be more complete. The walls should also be well brushed and cleaned, and any old straw still remaining in the mangers removed and their inside treated to a thorough renovating.