

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE  
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

TWO DISTINCT PUBLICATIONS—EASTERN AND WESTERN.

EASTERN OFFICE:  
CARLING STREET, LONDON, ONT.

WESTERN OFFICE:  
IMPERIAL BANK BLOCK, CORNER BANNAITTYNE AVE. AND MAIN ST.,  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

BRANCH OFFICE: CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

LONDON (ENGLAND) OFFICE:  
W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street,  
London, W. C., England.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

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(52 issues per year).

It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely  
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agata. Contract rates furnished on application.

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### How to Cover the Continent.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—As a result of the description of the  
Chilliwack Valley, B. C., which appeared in the  
"Advocate" of the issue of the 6th of January,  
1904, and in consequence of an advertisement of  
my own, which was in the same issue, of farms  
and farm lands for sale in this section, I have  
received over six hundred letters of enquiry from  
the farmers of Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, N.-W.  
T., P. E. I., N. S., N. B., and many states in  
the Union, which proves clearly to me that the  
"Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" is the  
proper channel through which to reach the farm-  
ers of this broad Dominion, and, for that matter,  
the whole continent. A good many of the writers  
of these numerous letters have already paid this  
section of B. C. a visit of inspection, and with  
very few exceptions have expressed themselves well  
satisfied with the country and its prospects. I  
succeeded the other day in locating Mr. W. S.  
Hawkshaw, of Glanworth, near London, Ont., on  
what is generally considered one of the best dairy  
and grass farms in this municipality, and the  
residents of Chilliwack should congratulate them-  
selves on having farmers of Mr. Hawkshaw's  
stamp come and settle in our midst. Being one  
of the leading pure-bred importers of the Dominion, he  
should, and no doubt will, do much towards the  
improvement of the stock in this section. Mr.  
Hawkshaw has left here for his home in Glan-  
worth well satisfied with his purchase, and will  
be pleased to give intending settlers any informa-  
tion in his possession.

Quite a number of properties here have already  
changed hands, and it is very evident that the  
value of the farm lands here will rise, from the  
fact that they are of a very limited quantity, in  
comparison to the whole area of the Province,  
and when the mineral, lumbering and fishing in-  
dustries of the Province become fully developed  
it must of necessity give the farmer one of if not  
the best market in the whole Dominion. This,  
coupled with our very mild and invigorating  
climate, will keep the price of farm lands at the  
very top notch.

Chilliwack, B. C.

S. A. CAWLEY.

## HORSES.

### Congenital Scrotal Hernia in Colts.

Congenital scrotal hernia is quite a common,  
and, fortunately, not often a serious condition in  
foals. At the posterior portion of the floor of the  
abdominal cavity, or, more correctly speak-  
ing, on the floor of the pelvic cavity, there are  
two openings, one on either side, passing through  
the tissues that form the floor. The superior  
orifice of each opening is called the internal  
inguinal ring; the inferior, the external inguinal  
ring, and the cavity between the two is called  
the inguinal canal. In the female, the mammary  
vessels pass through these canals to reach the  
mamms, and in the male the testicles pass  
through to reach the scrotum, and the spermatic  
cords in the entire animal continue to occupy  
them, hence the canals remain patent until the  
animal is castrated, when, in most cases, they be-  
come partially obliterated, and while scrotal  
hernia may occur at any time, even in a gelding,  
it is not often seen except in stallions. How-  
ever, it is of the congenital form we wish to speak  
at present. It is not at all uncommon for this  
form of hernia to exist at birth, or appear with-  
in a few days. The scrotum will be noticed fuller  
than normal; usually only one side contains intes-  
tine, but in some cases both. If the tumor be not  
very large, there is no occasion for alarm. It will  
be noticed, if the colt be held upon his back, that  
the contents of the sac can be readily returned  
to the pelvic cavity, but in most cases quickly  
returns to the scrotal sac when he regains his  
feet. It does not interfere with the health of the  
animal, and if closely watched will, in most cases,  
be noticed to vary in size. This is accounted for  
by a spontaneous return of the intestines for a  
time. As in umbilical hernia, the mesentery  
which suspends this intestine is proportionately  
longer and looser in the foal than in the animal  
a few months or even a few weeks old, and as  
age advances it gradually contracts, and thereby  
draws the hernia up into the abdomen, and a  
spontaneous cure results. In most cases, this  
cure results by the time the foal is weaned, but  
in rare cases not until a year or a year and  
a half old. The application of bandages, trusses  
or liniments should not be resorted to, as the  
anatomy of the parts is such that they can do no  
good, and if persisted in do harm, by causing  
irritation. Extraneous interference is seldom  
called for. Nature should be allowed to have its  
course, and will generally succeed in affecting a  
cure. However, there are cases in which treat-  
ment is necessary. All cases should be carefully  
watched, and if the tumor is not becoming larger,  
even though it may not be noticed to be growing  
smaller, or even to be less noticeable at times,  
leave it alone, but if a gradual or sudden increase  
in volume be noticed, which will interfere with the  
little animal's action, causing him to walk with a  
straddling gait, which becomes more marked, more  
or less quickly, according to the rapidity with  
which the intestine gains entrance to the sac, then  
treatment becomes a necessity. In cases of this  
kind, the services of a skillful veterinarian should  
be procured without delay, as an operation is  
necessary. The patient must be placed upon his  
back and held there, the scrotum and surround-  
ing parts thoroughly washed with a disinfectant,  
as a 5-per-cent. solution of carbolic acid, the hands  
of the operator and assistant also, instruments also  
disinfected. Then the scrotum is carefully cut  
through, and the intestine exposed and carefully  
returned through the canal into the abdominal  
cavity. If the testicle be present, it should be  
removed (and, of course, its fellow also), and a  
clap, enclosing the abdominal coverings, along  
with the spermatic cord, applied, the animal al-  
lowed to rise, and the clam left on until it  
sloughs off. In some cases the testicle has not  
yet descended and cannot be found. Where this  
condition exists, after the intestine has been re-  
turned, the edges of the external ring must be  
drawn together with carbolized catgut or silk  
sutures, which will become absorbed, and in the  
meantime the opening will become so contracted  
that a recurrence of the hernia is not probable,  
although the testicle will, in most cases, descend  
into the scrotum. This, of course, is an opera-  
tion that should not be attempted by any except  
an expert, where the services of such can be  
secured.

### Percheron Horse Registration.

It should be noticed that the Dominion Fair  
authorities will only recognize as pure-bred Per-  
cherons, horses whose owners produce the pedigree  
certificate from the new Percheron Association, of  
which Secretary Stubblefield has charge. This is  
in line with the regulation of the U. S. Bureau  
of Animal Industry, which recognizes only the  
record mentioned by the Winnipeg people.

Enclosed find \$1.50, being subscription for an-  
other new name for the paper that a farmer can-  
not very well do without. WM. FIEGHEN, Jr.  
Grey Co., Ont.

## STOCK.

### Some Phases of Cattle Feeding.

The person not familiar with experimental work in  
feeding animals, can form no idea regarding the diffi-  
culties which have to be overcome, and the long time  
it takes to procure anything like satisfactory results.  
We have now been working from seven to eight years  
with experiments in fattening steers, and the work  
accomplished looks very small indeed. Experiments  
must be repeated over and over again in order to make  
sure that differences in results are due to the methods  
of feeding, and not to the individuality of the animals  
under experiment, or to other causes which are not  
under the feeder's control. There are so many prob-  
lems facing the man who feeds cattle, that it is diffi-  
cult to decide upon which of these are the most im-  
portant and should, therefore, be given precedence in  
our experiments. This paper will deal with only two  
of the problems in cattle feeding which we have at-  
tempted to investigate up to the present time.

In selecting steers for feeding the farmer has a  
choice between two well defined classes. The first  
class is what is known as short-keep cattle. This com-  
prises steers that are in good fleshy condition and  
weigh, roughly speaking, anywhere from 1,100 to 1,300  
pounds. Such steers can be finished for market by in-  
creasing their live weight from 150 to 200 pounds,  
and, therefore, it is necessary to feed them for a com-  
paratively short period. Of course, in some cases,  
they have to be fed longer than in others, but, in any  
case, they should be in sufficiently good condition that  
they can be finished in from three to four months  
feeding. The second-class comprises lighter and thinner  
steers, weighing, say from 950 to 1,150 pounds. Owing  
to their thin condition, it is necessary to increase their  
live weight very considerably in order to have them  
properly finished for the export trade. Possibly, 300  
pounds is a fair estimate of the average amount of in-  
crease in weight which it would be necessary to put up-  
on these steers. Owing to the greater length of feed-  
ing period, this class is frequently called long-keep  
cattle.

The first problem which we set out to investigate  
was the best method of feeding long-keep steers; that  
is to say, whether it is better to feed them a heavy  
meal ration and finish them in the shortest possible  
time, or whether it is better to feed a lighter meal  
ration and carry them on for a somewhat longer  
period. The results of our experiments along this line  
seem to be very conclusive. In every case where we  
attempted to force the cattle by feeding a heavy meal  
ration, we found that it cost considerably more to  
produce a pound of gain than where we fed a lighter  
meal ration. It would take too long to go into all  
the details of our experiments, and, therefore, we shall  
concern ourselves only with what we found to be the  
most economical method of feeding this class of cattle.  
When the steers were first put in the stables, they were  
fed mainly bulky food, such as hay or chaff, with roots  
or silage, and they were given little or no meal during  
the first month of the feeding period. In this way,  
the animals gradually became accustomed to eating  
meal, and the quantity of meal was very gradually in-  
creased from month to month. The rate of increase  
in the meal was not the same in all our experiments,  
because we had to adapt our methods to circumstances,  
and increase sufficiently to have the steers finished by  
a certain time. Some years the steers required rather  
less meal than others in order to bring about the de-  
sired result, and in this matter, as in all other mat-  
ters pertaining to feeding live stock, the feeder must  
use his judgment. On an average, the steers would  
receive about one-quarter of a pound of meal per day  
per 100 pounds of their live weight during the first  
month of feeding. The next month the quantity was  
gradually increased until, as a rule, it reached about  
one-third of a pound of meal per day per 100 pounds  
live weight. After this time, the increase in the  
amount of meal was usually somewhat more rapid, and  
during the last month of feeding they were usually as  
high as from two-thirds to four-fifths of a pound of  
meal per day per 100 pounds of their live weight.  
On an average they usually received about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a pound  
of meal per day per 100 pounds of their live weight for  
the whole feeding period. With this method of feeding,  
and with good average long-keep steers, it usually re-  
quired about six months to make the steers ready for  
export.

This method of feeding is not in accordance with the  
accepted feeding standards for fattening cattle, and yet  
it seems to me to be in accord with common sense,  
and is certainly in accord with the practice of many of  
our most successful and shrewdest feeders of cattle.  
Before being put in the stable, the steer is used to  
eating bulky, succulent food. If he is placed in the  
stable and required to consume a large amount of con-  
centrated food in the form of meal, we would naturally  
expect that digestive troubles would be the result. By  
commencing according to the other method, and feeding  
the steer bulky food, his digestive organs gradually be-  
come accustomed to changed conditions, and, as time  
goes on, he is able to make use of a large amount of  
meal without suffering any inconvenience therefrom.  
One of the great troubles in feeding cattle is the so-  
called "burning up" of the cattle with meal. This  
simply means that their digestive organs have been  
called upon to do more work than they were able to  
perform, and the result is disaster. Where cattle are  
handled judiciously, and the change from one kind of