

Ed W. Robinson's Sale.

Handicapped by stormy weather, necessitating the holding of the sale on a barn floor where room was limited and light quite insufficient, the sale of Mr. Ed. W. Robinson's Shorthorns, at Markham, on January 10th, could hardly be called a success. There was a large crowd present, which only made it more difficult for bidders to see the stock, and some sacrifices were certainly made, and some good bargains secured, as the cattle were a very useful class. Following is the sale list of animals sold for \$100 and upwards:

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Broadhocks Rose, '03; W. J. Thompson, Mitchell...	\$300
Rothwick Rose, 1900; W. J. Isaac, Harwood.....	190
Fancy 12th; J. A. Wilkin, Balsam.....	110
Duchess Gwinne 6th; T. C. McAvoy, Balsam.....	100
Apple Pie (imp.), '01; R. H. Reid, Pine River.....	230
Mayflower 2nd, '98; T. E. Robson, Hilderton.....	115
Princess Alice (imp.), '02; R. H. Reid.....	160
Best Bessie, '02; M. Phillip, Essington.....	150
J. Famine 7th, '01; D. Gunn & Son, Beaverton.....	100
Jessamine 8th, '03; W. J. Isaac.....	100
Broadhocks Rose, '04; A. E. Meyer, Guelph.....	115
Jilt 22nd, '04; J. A. Wilkin.....	105
Lady Dorothy 39th, '03; John Miller, Brougham.....	135
Moss Rose 2nd, '98; W. J. Isaac.....	100
Moss Rose 5th, '04; D. Gunn & Son.....	115

BULLS.

Royal Champion (imp.), '02; Geo. Amos & Son, Moffat.....	\$225
King of Diamonds, '03; W. J. Isaac.....	100
Royal Mail, May, '06; Thos. Hargrave, Mongolia.....	115
Royal Ensign, May, '06; R. B. Cowie, Davisville.....	125

The Government and the Hog Trade.

A deputation, representing the Pork-packers' Association, have, it is reported, waited upon Hon. Nelson Monteith, asking the Ontario Government to make arrangements for a regular series of pure-bred swine sales, to encourage farmers to a more general consideration of the question of raising suitable hogs for their business. Before committing himself to such a project, the Minister will do well to study the history of the dismal failure of the attempts of Dominion Government officials to establish this class of stock sales in this country in years past. Experience has surely amply sustained the prediction of "The Farmer's Advocate" when these were being exploited, that they would not succeed in this country of great distances. Indeed, combination sales have never succeeded anywhere in America for any considerable time, the public invariably losing confidence in the bona-fide character of a vendue for which no one is personally responsible, and in connection with which decoy bidding and collusion so frequently develop. Besides this, the class of stock entered at such sales is generally of an inferior class, reliable breeders declining to risk their best stock to so uncertain a market.

The best breeders of this country have confidence in their ability to conduct their own business on business principles, and regard with disfavor the meddling of Government officials in the purchase and sale of pure-bred stock, since they have not always been free from

suspicion of favoritism, and their methods of conducting subsidized sales have been open to the charge of unfair competition with private enterprise. The swine-breeders of Canada have shown commendable enterprise and intelligence in conforming their stock to the desired type and quality required by the trade, as promulgated by the packers and the press. Indeed, it is practically certain that in no other country in the world has so general a transformation of any class of live stock been effected in so short a time. And this has not been done without great personal expense, expense to the breeders who have never sought adventitious aid from the Government, and are entitled to the field of trade on legitimate lines, where in all conscience the competition is open and keen. We have not been favored lately with many complaints regarding the quality of the bacon hog supplies, and if not up to the mark, why not try the remedy of regular premium prices for the right sort? And if the Government is to be set to work, what about the suggested experimental packing-house, to shed some light on the packing end of the business, which, some think, might be mutually beneficial in helping to solve the marketing problem.

Fruit-growers Discuss Tariff Matters.

A largely-attended mass meeting of the fruit-growers of the Niagara District, held at Grimsby, January 18th, condemned the action of the directors of the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association, in appointing a committee to confer with the Horticultural Association of the State of Michigan, relative to the inauguration of reciprocity in fruit between Canada and the United States. A committee was appointed to protest to Hon. Nelson Monteith, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, that the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association had exceeded the scope of its constitution, in venturing to deal with legislation, and to ask that he see that the association in future should confine itself to educational aims. The following resolutions were passed:

"That this meeting desire to express our disapproval of the action of the directors of the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association, in appointing a committee to confer with a committee of Michigan State fruit-growers, with a view to arranging a reciprocal tariff on fruits and fruit products. The present tariff on fruits is too low, when we consider the increasing expense in fighting the many insect enemies and diseases, the very high price of labor, the scarcity and high prices of fruit packages, and the enormous cost of and loss in transportation. We can produce all the domestic fruits required for home consumption, and the home market should be protected for Canadian growers."

"That this meeting request our representatives in the Dominion Parliament, E. D. Smith, Wentworth; E. A. Lancaster, Lincoln, and D. Henderson, Halton, to urge the Government to incorporate in the new tariff the schedule presented to the Tariff Commission at its last session in Ottawa by the commercial fruit-growers of Ontario."

A similar meeting was held at Stony Creek the evening of the same day.

On the following day, Saturday, at the annual meeting of the Niagara District Fruit-growers, the subject

was discussed, and a somewhat different decision reached. It was pointed out that the directors of the Ontario association had merely acceded to the request of the Michigan association to consider the matter, and that the committee was merely to hear what there was to say and report to the next annual convention of the Ontario association.

The feeling of the meeting was expressed in the following resolution: "That this association wishes to place itself on record as being in harmony with the Ontario association in regard to meeting the Michigan growers. We, however, feel that this association of fruit-growers can hold out no hope of any reciprocity in the matter of fruits between the two countries."

Breed Society Annual Meetings.

Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association—Palmer House, Toronto; Tuesday, February 5th, 10 a.m.
Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association—Palmer House, Toronto; Tuesday, February 5th, 2 p.m.
Dominion Swine Breeders' Association—Palmer House, Toronto; Wednesday, February 6th, 9.30 a.m.
Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association—Room 1, 4th floor, Temple Building, corner Richmond and Bay Sts., Toronto; Wednesday, February 6th, 11 a.m.
Canadian Hackney Society—Room G., King Edward Hotel, Toronto; Wednesday, February 20th, 11 a.m.
Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada—Iroquois Hotel, Toronto; Wednesday, February 6th, 1 p.m.
Canadian Clydesdale Association—Room G., King Edward Hotel, Toronto; Thursday, February 21st, 10.30 a.m.

Shire Horse Association—Room G, King Edward Hotel, Toronto; Friday, February 22nd, 10.30 a.m.

The Canadian Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' annual meeting, at Brandon, Man., February 20th.

The Ontario Horse Breeders' Exhibition will be held in the St. Lawrence Market, Toronto, on February the 20th to 23rd.

The associations holding annual meetings at a late date will require to hold directors' meetings earlier, for the purpose of appointing representatives to the exhibition associations. These directors' meetings will probably be held during the time of the live-stock meetings, about the 5th or 6th of February.

Free Corn Still.

Parliament, during the Tariff Bill debate, rejected a proposal to strike American corn off the free list, where it has been for several years, to the decided advantage of live-stock husbandry, which is the main stay of successful farming in Ontario, and the most economical means of preserving soil fertility. To the great army of farmers who are depending on the sale of animals and their products, corn and other stock foods are "raw material," just as certain things are to the manufacturer who gets them "free," or enjoys the aid of "drawbacks." A season when coarse grains and fodders are exceptionally high, as at present, was certainly not auspicious for imposing a tax on United States corn, without which the feeder would be sore pressed.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Miscellaneous.

SHIPPING RATES ON BUTTER.

Please give in "Questions and Answers" what it costs to ship butter from Kerwood to Ingersoll? G. A. H.

Ans.—The express rate is 40c. per cwt., and the freight rate, 19c.

RENTS AND PROFITS OF LAND.

My father died when I was seven years old. He willed me one hundred acres of land. My mother married when I was eight years old. Mother and stepfather stayed on the place until I was twenty-one years of age, making me work all the time, mother having control of the place as long as she remained father's widow. Can I collect wages for the thirteen years' work, or can I collect rent for land? How long before it outlaws? Ontario.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—In the absence of an agreement for same, you cannot legally collect any wages from your mother, but you can call upon her to account to you for the rents and profits of the farm from the time of her marriage to your stepfather. It is probable that your claim to have such an accounting would not be affected by the statutes of limitations of actions, but any unreasonable delay in asserting your rights in the matter, now that you have come of age, might have a prejudicial effect on your chances of success in any legal steps that might be considered necessary to be taken for the enforcement of your claim.

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GOSSIP.

Captain Donald Milloy, known to many of our readers as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, died, on January 12th, at his farm, Oak Park, near Paris, Ont. He was one of the oldest of Ontario lake navigators, and some years ago turned his attention to farming and stock-raising, having purchased Oak Park farm, formerly the home of the late Hon. David Christie, consisting of some 600 acres, one of the very best farms in the Province, and which he had recently disposed of, intending to take up his residence in Toronto. He was about 70 years old, and was unmarried. He was the last of nine brothers, and is survived by one sister.

I pray you, O, excellent wife, not to cumber yourself and me to get a rich dinner for this man or this woman, who have alighted at our gate, nor a bed chamber made ready at too great a cost. These things, if they are curious in, they can get for a dollar at any village. But let this stranger, if he will, in your accent and behavior, read your heart and earnestness, your thought and will, which he cannot buy at any price at any village or city, and dine sparsely and sleep hard in order to behold. Certainly let the board be spread and let the bed be dressed for the traveller, but let not the emphasis of hospitality be in these things. Honor to the house where they are simple to the verge of hardship, so that there the intellect is awake and reads the laws of the universe.—Emerson.