

some days ago it was rather close and "muggy." We had some lovely harvest days this week, and are hopeful that such weather may continue.

August and September are two months in which flockmasters balance up their gains and losses. Lambs and wool are marketed, and the great ram sales are held during these months. The prices of lambs and wool are reflected in the prices for rams. Wool is about double the price it was a few years ago, and lambs are selling very well. The ram sales of all breeds have now been held, and the outlook for flockmasters is fairly good. The three great Scots breeds of sheep are Blackfaces, Cheviots and Border Leicesters. The former are spread over the greater part of the land, and they also have a firm hold in Ireland and in the north of England. They are at once the most picturesque and the hardest of all sheep. Their mutton is the best flavored, and the epicure believes in it altogether. Of recent years there has begun a craze for cleaning off the Blackfaces, and putting deer on the mountains instead. In spite of this there continues to be a good demand for Blackface rams, and all round the sales have been most successful. The highest price for a shearling Blackface this season has been £125. Other prices paid have been £85, £65, £64, £50, £40, £30, and £26. These were occasional figures. A large number went at or about £20, and the general average was between £5 and £10. At Lanark one gentleman had an average of £30 16s. 8d. for six. Another had £25 for 13, and another £20 8s. 6d. for 20. At Perth as high as £64 was made for a single sheep, and the best average was £13 2s. 6d. for a big lot of 30. The Cheviot is a white-faced mountain breed. Many of the representatives have horns, although, as a rule, an effort is made to get rid of these ornaments in the best specimens. A curious fancy is the retention of one horn, the other being taken off artificially. This breed is a prime favorite for mutton, and its wool is in great demand. Unfortunately, shoddy in some measure takes the place of this excellent wool, and prices have somewhat receded. The breed for a time threatened to displace the Blackface on the lower Scots ranges, but a succession of very severe winters proved disastrous, and it was found that the Blackfaces were the best fitted to withstand the blast. Cheviots are still chiefly bred and kept on the hills, whence they derive their name, but they are also extensively reared in Scotland. The flocks that make the highest averages for rams are in the Cheviots. This year the top price for a Cheviot ram was £120, and the next best price was £80. The best average was £18 18s. 7d. for 29, from Hindhope, and the second best £17 1s. 5d. for 27, from Mowhaugh. Border Leicesters are a much more valuable breed than either of the mountain sorts, but their numbers are much fewer. They are bred everywhere throughout Scotland, on the better lands bordering on the heather. They are by far the most valuable crossing breed. The mutton from the pure-bred B. L. is perhaps fat enough, but for crossing with the Cheviot or Blackface ewe they are unexcelled. Kelso is the great center for the sale of the pure-bred Border Leicester. The premier flock is that of Lord Polwarth, at Mertoun. His highest price this year was £160, paid by Mr. Little, from New Zealand, for a superb specimen. The same gentleman also bought the next highest-priced one, the H. & A. S. first-prize winner, bred by Mr. David Hume, Barrowfield, Brechin, in Forfarshire, for £95. Lord Polwarth's average was £25 10s. 9d.; Mr. Hume's £30 11s.

In connection with the breeding and rearing of mountain sheep, an interesting question has arisen in Scotland. Many of the higher reaches of land in Scotland, hitherto populated by Blackfaces, are being cleared of these, and their places are being taken by deer. These creatures are being kept solely for sporting purposes, and very important questions arise in connection therewith. It is said that the landlords are compelled to adopt this course because it pays better to keep deer than to grow sheep. The statement is no doubt quite correct on a superficial view, but the position is not so clear in other ways. The future is not promising. A deer forest, so called, is a very expensive luxury, and so long as only the very rich can indulge in the pastime of owning such the rents will keep up. But whenever the leasing of a deer forest becomes the ordinary common possession of the medium wealthy the position will be altered. It is much easier to put sheep off and put deer on than it will be to put deer off and put sheep on. Anyone who has attempted to resettle a farm with sheep has no ambition to repeat the experiment. The substitution of deer for sheep is a very unwise policy, and it should be in every way discontinued.

This has been a great week with breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. The famous Glamis herd of the Earl of Strathmore has been dispersed, and some very good prices were obtained. The average for 66 head of all ages was £41 10s. 3d. The highest prices were made by a mother and daughter. The cow, Verdant Vine, sold for £173 5s., and the yearling heifer, Velozia, her daughter, made £110 5s. Erica blood, as usual, was selling well. A cow named Erica Essence, made £131 5s., and a younger one made £115 10s. Another sale at Letham Grange, Arbroath, in the same county, gave the average of £17 11s. 10d. for 41 head of all ages. There is some likelihood of the Strathmore herd being continued on a moderate scale. The other great sales take place a month hence.

Shipments of Clydesdales are nearly over for a season. One of five stallions, owned by Messrs. Lavin & Richardson, Harriston, Ont., left this week. One of

their horses, Royal Norman, has made a good name for himself as a sire in this country. He is well bred and breeds well. A big shipment of carefully-selected stock has been made to Queensland. It includes specimens of nearly all our breeds, and the stock was carefully selected by an agent of the Queensland Government. Extensive shipments of Ayrshires have been made to Sweden. There dairying is prosecuted to good purpose, but the Dane so far surpasses his brother Scandinavian in skill and enterprise. It is claimed by some that the Danish Free Ports policy has a good deal to do with this success. Sweden has gone back in its export trade, while the Dane advances.

"SCOTLAND YET."

The Cattle at St. Louis.

(Editorial Correspondence.)

To one who was privileged to witness the display of representative specimens of the various breeds of cattle at the Columbian Exhibition at Chicago in 1893, it is interesting to note the progress made in a decade in the evolution of type and character, as seen in the exhibits at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in the present year. And the progress has been very decided in most of the breeds, especially the Hereford, Aberdeen-Angus, Galloway, Guernsey and Jersey classes, in which uniformity of type and that of a distinctly improved character is a decidedly noticeable feature. While the Shorthorn exhibit here is unquestionably superior, on the whole, to that at the Columbian, the superiority is much more noticeable in the females of this breed than in the males; while in the other beef breeds named, the proportion of high-class bulls is certainly greater, and the average excellence and uniformity throughout the females more outstanding, in both the males and females. Of course, the general likeness of color in the blacks and in the white-faced breed, and in the condition in which they are brought out, tends to accentuate the appearance of uniformity in those breeds as compared with the composite colors of the red, white and roans, but, making allowance for this, the fact is yet undeniable. The general tendency of Shorthorn breeders in the past and the present to follow fads in family and color characteristics may well account for the lack of uniformity in the breed, especially in the United States, where preferences and prejudices in regard to such minor points have been, and are yet, more pronounced than in Britain or Canada, and this, doubtless, accounts for the fact of greater uniformity of type throughout this breed as seen at principal shows in Canada than in the States.

Of the cattle show at the St. Louis Fair, as a whole, it may safely be said that it is far and away superior to any former exhibition ever seen in America, and it is very doubtful whether it has ever been equalled in any country. This statement applies equally to the beef and the dairy breeds, with possibly one or two exceptions, and to quality as well as numbers. And if this may be said of the show with Canadian herds out of it, what might it have been had our cattle been here in the same proportion as at the Columbian? The success in prize-winning of the one stud of horses and the one herd of cattle from Canada at the St. Louis Fair, and of Canadian-bred animals in the winning herds, if taken as a criterion, suggests possibilities, had a full and fair representation of these classes from the Dominion been sent forward, which renews the question whether someone has not blundered.

Anything like a detailed review of the cattle classes in the space available is out of the question, and the best that can be attempted in this letter is a reference to outstanding features, in which the reviewer is badly handicapped by the one defect in the management of the cattle show, the failure to get out in time for the use of visitors an official catalogue of the entries, a lack that has caused serious disappointment and inconvenience. For this defect, a divided responsibility seems to have been accountable, the livestock department shifting it upon the publication division, and they, in turn, charging it to the accepting of entries far beyond the advertised date of closing. The catalogue has been promised from day to day, and the prospect is that it will appear at the end, instead of the beginning, of the cattle show. Apart from this, the management has been perfect in every detail, the programme being punctually carried out and the utmost kindness and courtesy extended to visitors and exhibitors by the officers and the officials in every department.

Some idea of the size and style of the livestock judging arena may be formed when told that classes of from ten to thirty animals, and up to sixty in the herd competitions, of a dozen different breeds, or over seven hundred head of cattle, were by no means crowded on the tank-covered turf, while the covered seated amphitheatre, the full circumference of the circle, was crowded with spectators during the three hours each forenoon and afternoon of each of the eight days over which the judging extended. Strong-voiced marshals on horse-back called out the

classes, and cried the awards to the spectators, as the prizewinners at the head of the classes were paraded around the arena carrying their colors, the blue rosette indicating the first premium, red the second, white the third, yellow the fourth, etc., live cash prizes being given in each class, as a rule, besides commendations. A general parade of all the prizewinners in all classes at the close of the judging each day, systematically carried out under the direction of the chief marshal, was an exceedingly interesting feature of the show, and needed only the catalogue to make it complete, as the entry numbers were well displayed on a large card on the breast and back of each attendant. The single-judge system was adopted and carried out in all classes, except those for Shorthorns and Herefords, in which a consulting judge was added, and the two worked together with seemingly equal authority. As usual, the placing was more satisfactory and consistent where one judge did the work, the only classes in which the rating was open to adverse criticism being the Shorthorn and the Ayrshire sections, in which there was too often an absence of adherence to a type and a decided lack of consistency. In the latter class, the score-card was, in some sections, used, and, as usual, when adopted in the show-ring, often landed the judge in a quagmire. The result was that the judge in a quagmire, while the performance was so slow that the cattle and the herdsman looked older by many moons when leaving the ring than when they entered. Agricultural college professors as judges were strongly in evidence here, placing the awards in no fewer than seven of the breeds, and doing the work very satisfactorily in all except the one in which the score-card was used, in which case the card and not the judge was, of course, responsible.

SHORTHORNS.—The entries in this breed were very numerous, in many classes running up to twenty-five or thirty. Senator W. A. Harris, a former breeder and fancier of Cruickshank cattle, was the selected judge in the classes by ages, with I. M. Forbes as consulting colleague. While they took ample time, and apparently did their work carefully, they were difficult to follow, their ratings in many instances being clearly open to criticism, on the ground of lack of adherence to a type; though it must be admitted, as before intimated, that there was room in the entries for more uniformity of type throughout the classes, but it was noticeable in most cases that more typical animals were left lower down the line than some that were at or near the top, and this was the opinion of disinterested breeders present, who were allowed to examine the cattle before leaving the ring and after the awards were made.

As before stated, much improvement was evident in the females of this breed over those in the Columbian Show, but it is a question whether the three winning bulls, three years old and over, at St. Louis, Choice Goods and Whitehall Sultan, the former imported by W. D. Platt, of Canada, and shown by the Tebo Land & Cattle Co., of Missouri (the latter shown by F. W. Harding, of Wisconsin), and Lord Chesterfield, bred by Mr. Redmond, of Millbrook, Ont., and shown by Robb & Sons, of Indiana, were equal to the three winning bulls at the Columbian, namely, Young Abbotsburn, bred by the Watts, of Salem, Ont.; Imp. Gay Monarch, shown there by Robbins & Sons; and Nonpareil Chief, bred by Arthur Johnston, of Greenwood, Ont. Young Abbotsburn, as a show bull, was in a class by himself, and his equal has not appeared in America since his day, and the other two were such as are seldom seen in any country. In the opinion of the writer there are not three bulls here equal to those last named. Choice Goods, while he has been slow in maturing, has developed into a great show bull, and came out in excellent condition—smooth and thick, with level lines and heavy hind quarters. Whitehall Sultan, a white bull, has true type and the best of quality of flesh and skin, and is proving a good sire. Lord Chesterfield, who was second to Prince Sunbeam at Toronto, would have shown to better advantage with a hundred and a half more pounds of flesh; but he is a bull of much character, and well deserved his place, though behind him were the noted bulls, Burnbrae Chief, Nonpareil of Clover Blossom, Imp. Bapton Ensign, and half a dozen lesser lights.

In an uneven class of eleven two-year-old bulls, including a few of good stamp, the red bull with white feet, King Edward, shown by D. R. Hanna, of Ohio, was placed first, but not without protest, as while he is large and showy, he lacks in spring of fore ribs and smoothness of shoulder points, the second-prize bull, Invincible Hampton, of the herd of C. D. Bellows & Sons, of Missouri, being of more modern type, thicker fleshed and better in fore flank and shoulders, but being many months younger, and standing nearer the ground, he looked much smaller than the King. Into third and fourth places came Purdy Bros.' Orange Monarch, and H. L. Bright's Victor Mearle.

In a good class of nine senior yearling bulls, the winner was found in Harding's Whitehall Marshal, a roan son of Whitehall Sultan, of fine form, flesh and finish, closely pressed by My Choice, a handsome, smooth red bull shown by Abram

OCT
Ren
Rom
Kam
In
first
whit
lacki
quali
entit
a ro
had l
have
decis
to th
F
calve
wealt
ed fo
at a
as he
accou
fair c
show
to a
Co. s
Ju
but
Bapt
sota.
Th
was a
noted
broug
judgin
That
fact
Lady,
ronto,
the fir
view,
cow, s
credit
Can
cow v
roan;
and th
of the
Bowen
ford, C
ship at
a year
She w
in the
old hei
satisfi
combin
highest
a singl
in this
trace t
Robbin
daught
Valenti
and on
Neidpat
shown
by Red
son Flo
Chas. R
less 25
and tri
The se
hour ar
the first
Robbins
St. Val
Toronto
Ladd's
daught
bred in
Hill.
Ton's Q
Anoka
junior
taken by
the seco
som, thi
good cla
Purdy B
bins' Pe
here ahe
was thir
the ratin
Sons, K
2nd, wh
takes pri
at the
Lad's E
a very p
There
prizes fo
and the
for the
lows & S
third to
and four
For ty
bins & S
Hanna, se
Purdy B
Here it w