

Live Stock.

Wool growers report their flocks better condition at this time than they have been in the month of December for the past five years.

At the sale of Herefords at Dexter Park, by Mr. C. D. Hudson, of Marshall, Mo., the prices obtained were fair. Twenty-five cows sold for \$8,930, an average of \$357; five bulls sold for \$2,865, an average of \$573. Thirty head sold for \$11,895, an average of \$396.50.

The sale of Short-horns at Dexter Park, on the 15th, during the Fat Stock Show, owned by I. Barr & Son, of Iowa, was reasonably successful. Twenty-five cows sold for \$4,385, an average of \$175; fifteen bulls sold for 2,215, an average of \$148; forty head sold for \$6,000, an average of \$150.

Most of the woolen manufacturers are in favor of a fair adjustment of the tariff, and if all would act with the Wool Manufacturers' association, the wool growers and manufacturers could work in accord. But directly there is any talk of tariff legislation, there bobs up several manufacturers who work tooth and nail for free wool. This requires an offensive position on the part of wool growers.—*Texas Live Stock Journal.*

We are told that "the Federal law, forbidding railroads to keep cattle on the cars twenty-eight hours without feeding and watering them, has at last got before the courts. The circuit court in Massachusetts has affirmed the act as constitutional, and decided that a road which has itself had the cattle on its hands only for the tail end of the twenty-eight hours is responsible for the entire time and liable to a fine of \$100 to \$500. The court, however, holds that the statute inflicts the fine only for each act of confinement and not for each separate head of cattle. As it stands, however, the decision settles the fact that this act, if enforced, will prevent the suffering now imposed on cattle."—*Duncan's Monthly.*

THERE are some sheep in every flock that are really worth double the value of the average lot. It is by a system of judicious selection that this can be remedied to a great extent, and the whole flock brought up to the high standard attained by the choice of the flock. Let your motto be "Growing more and better wool on less legs," rather than keeping a less number of sheep on the farm. To do this it is necessary to carefully weed out the flock, taking out the light shearers and short staple wools and retaining the sheep with long and dense fibered fleeces on large hardy carcasses. It is very necessary to bring our flocks up to the highest point of profit possible in the present condition of the wool trade, and this requires the disposal of the tag end of the flock.—*Western Rural.*

The extraordinary time made by our horses has attracted the attention of the Russian government to the American modes of rearing, training, and driving the trotter. It is pursuing a wise policy in endeavoring to secure the services of a competent and reliable trainer for its establishment at Chrenovio. The matter has been referred to us, but we fear the conditions and terms will not meet the views of a first-class man. Budd Doble has been approached on the subject, but he could not be induced to leave his thriving business in Chicago. We asked John Splan, on whom Dan Mace's mantle seems to have fallen, if he would like to go to Russia on a two years' engagement at a salary and percentage on prizes, also free lodgings, heating, and furniture. "No! no! None of that in mine. A Nihilist might blow me up, or the government send me to Siberia on some wrong kick before I could give them 'the proper conversation' in Russian."—*New York Spirit.*

The shippers of mutton sheep to the Chicago market this season have not met with the encouragement that they hoped for. The Hatch Brothers, who reached the yards last month, were not satisfied with the prices offered and at last accounts were preparing to place their sheep in pastures, hold and feed them until prices improved. The sheep are not at all inferior. They are the average size of Montana sheep and in as good condition as could be desired. They are a cross between the Merino and Cotswold, and of course not as heavy as the pure Cotswold, but they are none the less valuable on that account. It is possible that Chicago butchers have not yet learned the conclusion that our cross-breeds are not as good for the block. It took some time to learn them that cattle grown and fattened on the Rocky Mountain bunch-grass make the sweetest and best beef that is produced, but we trust that they will soon learn and recognize the superiority of our mutton.

SHIPPING HORSES.

This is a new business for Montana, and is only in its infancy, the first experiment only having been made last spring. The shipments that have followed this fall and winter were more satisfactory, yet scarcely enough has yet developed for us to be able to figure on what our horses will bring us. The industry is just where the beef industry stood six or seven years ago. Enough is known, however, to assure us that it will prove profitable; but just how profitable development alone can tell. It has taken five or six years for our beef to establish its claims to superiority over the product of other range countries, and it will no doubt

take some time for our horse flesh to become known and their relative value to the product of other States and Territories established. We feel confident with the excellent start Montana has of good horses that her horse flesh will enjoy as enviable a distinction in the eastern markets as her beef now does. So sanguine are we of this fact that we have no hesitancy in urging our people to extend their investments in this direction. Breed good mares to good horses and by the time you have good four-year-old teams for sale they will command good figures both at home and abroad.

ANGORA GOATS.

How They Pay in Nevada—Mr. Bailey's Success

The following, clipped from a California exchange, shows that there is a bright side to the Angora goat business: The Battle Mountain (Nevada) *Messenger* says: C. P. Bailey, president of the Angora Robe and Glove company, of San Jose, Cal., Col. Richard Peters, of Atlanta, Ga., and Col. Robert Scott, of Frankfort, Ky., may rightly claim to be the goat kings of America. At Mr. Bailey's ranch, near Little Humboldt Nevada, he keeps a herd of 5,000 Angora goats. Last year he shipped east about 10,000 pounds of mohair, receiving for it fifty to sixty cents a pound, and could have disposed of ten times that quantity. He has sold in the past two years nearly \$30,000 worth of goats in the Sandwich Islands, Texas and Wyoming. Mr. Bailey is justly proud of his success in breeding the Angora, and says, there are hundreds of localities in Nevada and adjoining Territories adapted to the business.

That failure should have been made in raising Angora goats for mohair, is perfectly natural, and that more failures will be made, is certain; but there are men who have made, and others will make a success at the business. We can put our finger on men who make money raising Angora goats in Texas, and there are other men who will do it. Failure—ignominious failure, occur in sheep and cattle raising, but that does not prove that the business is unprofitable. It rather proves that the wrong man went into it. We are not prepared to say that raising Angora goats for mohair is as profitable as growing cattle or sheep, but there are millions of acres of land in the State unsuited to cattle or sheep raising, which we believe could be profitably used for raising goats, and if there is a market for mohair at the prices paid to Mr. Bailey, it will pay a handsome profit to raise Angora goats for mohair alone.

A GRANDSON OF BLUE BULL.

Dr. M. W. Hicks, of Sacramento, Cal., who has made a study of breeding trotting and pacing horses for many years past, has now in his stable at Sixteenth and F street, several very promising yearling and suckling colts by his well bred stallions Prompter, by Blue Bull; Privateer, by Buccaneer, and Sterling, by Egnont. When the news came of the fast yearling colt record made by Nutbreaker in the East recently, the doctor determined to see what Toomey's Prompter colt could trot a mile in, and if he did not reduce Nutbreaker's time (2:42) he would surely lower Rajah's time (2:55) made in a race. A few days ago he made a match for \$25 a side with Wilson's Roden, a pacer. At about 3 o'clock on the afternoon chosen, the judges and timers went in the stand, and after the drivers had weighed in, the horses were started on the third attempt with the colt on the inside and slightly in the lead, which he held nearly the whole distance, and without a break. The quarter was reached in :45; half, in 1:28; mile, in 2:51, which is the best on record made in a race. This is Transit's third race this season, and he has won three of them, and each time beating his previous record.

The Doctor has in training a yearling bay colt by Sterling, dam a pacing mare, which is going very fast at its natural gait—the pacer. He has frequently paced quarters in 35 seconds, and some have timed him in 34 seconds. One morning recently he was driven one-half mile, the first quarter being made in 42 seconds and the half in 1:17—last quarter in 35 seconds. This colt paces without shoes, tips or toe-weights. It is more than likely that the Doctor will pace the colt for a record before the end of the year.—*Danton's Spirit of the Turf.*

THE CHURCH AND THE TURF.

An observing gentleman writes us that he can see no reason why clergymen should not enjoy with other people innocent outdoor pastimes. We agree with him; but in many places a sentiment, the growth of which was encouraged by clergymen themselves, prevails, denying to church members the privilege of looking upon fast horses in action. At regular turf meetings, where the gambling feature is prominent, clergymen are rarely seen, but they often gather around the speed ring at agricultural fairs. At Lexington the fair association vetoes betting, and thousands, including ministers of the gospel, flock to the grounds to witness the agricultural horse trot. On the same grounds the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders' association holds its annual meeting, and very few church-going people mingle with the hundreds present, because pools are sold on the races. The same horses generally challenge attention that proved magnets at the fair, but the gambling feature lessens the attendance to beggarly proportions. We are not discussing the principles which underlie either policy. We simply recognise a striking fact. Maud S. trotted for the Woodburn Farm Cup, un-

der the immediate control of the Kentucky Trotting-Horse Breeders' association, but under the no-betting rule of the Lexington Fair association. It was known in advance that Mr. Bonner would not permit pools to be sold on her, and this fact, as well as the fame of the mare, brought out the clergymen and the church-going people. The arguments of our correspondent with regard to the church member who does not bet himself not being responsible for the bets made by worldly-minded enthusiasts are sound, but the trouble is to get people warped by prejudice to accept them as such. Maud S. will be trained next year, and started to further reduce the record. Her owner will yield to the desire of thousands who wish to see her perform in public, but he will insist upon the no-betting rule being enforced. He will not allow her to start on tracks, the managers of which do not promise in advance to suppress all pool-selling on the struggle against time. A performance of this kind will prove acceptable to hundreds who do not now attend circuit races, and it will act as a lever to lift the trotting turf into a higher and purer atmosphere.—*Turf, Field and Farm.*

HOW TO MAKE GOOD MILKERS.

No matter what breed you have, something further is necessary in order to reach the best success in raising good milkers. Good blood, whether Shorthorn, Jersey, Devons, Ayrshires, grade or native, is not everything, but lies at the foundation; something cannot come from nothing. Treatment in raising a milker should be somewhat different from that in raising a beef animal, or an animal for labor. Begin as soon as the calf is a day old; see that it has sufficient to eat, and is kindly treated and regularly attended to. Never pamper or overfeed, but give it good, generous food, to cause a regular growth. Accustom it to be handled, but not to such an extent as to acquire objectionable habits as a cow, but rather to be fond of the presence of the keeper. Kindness helps to create a quiet disposition, so important in a dairy cow, and this education must begin when the calf is young; any habit acquired when young, are apt to cling to the cow when grown.

For a milker I would have a heifer come in at two years old. She is then old enough to become a cow. I would not, as a rule, allow her to go farrow, but milk her up to within a few weeks of calving, even if I did not obtain but little at a milking. A cow thus trained will give more milk and be more likely to hold out long in milk, if her after care is judicious and liberal as it should be. Such treatment tends to form the habit of giving milk, and, as we know, habit is a sort of second nature. Couple the heifer with an older bull, one, two or three years older than she is preferable to a yearling, and better stock is likely to come from such. After the heifer has come, in her feed should be liberal and regular. Good clover hay is the best of all, but we may not have this for stall feed; then we must make up for what is lacking in some concentrated feed, such as oatmeal, shorts, oilmeal or the like; but great care and good judgment must be used not to over-feed or crowd, as the future cow may be ruined. Udder forelegs shorten the useful life of the cow very rapidly.—*Ex.*

QUESTION OF BREEDING.

There has been a great deal of general talk on the question of inbreeding, but most of it has been so very "general" that it has not amounted to much in a practical sense. Instances have been cited over and over again of the success of the Collings' and the Bakewells in establishing distinct types of domestic animals by the process of inbreeding, but after we have examined them all there is still something left that we don't know. In choosing their animals to mate did those old worthies choose them because they were kindred blood, or because they were better animals than any they could find outside of their kindred? This, it seems to us, is a very important question, and should have its weight in all discussions of the subject. There have been so many instances of success from out-crossing, that the average breeder, however intelligent he may be, is liable to be confused about the proper course to pursue. The general belief and practice is in favor of inbreeding, in which we fully concur, provided it is not too close in its affinities. But here is the point of difficulty that everybody goes around and thus fails to meet the question fairly. A large western breeder has submitted the following to us, and we will copy his precise language:

"I have a promising young stallion by George Wilkes and five fillies by the same sire, and none of their dams are related to the dams of the horse. I would like to breed fillies to their half brother, but fear bad results from inbreeding. Please give me your opinion at the next number. The colt is two years old past, and is remarkably large for his family. You will remember all the stock, as they are registered and in the catalogue."

There is no chance to dodge the question in this case, for it is plain and involves the precise issue that so many have avoided. Shall he breed a son of Wilkes on the daughters of Wilkes, the only immediate relationship being through the sire? The answer to this question must depend upon two considerations. If there is a weakness or bad point common to both the colt and the filly, that weakness or imperfection is liable to be intensified in the offspring, more liable, we think, than if the parents were more distant in their blood elements. We would not,

therefore, couple a half brother and sister that had an important defect that was common to both. The other consideration is whether this Wilkes colt is really a better horse than any other that our friend could make available. This does not really involve the theory of the question, but we think it is the right solution of it. If all things considered, he is not better than some other available horse, we would use the other, but if he is better we would use him, half sister or no half sister. After our friend has made up his mind on these two points—whether there are any important defects common to both, and whether his Wilkes colt is better than any other within his reach, we think he will have no hesitancy in going forward.—*Wallace's Monthly.*



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Walter on each jaw of main head; also owner of cattle brand W on right side; also cattle marked underbit in left and crop in right ear, branded 6 on right hip; also cattle marked underbit in left and crop off of right ear, branded JH (combined) on hip and side; and others branded F on left hip and shoulder.

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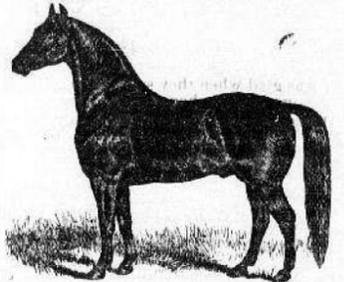
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