

ciation must depend on its gate receipts for the carrying on of its exhibition, and for obtaining money for the prizes to be given; and even if some exhibitors suffer some inconvenience by the change, yet it is their duty to acquiesce in what is for the general good.

Amalgamating the Clydesdale Records.

At the recent meeting of the Clydesdale breeders of Canada a committee of three was appointed to confer with a similar committee from the American Association to see if a satisfactory basis could be arrived at for the amalgamation of the two studbooks. There seemed to be a considerable number of those present who favored such action.

The causes that have brought about the present state of feeling are not hard to find. The dullness in the horse trade of late years is one great factor, while another is the fact that a large percentage of the horses sold in Canada go across the lines, and, consequently, have to be registered in both countries, thus causing extra expense to the seller.

Whether satisfactory arrangements can be made or not is, of course, uncertain, but we would counsel our Clydesdale breeders to weigh the matter well before committing themselves to the scheme. As we understand it, it is intended to use the Canadian association as a mere local institution, without doing any recording work. In this position it would not long remain alive.

Honor to Professor Shaw.

We are pleased to see that Professor Thomas Shaw, instructor in animal husbandry at the Minnesota State Agricultural College, and who for some years ably filled the position of editor of *The Canadian Live Stock Journal*, the predecessor of *FARMING*, has been winning honors for himself by carrying off all the three prizes offered by the American Berkshire Association for the best essays on subjects connected with the history, breeding, or management of Berkshire swine. The competition was limited to professors and students of the agricultural schools in America, and there were a large number who submitted essays. The honor of carrying off all three prizes, in the face of so much competition, is, therefore, all the greater. We extend our congratulations to Professor Shaw.

The Dominion Minister of Agriculture.

We have much pleasure in presenting our readers with a good half-tone of the new Dominion Minister of Agriculture, Hon. W. H. Montague, M.D., who represents Haldimand county, Ont. The new Minister is one of the youngest of the public men of Canada, having been born in 1858. He began life in the modest line of a parcel boy in a grocery store, but by devoting himself at night to study he soon progressed sufficiently to qualify himself as a teacher. He afterwards entered at Victoria University and Toronto School of Medicine, and is a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and a licentiate



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of the Royal School of Physicians of Edinburgh, Scotland. While a medical student at Toronto, he sustained himself by teaching a night class in the Parliament street school, the pupils of which presented him with a gold watch, which the Minister values highly. His career was thus characterized by great energy in toiling for bread and knowledge. In 1882, as a graduate, at Toronto he responded for the graduate class at the annual dinner, and the following year found him entering on the troubled sea of politics. After many a hard fight he repeatedly carried the day, and last year saw him appointed as Secretary of State, an office which he held up to the date of his appointment as Minister of Agriculture.

The new Minister is an earnest and hard worker, and is also a powerful speaker. Since