

The Background of Shorthorn Pedigrees.

People usually buy cattle, but sometimes they buy pedigrees. In exciting times when a breed is "suffering" from a boom a pedigree is frequently worth more than the animal whose breeding it describes. When such condition does arise the breeders are too often "riding for a fall". When the fever subsides the trade is weak, languid or even prostrate, and the buyer has some very fashionable pedigrees locked in his safe but the cattle in the stable do not have the proper individuality to match them. Perhaps the most memorable event and greatest folly in history arising out of this "traffic in pedigrees" was the New York Mills dispersion sale, on September 10, 1873. In the heat and excitement of the bidding for Bates-bred cattle, \$40,000 was placed on the 8th. Duchess of Geneva, while twelve females and three bulls of the Thorndale, Geneva and Oneida tribes of the Duchess family averaged \$17,523. Bates cattle were then in demand and good as they were no one can gainsay the statement that pedigrees, not cows, were the real prizes of that eventful day. On the other hand, breeds and live stock improvement are just as impossible without pedigrees as a high standard of social life and the legal distribution of property would be in the human race without marriage licenses, birth registrations, etc. The whole pure-bred live stock industry is built on the records; but before one can interpret a pedigree satisfactorily it is necessary to be able to associate the names of the animals with the different herds from which they sprang and to discount a certain family name according to infusions of common or unfashionable blood in the lineage of the animal in question.

The origin of some families is remote indeed, and while many of them were promising in the start outstanding qualifications have been lost in the generations lying between the present and the past, until some of the tribal names are little more than common. Considerable significance is attached to the names of the estates whereon Shorthorns were bred for they have clung in many cases to the descendants of the original stock. Barmpton, Warlaby, Kirklevington, Uppermill, Sittyton, etc., are only a few of such which one meets with every day in Shorthorn pedigrees. An understanding of these is a valuable asset.

The First Family Founders.

Charles Colling of Ketton, and Robert Colling of Barmpton, in the County of Durham, England, were really the first to establish distinct families through consistent breeding along particular lines. In some instances their cows proved to be only the foundations for famous families in later days the progeny not being numerous enough in the Colling herds to constitute a tribe. Ketton was the birthplace of the Duchesses, later so famous at Kirklevington. In the dispersion sale at Ketton, too, were the Cherry foundation, which was a contributing factor to the Brawith tribe. Others were the Daisy, Red Rose and Phoenix. Barmpton was the home of the Princess tribe, the oldest on record and one of the most important in the early improvement of the breed. In addition to these were the Wildairs, Gwynnes and Venuses.

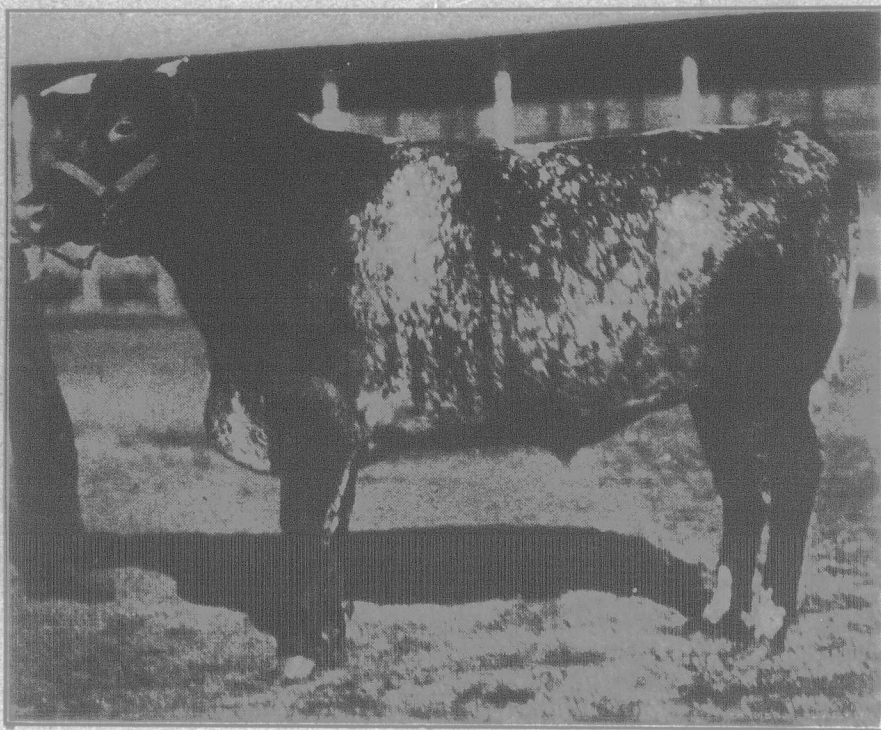
Warlaby, Killerby and Studley were the scenes of the many activities of the Booths, who achieved great fame in the show-ring and who live in history as one of the greatest group of Shorthorn improvers of early days. They strove for quick maturity and easy-fleshing qualities, whereas Thomas Bates, of Kirklevington, a contemporary, sought all these but insisted on his cows being good milkers. This led to a division in the camp and for a period of thirty-five years the breeders who championed the Booth and the Bates types of cattle separated under the different banners. An erroneous impression, somewhat common, regarding Bates-bred cattle should be referred to here. Bates and the Booths were, as already stated, contemporaries; the latter bred for beef qualities only while Thomas Bates looked for good conformation and fleshing qualities just as much, but along with them he sought milking proclivities in order to establish a more serviceable kind of cattle. Bates Shorthorns were not of dairy type as some believe; they were Shorthorns first with some ability to give milk as well as lay on flesh. To Thomas Bates is due considerable credit

for the popularity of the present-day Shorthorn, which, in turn, is based on the general dual-purpose character of the breed given it by the absorption of Bates blood.

Thomas Booth began operations at the beautiful Yorkshire estate, Killerby, some time prior to 1790. He made liberal use of bulls from Ketton and Barmpton. Noteworthy among his earliest activities was the Fairholme experiment. Five heifers were secured from a Mr. Broader, at Fairholme, and mated with Colling bulls. These crosses gave rise to the Fairholme or Blossom tribe, the old Booth Red Rose, and the Ariadne or Bright Eyes tribes. The Hainaby, or Strawberry family was the pet tribe of the elder Booth. From this blood came the noted bulls, Rockingham and Priam and the Bride Elect sort. The Bracelets are another of the fashionable kind originated in Killerby.

In 1814 Richard Booth, a son of Thomas, began breeding Shorthorns at Studley, where he carried the Booth cattle to even greater perfection. The Isabellas and Annas were the most important tribes developed there. In 1819 Thomas Booth moved to Warlaby, leaving Killerby in possession of a son, John. Warlaby is still in the Booth family and maintains a Shorthorn herd. Other families of Booth origin are the Mantalinis, Moss Roses, and Cherry Blossoms.

Mention has already been made of Thomas Bates, of Kirklevington. With him were originated the Oxforths, Waterloos, Wild Eyes, Cambridge Roses, Fog-gathorpes and Secrets. The Roan Duchess sort traces



Clear the Way.

Champion fat steer at Toronto and London, for T. A. Russell, Downsview.

back to Bates breeding, while the Duchess family was his pride throughout the period of his activities and in the hands of other breeders was the object about which centred so much controversy and frenzied bidding. Bates considered his Duchesses too good to mate with bulls of other strains. This led to close breeding which in time absolutely necessitated the infusion of new blood. "The hope of the Shorthorns," as Bates termed it, was found in Belvedere, a sprig of the old Princess family of Robert Colling foundation, which was the only outside strain to command any respect at Kirklevington at that time. Through the union of Duchess and Princess blood Bates promised to produce "Shorthorns such as the world has never seen," and annals of the breed acknowledge that he came very near to making good his boast. Belvedere sired the famous Duchess 34th, which bred back to her sire produced the great Duke of Northumberland, the best bull Bates ever bred and the undisputed champion of England in 1842. The Duke came from a line of Duchess cows but the ancestry mentioned here would show him to have only twenty-five per cent. of Duchess blood, the remainder being Princess blood transmitted through the bull Belvedere. According to Shorthorn nomenclature and a system of setting down pedigrees, he would be declared at once a Duchess bull. This reveals the folly of placing too much stress on the maternal ancestry of an individual as set forth in abbreviated pedigrees, such as are printed in sale catalogues and elsewhere.

Messrs. Bell, tenants of Thomas Bates, secured females at Kirklevington and developed some distinct strains which enjoyed the wave of popularity in which Bates Shorthorns were engulfed. Among these families were the Acornb, Barrington, Craggs, Fletcher, Northallerton, and Place strains. There was still another,

time were produced the Rosys, Rubys, and Quickleys, through a combination of existing strains. William Torr, of Aylesby, a contemporary of the Booth Brothers and Thomas Bates, was one of the leading breeders of the time and founded the Aylesby Brights, Sylphs and Aylesby Flowers.

Shorthorn Breeding in Scotland.

In the turn of events during the last half century the pendulum has swung over to the Scotch Shorthorn and now what are known as fashionable pedigrees savor strongly of Scotch breeding. Captain Barclay of Ury, was really the father of Shorthorn breeding in Scotland, and while no great families bear the Ury name, the bulls he turned out created such an impression as to induce other notable men to the banner. Among these may be mentioned Grant Duff of Eden; The Cruickshanks of Sittyton; Douglas of Athelstaneford; Campbell of Kinellar; Marr of Uppermill, and Duthie of Collynie.

Noteworthy among the cattle at Eden was the cow Brawith Bud, which contributed to the family made by Amos Cruickshank.

Little need be said regarding the quality or character of the Shorthorn cattle bred by Amos Cruickshank of Sittyton. Breeders gladly acknowledge Cruickshank breeding if they have it in their cattle and it is to be found in the families mentioned below: Violet, Venus, Mimulus, Picotee, Matchless, Broadhooks, Lady, Nonpareil, Sittyton Butterfly, Orange Blossoms, Clipper, Lancaster, Brawith Bud, Duchess of Gloster, Secret, Cicely, Avalanche, Violette, Lovely, Barmpton Rose, Spicy, Lavender and Crocus. These families were all produced or carried to greater perfection at Sittyton and in connection with these it might also be valuable to mention the herd bulls used. Some of the more important ones were: Fairfax Royal (6987), Matadore (11800), Plantaganet (11906), Doctor Buckingham (14405), The Baron (13833), Lord Bathurst (15173), Master Butterfly 2nd (14918), John Bull (11618), Lord Raglan (13244), The Czar (20947), Lancaster Comet (11663), Champion of England (17526), Windsor Augustus (19157), Forth (17806), Lord Privy Seal (16444), Prince Alfred (27107), Scotland's Pride, Caesar Augustus, Royal Duke of Gloster, Roan Gauntlet, Barmpton and Cumberland.

In the herd of Sylvester Campbell of Kinellar, in Aberdeenshire, the Nonpareils, Miss Ramsdens, and Golden Drops were developed.

The name "Uppermill" is frequently met with in connection with Scotch Shorthorns this being the holding of William S. Marr who operated in the same district as Sittyton. A splendid herd was assembled including such well-known tribes as the Maudes, The Misses, Princess Royals, the Alexandrinas, Roan or Red Lady's Bessies, Claras, Emmas and Goldies. Some of the herd sires in use were: Heir of Englishman (24122), Cherub 4th (83359), Athabasca (47359), and William of Orange (50694).

In 1889 the entire Sittyton herd of 154 head was sold for export to the Argentine. Through the failure of a banking firm the deal was canceled and the world-famous Shorthorns were distributed in Great Britain. Wm. Duthie of Collynie, a neighbor of the Cruickshanks, took the majority of the aged females, while all the yearling heifers with the exception of the Violet tribe went into the hands of J. Deane Willis of Bapton Manor, Codford, England. Duthie had long been using Cruickshank bulls and his herd was already steeped in Sittyton blood. By securing the breeding females of the neighbor herd he established himself firmly in the Shorthorn breeding fraternity, a position he occupies until this day. With his purchase in 1890, J. Deane Willis secured, in addition to the heifers, the two bulls Scottish Archer and Captain of the Guard. Thus it was that the south of England became a source of Scotch-bred Shorthorns to which breeders on this side of the Atlantic frequently resort for selections.

It would not be out of place here to mention some of the impressive sires used in Britain during the latter part of the 19th century. Amongst the names of such are found Beau Benedict, Captain of the Guard, Clear the Way, Count Lavender, Count Victor, Cumberland, Duke of Aosta, Duke of Connaught, Earl of March, Field Marshal Grovesend, Heir of Englishman, Knickerbocker, Pride of Morning, Prince Victor, Rising Star, Roan Gauntlet, Royal Duke, Royal Errant, Royal Windsor, Scotland's Pride, Scottish Archer, Sign of Riches, Sir Arthur Ingram, Telemachus, Wanderer, Windsor Fitz-Windsor, William of Orange. All these sires left an impression on the breed which entitles them to an eminent place in Shorthorn annals.

It is always safe practice to maintain the live stock in fair flesh at this season. Stock which goes into winter quarters in good condition are more easily wintered than are animals which have been allowed to go down in the fall. Pastures have been unusually luxuriant this year and feed has generally been plentiful in the fields, but dry weather throughout September has made a difference, and with the cooler weather coming on some extra feeding may be found necessary. It would be better business to use a little winter feed early and keep up good condition than to allow the stock to get thin before final stabling for winter is necessary.