

Sheep and Swine at Toronto and London.

On account of publishing the prize lists of the Toronto and London exhibitions in this issue, we are compelled, for want of space, to withhold the report on the sheep and swine at the former, and that of the whole stock department at the latter show. These will be published in the November issue.

Studs, Flocks and Herds.

ELGIN STOCK FARM

is one of the oldest breeding establishments in the province of Quebec, the stud there having been founded thirty years since. Messrs. A. & J. Bell, Athelstan, P. Q., the proprietors, are conveniently situated for railway privileges, the Huntingdon station, fifty miles south of Montreal on the G. T. R., being some four miles from the farm, while the new Adirondack line is building a station adjoining the farm, which line runs from Montreal to the city of New York. The stud of Clydesdales here is the largest in point of numbers with which we are acquainted, and is alike noted for the excellence of the mares and stallions of which it is composed. Some sixty head of registered horses, colts, mares and fillies are to be seen here, and in the different ages there are a number of particularly good specimens. It has evidently been the aim of the Messrs. Bell to import horses of great utility; they have generally selected those of low-set, blocky type, combined with heavy bone and abundance of feather. Messrs. Bell claim that this sort impress the draught type more fully upon the progeny when coupled with the lighter-boned mares of their part of the country.

The soil of this farm is very similar to all this part of the province, being rather flat, but wonderfully strong and producing very large crops of grain, and a field of corn adjoining the barns was far advanced in maturity with a great wealth of stalk, and promises a good yield of ears also.

Messrs. Bell stated that they also grow large crops of hay, which is readily believed by the appearance of the soil.

Pure-bred stock of all kinds are kept, Ayrshires being the kind of horned cattle they breed. A particularly handsome yearling bull named Duke of Beauharnois, is at the head of an excellent herd of these choice dairy cattle.

In the stud of horses we were most favorably impressed with the excellent lot of brood mares, which along with promising foals at foot formed a sight long to be remembered. Some ten foals with their dams were together in one lot, while a youngster two days old beside his twenty-five-year-old dam is a living proof that Clydesdales are not short-lived horses, the mare in this case having been a very successful show beast in her time, and still retains wonderful form and freedom from unsoundness. Among this vast concourse we shall only have space to mention a few noticed by us, such as Bessie Bell, a very handsome, low-set bay mare, sired by Prince Royal, a stallion bred by Mr. Davidson, M. P. for south Ontario; this stallion was a son of Mr. Davidson's mare Darling, which was undoubtedly one of the best and most successful brood mares ever imported. To the above named stallion Messrs. Bell ascribe a large portion of their success. Brown Jess, another very fine mare, belongs to the same excellent family, the lot forming a stud which it would be

exceedingly difficult to duplicate on any breeding farm with which we are acquainted. As this strain has been in the stud since they first began breeding and importing, it is not surprising that the individuals of this family should be especial favorites with their owners, the proprietors claiming that among the numerous importations of brood mares made by them they have not been able to secure any that they could rely upon as certain to produce the same amount of quality and size.

The first of the imported stallions led out for our inspection was Locherby Lick, a bay, six years old, sired by the Highland Society prize horse Mansfield. This is a flashy horse of very attractive form, he has legs of capital wearing type, is a neat, clever mover, perhaps a bit upstanding, but his whole appearance denotes wear.

Endymion, by Old Lord Lyon, is altogether of a different type; he is much nearer the ground, heavier in the bone, with more feather. He has large, well-shaped quarters, and is nicely turned—has proved very successful in the stud.

General Mite, by the Darnley horse Sir Michael, dam by the Prince of Wales, is not only of choice breeding, but is a horse of exceedingly good points. He has a very strongly knit frame, good, heavy, clean bone, and is altogether a horse that stands the closest inspection.

Farmer is a three-year-old colt of their own breeding, and is built after a good pattern for use; is a good mover and handsome color. Scottish Banker, a good, tight built horse, is sired by Endymion, his dam being the mare that has never been beaten in the show ring. In their choice of sires the Messrs. Bell have been particular in selecting the best colors, along with the other necessary qualities, and their whole stock shows to great advantage in this as well as other particulars. The mares are also particularly good, many of them having been imported.

MESSRS. DAWES & CO.

The stock farm of which the above gentlemen are proprietors consists of The Willows and Maplewood, and comprises something over five hundred acres of land that is very well adapted for breeding fine stock. The soil on these farms rests on a limestone foundation, which is always esteemed where a high point of excellence is the aim. The pasture grasses grow in perfection here, and notwithstanding the dry summer experienced in this locality abundance of grass is to be found in the pastures. This establishment is among the largest in extent, and most varied in the number of breeds of cattle kept, as Herefords, Polled-Angus and Jerseys are all represented by large herds of each variety. Formerly the farm was the centre of a large herd of Ayrshires, the milk of which was sent daily to Montreal. However, these were disposed of, and the present breeding establishment formed by direct importations from England, Scotland and the Isle of Jersey, the home of each of the breeds selected, to form the basis of the present extensive establishment. The first importation dates back ten years, and consists of the following breeds, viz.: Herefords, Polled Angus and Jerseys. Of these the Herefords are in the largest numbers, some sixty of which are at present on hand. The bull at the head of this department is Otto Wilton, a bull that is not only an exceedingly choice individual, but is also particularly well bred. He is from the herd

of Hon. H. M. Cochrane, is sired by Ottoman, dam by the well-known show bull Cassio, and his blood lines are full of the breeding of Lord Wilton and The Grove 3rd. Among the female portion of the Hereford herd are a number of extra good imported cows, of which we counted some sixteen or eighteen beside a large number bred on the farm, and for which we only have space to mention a few, viz.: Cherry Bark (23634) was bred by Major Clonmell, Ireland, and is a favorite with Mr. Dawes. She is a large, heavily-fleshed cow, of good form. Corette (36070) is a smooth and handsome two year-old heifer, by Monarch, her dam being an imported cow. Corine is another heifer by Monarch, and is also from an imported cow. These heifers are of large size and are nicely finished. Clarissa is a good yearling heifer, and is also sired by imported Monarch, her dam, Winnifred, was bred in Ireland. Rosebud, a three-year-old, is a thick, wide heifer that should make a good breeder. All the above are included in the herd shown at the principal shows of the province this season. The Polled-Angus herd has hardly as many representatives as the foregoing, but we had the pleasure of inspecting a number of specimens of very superior merit, especially among the older cows, which, like the Herefords, are mostly imported, and are from the choicest herds in Scotland. Baron Hillhurst Second, of Hon. H. M. Cochrane's breeding, is at present in use on the Doddie herd. He was sired by Lord Hillhurst, his dam being Blackbird of Hillhurst, and, therefore, belongs to that much-prized family. We noticed two cows which were intended to be shown, of which Magpie of Kirkton, by Baron of Strathavon (4261), is a cow of good substance, with capital hindquarters. She is from one of the best herds in Scotland. Maggie of Kinoctry is also imported. She was bred by Mr. Thomas Ferguson, sired by Prince of the Realm. This is a very straight, handsome cow, and looks well. She has a calf at foot which is also very promising. Teresa Lass is a yearling, imported in dam. She is a neat and good heifer, as also is the heifer calf Regina of Lachine, though hardly in as good show condition. The Jersey herd is large in numbers, and the individuals comprising it are of beautiful form and quality. There are fifteen imported cows besides their descendants, the whole forming a particularly choice lot. A number of the Jerseys were imported six years ago, and were selected by that capital judge Capt. Le Broque, of St. Maries, and it is, therefore, not surprising that such an excellent selection is to be found in this herd. Outside those intended for show we counted eight beautiful cows, all imported from the Island. These were just being fastened in their stalls preparatory to milking, their product being sent to supply the guests at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, with cream. The bull in use is Nero, which was imported with his dam Badier Bess, which is a cow that is a capital butter performer. Nero was sired by Nero Du Quin that was sold on the Island for £100 sterling. Apart from his good breeding, Nero is a bull of exceedingly good merit. He is very large and deep in the rib, of a smooth finish and full of character. Several cows not mentioned above we admired very much, among which we noticed an imported cow named Opakella, which has a wonderful udder. She is very handsome and with fine quality. Pride of the Wiltons has also great