

feeling much more cheerful and hopeful than a year ago.

Prices for nearly all kinds of stock are pretty good now, and compare as follows with a year ago:

	1888.	1887.
Best fat cattle.....	\$6 00@ \$6 25	\$4 25@ \$4 50
" " Hogs.....	6 00@ 6 15	5 30@ 5 45
" " Sheep.....	4 50@ 5 00	4 25@ 4 50
Good Texas cattle.....	3 75@ 4 25	3 00@ 3 50

From the above it will be seen that there is a very substantial improvement this year over last.

Spring Brook Farm.

Messrs. J. & W. Russell, of Richmond Hill, Ont., have for the last twenty years been well-known breeders. During the last decade there has been, perhaps, no firm that has been more closely watched by their fellow breeders, and among their competitors there was always a feeling of relief when it was known that the Russells did not intend to exhibit in any one particular class.

The present firm is composed of James Russell, a particularly clear-headed, keen, business man, of fine ability. As a business manager, farmer and breeder he has few equals. His brother and partner, William, ably seconds all his efforts, and is, probably, one of the most accomplished feeders in Canada.

At the present time their herd of Shorthorns is made up of a lot of very fine animals; all but one of which are descended from Mr. Sylvester Campbell's herd, of Kinellar, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The Isabellas, Nonpareils, Rose of Autumns, Minas and Clementinas are all represented. The first shown us were three young bulls, imported from Kinellar in October, 1887, one of which, Toft Hill, Mr. Campbell says, is the best bull bred by him in 1887. The others, a red and a roan, are close up to him in quality.

The best young bull we have seen this year is Chancellor, out of imported Mina, and got by Baron Linton. He is of wonderful substance, stylish and handsome, very full in all his points, and is even, long and deep, but a fastidious judge might say that he is a little off in color. Scottish Crown is another fine roan bull of more than ordinary promise. His dam is an imported Mina, and he is by Royal Booth 2nd, a pure Booth bull. These are the best of their bulls, though they have other good ones.

Their breeding cows are all young, one being five; six, four; five, three, and four two years old. Seven yearling heifers, two bulls and seven heifer calves comprise the herd.

The five-year-old cow is an imported Clementina, and is a typical Scotch Shorthorn. The three best four-year-olds are all Isabellas, and are a grand lot, of great substance, and are very showy—such animals as any breeder might well feel proud of. They are all descended from prize-winning stock. In quality and breeding they are closely followed by others, among which is the Linton heifer, Lady Booth, a red cow of large size and grand quality.

The three-year-olds are a very good lot, and among them, we think, is the best beast in the herd. One of them took the first prize as a yearling at the Highland Society Show of Scotland. She is truly a grand cow, but, we think, she is excelled by two home-bred ones, both of which are descended from prize-winning ancestry. One of them is especially good; her grand-dam was Messrs. Russell's gold medal cow at the American Centennial, 1876; and her dam was a first prize winner at the leading Canadian shows. She has not been shown yet, but may be

counted on as one of Canada's best young cows. The best two-year-old heifer is a Mina, and is very similar to the three year-olds.

A red Isabella is also a good one, she is now suckling her first calf, and seems to be a fairly good milker. Next comes a grand Nonpareil, in every particular a show beast. She is now in calf to Royal Booth 2nd, of the Bright family, whose dam sold for £700 and grand-dam for £1,000. Among the yearling heifers are four Isabellas, one Nonpareil, one Lady Booth, and one Mina, which came out with her mate last November, and which has since been sold to go to Minnesota, U. S., for \$500.

Most of the calves are too young for this season's fairs, but among them is the best heifer calf we have seen this year. She is a full sister to the young bull, Chancellor, also to the best two-year-old heifer and the \$500 heifer belonging to Mr. John Ackrow, of Highfield.

AMONG THE HORSES

they have the imported Clydesdale stallion, Young Hartington (3515). He has not been made up for show, but is a good useful beast, and has been a very successful sire.

Altogether they have sixteen horses; all but one are Clydesdales or Clydesdale grades. Among them are Maggie, of Richmond Hill, 2nd and 3rd, which, with their dam, took the silver medal and \$20, at the Toronto Industrial last year for the best mare and two of her offspring. They were bred by their exhibitors.

THE COTSWOLDS

belonging to this firm are as noted as their Shorthorns. At the present time they number about eighty. The flock is of good quality and finely bred. Among them are a number of prize winners at the Royal Show of England. The feeding has been done for the past two years by Robert Tenant, a young Scotchman, who deserves much credit for the present fine appearance of the herd.

A few miles from Spring Brook Farm, near Clairville P. O.,

MR. ANDREW RUSSELL

owns a farm, where he conducts the business of breeding and importing Clydesdale horses. He, like his brothers, is a very good feeder. The first horse shown us here was Castlemore Banker, now two years old, by imported Lock Hill; dam imported Darling of Primivar. This is a Canadian bred horse, of wonderful substance, and good color. He has good feet and good hard legs, but is perhaps a little light in the bone. He is a favorite in the neighborhood, and is doing a good season, though only two years old. He has been successful in the show rings, winning first at Toronto Industrial, first at Newmarket, first at Clairville Spring Show, first at Lansing and at Richmond Hill last year as a yearling, and this year, as a two-year-old, as best heavy draft. The next shown us was Star of Fintray (6316), bred by Jno. Rennie, Kintore, Scotland; sire Harvester (3681); dam Gip (1672). He also is a two-year-old; a beautiful bright bay; and a splendid horse, possessing good feet and legs. He is well coupled, and has good range; with a little broader rump he would be a hard horse to beat. This was one of the horses, which, amidst strong competition, won a prize at the Canadian Clydesdale Association's Show held in Toronto last spring.

Pitfour Darnley (707), of the same age, and imported at the same time as the last named, is Mr. Russell's favorite horse. He weighed 1,900 lbs. at two years old; is a dark bay, with black points. He was also a winner in Toronto at the last named show and other important places. He is a wonderfully rangy good horse, with a good back and grand feet and legs. He was bred by Col. Ferguson, Aberdeenshire, Scotland; got by Darnley King (2717); dam Mary (1230), by Topsman (886).

Red Polled Cattle.

BY J. M'LANE SMITH.

I have just received the last volume of the English Red Polled Herd Book, which contains besides the registry of the stock, much valuable information about the breed, collected through the indefatigable industry of the editor, Mr. H. F. Euren. A few items selected from the rich feast prepared by Mr. Euren will be, I think, of general interest.

Speaking of the show of Red Polls at the Royal in 1886, held at Norwich, and the largest show of the breed ever witnessed, the official reporter says:

"The improvement made during the last few years in the style, substance, and quality of the animals, as well as the advance toward uniformity of type, is within measurable distance of the marvelous. No stronger proof of this can be desired or given than is to be found in the fact that the judges (all three of whom are keen men of business and thoroughly practical) commended in its entirety the class of cows with its thirty entries. Such an event as this is almost unknown, and but very seldom deserved."

The judges also, in their report, speaking of this class of aged cows, say: "Having selected twelve cows we placed them together in a line, and we venture to say few people have ever seen twelve better cows of any breed shown together."

What American breeders were especially anxious to obtain, however, were some authentic milk records for the purpose of comparison. For some reason English Red Polled breeders, until quite recently, have not entered their cows in any of the public milk tests, and private records in that country are not common. The present volume presents the latest information on this subject accessible to American readers. As the herd book, however, is not of general circulation, a few facts drawn from its pages may not be uninteresting.

At the Suffolk County Show last year (June, 1887) all breeds were classed together in the milk test. The first prize was awarded to a cross-bred polled cow giving 28 lbs. of milk, containing 4.65 per cent of butter fat, or a total yield of 20.5 oz. The second prize, with a yield of 32 lbs. of milk and 16.75 oz. butter fat, went to a registered Red Polled cow. The third and reserve number was a Shorthorn, with a yield of 15.6 oz. butter fat. The only Channel Island cow in the test (Jersey and Guernsey are classed together at most of the English shows) was sixth in the list, with a yield of 13.7 oz. butter fat.

In the herd book for 1883 is given the milk record of Davy 27th 1451—H 1, of Mr. John Hammond's herd, showing a total yield from Sept. 1 to April 30 of 8,957 imperial pints, equal to 11,196 lbs., a daily average for seven months (including the entire winter) of a little over 48½ lbs. In the present volume is given the record of her calf, Davy 44th 2136—H 1. She gave from Jan. 10, 1887, to June 12, 1887, 156 days, 6,113 lbs. of milk, an average of 39½ lbs. a day. Jan. 28 the milk gave 14 per cent. of cream; May 28 10 per cent.

Mr. Garrett Taylor, who owns the largest herd of Red Polls in England, has kept complete returns of the milk yield for the last year. As the milk is sold in Norwich there are of course no returns of cream or butter. Mr. Euren prints the returns complete of fifty-five cows, representing thirty-three different tribes. All are credit-