

(1) It furnishes a striking instance of the awful strength of that kangaroo-like grip, with which an undue love of money holds a man when once it fairly gets him within its clutches. (2) It gives us an olive leaf-like pledge of the better days that are yet in the distance, when all men shall duly "regard the life of a beast," and when they shall not abuse the prerogative of that dominionship that has been given them over the lower orders of creation, for though the miser cared not for the suffering of his beast, other men did. (3) It also furnishes a splendid example of the majesty of British law. A man worth \$300,000 sentenced to three weeks hard labor without the option of a fine! In what other country under heaven could such a conviction have been effected?

Our sense of the degradation of human nature is at once enkindled when we read of the literal starving of dumb dependents even unto death, as the result of a morbid craving after yellow dross. But let us pause and look around us before we indulge in too sweeping epithets of condemnation of poor deluded John Wilcoxson, with his £60,000, for we are by no means sure if he stands alone in this starving process. It is to be feared that he has many brethren even in Ontario, with the difference that they do not possess the £60,000. How many cattle staggered out to the fields last spring with sorrow in their sunken eyes, and skin and hair upon their bones, the last part of the winter being to them a prolonged starvation, a living death? This, too, has been done in repeated instances where hay and other food sufficient had been raised upon the farm, but had been carted away by those friends of John Wilcoxson to the nearest market.

One of the most disheartening features of the case is this—these men are prone to measure the worth of the breed by its capability to endure this starving process. Because the scrub can better endure a living death than any other class of cattle, then scrubs are just the breed.

One cannot but wonder how people possessed of the faculties of reasoning cannot but see the folly of such a course; but such is perverted human nature. John Wilcoxson is no doubt in possession of reason of a certain kind, and yet in his over anxiety to make, he lost. So likewise do those in any country who sell their feed and starve their cattle. The processes by which the reasoning faculties may become so perverted is a metaphysical question, on which we do not now propose to enter, but this perversion often stands out before us clear as the shining of the noon-day sun, so that there is no gainsaying it.

Look at the shortsightedness of such a course. It involves not only starving the cattle, but starving the land on which they are kept. Stock are in a sense machines for converting stores of food into sources of manurial enrichment, and this of course cannot be done where the food is not given. The value of that manure is very largely dependent on the nature of the food fed. Manure made from straw only, is poor stuff, while that made from strong and rich foods is proportionately rich and strong. Look at its fertility. The farmer who adopts or even allows this starvation role to become a part of his system, can attain to no success that is abiding. His yearly returns are like the falling of a thermometer in a cold winter night, which goes down, down, till it gets below zero, for stock can give no adequate return that are kept as near the borderland of the end of their dreary journey as may be, without actually dropping into the vacuum of non-existence. Rather than keep them thus, it would be better not to keep them at all. There need be no land kept for pasture, and the receding annual straw product might be carted again upon the land as

long as there was any produced to cart, and ploughed under. We are quite sure that there would be more money in this than in keeping cattle by feeding them on the verge of starvation.

Look at its cruelty. We do not know how long it took John Wilcoxson to starve his cattle to death, but if it was done in a few weeks or months, it was humane compared with the annual starvation that some Canadian cattle undergo. We sometimes meet persons who speak with an air of heroism over the several instances in which they lay almost in the arms of death, and were rescued therefrom by some skilful physician. So is it in a sense with those scrubby cattle, which are rescued annually from the verge of death by the return of the bountiful grasses of spring-time. Hunger is a sensation that produces pain, and we feel quite sure that no man could be starved so as to be reduced to skin and bone without undergoing an almost inexpressible amount of suffering. Nor can dumb brutes be similarly reduced without having endured untold suffering. Could the poor dumb dependents speak out their wrongs or inscribe them in written characters, these would cover the walls of their stables far more thickly than the hieroglyphics on the sarcophagi of Egypt.

Look at its sinfulness. Why were the lower animals given us at all? It was that they might minister in various ways to our wants, consequent upon our providing for theirs. There is nothing more certain than that they were not given us either to maltreat or neglect, to inflict suffering on them, or to allow them to suffer if it is in our power to prevent it. The kine which have given us milk in summer can claim food at our hands in winter, and by no processes of reasoning can we shake off this obligation. We are no more at liberty to allow our beasts to become so weakened that toward spring they can scarcely swagger, than we are to allow them to lie down and die as winter comes on.

It is a curious question as to where exactly the line of human obligation leads here. A goodly number who may read this paper may be ready to say, "This does not apply to me." "Hold," said the sloth; "not so fast." Do all your stock come out well in the spring, may we ask? Are there none of them with emaciated bodies amongst the good ones. If so, then why is this? There has in all probability been neglect somewhere, and the low state in flesh of even one animal in the herd, speaks of suffering in degree. We can hardly fancy a more beautiful picture to a lover of stock than that of an spacious stable well filled with sleek, plump-bodied cattle, all lying down, quite oblivious of the raging of the elements without, and gratefully munching at the mastication of the evening meal. How striking the contrast to find a shed filled with skinny creatures with arched back, and ever and anon shaking the head angrily as one blast comes colder than another through the cracks of the weatherboarding. The poorest and weakest stand shivering in the coldest parts, moaning anon as they long for the day. And this is what may be seen in many Canadian farm steadings during any winter evening, and in localities where the very stones lying thick upon the fields would lend their help to keep the poor brutes warm, if human hands would only place them in position.

We said long ago, in other words, it may be, that the mission of the JOURNAL would never be fulfilled so long as a single beast was left improperly cared for throughout all our borders, and we say it again. Let our farmers, then, see to it, that whatever mistakes they make in the management of their stock, it will not be that of starving them.

The Best Service that Can Be Rendered.

We are quite sure, from the overwhelming number of letters that we receive, speaking well of the Journal, that every subscriber is a friend and a well-wisher and would like to see its circulation vastly increased. We would like here to say to our patrons that if each one of them would but send us the name of a new subscriber between now and the end of the year, it would be one of the most effective forms of service that they could render both to us and to the country, as in such a case twice the number of farmers would be repeatedly reminded of the folly of being contented with a low grade of stock-keeping and farming.

Sheep Husbandry.

CARE DURING SUMMER AND AUTUMN.

This great industry seldom receives that attention during summer and autumn of which it is deserving. Sheep are usually better cared for in winter than in summer, and the reason is that in winter it is rightly looked upon as an imperative branch of every day work, while in summer amid the crowding labors of the farm they are apt to be forgotten for days and even weeks at a time.

Pasture. Sheep are too often supposed to thrive on any sort of pasture. They are often turned into forest inclosures having more or less grass on the rims thereof. Here they may live, but they will not thrive long in such a place, as the sheep, being a ruminating animal, it will not flourish upon a washy, coarse food. The wrong inflicted upon the sheep in such a case is about equal to the wrong done to the young trees of the forest. The pastures should be changed as frequently as possible, and it is better if they are not long, as sheep like the tender bite which is of but recent growth. This peculiarity will always militate against sheep husbandry in this land of warm summers, as the shorter the grasses are kept, the less will be the growth. Sheep perform excellent service in foraging in fallow land, and in bye places unsuitable to the keep of cattle, as they lose less by having to walk a good way in picking up the morning meal than the former. When cattle and sheep are freshly turned into a field together, every observer has noticed that while the former remain near the place of entrance till filled, the latter will have gone over the ground once and again.

Supplement to the pasture. Usually no provision of this kind is made, but where it can be done it will prove a good investment. If a supplement of oats and bran is given to the ewes suckling lambs once a day after they are turned out to pasture, the flow of milk will be much more abundant for the lambs, and there will be less emaciation on the part of the dams. The lambs should have of the same mixture twice a day. No harm will follow giving them all they will eat of this supplement. It is not a good plan to give it in the field, unless in a place inaccessible to the ewes, as the latter get more than their share. A better plan is to drive the sheep up to the yard at nightfall and feed them there, and then feed again before sunrise in the mornings, when they can be driven to the pasture. In this case they are perfectly safe from the attacks of dogs. We believe this would pay even when the lambs are to be sold to the butcher, as in such a case they are early ready for the market, and will command top prices.