

## HORSES AND CATTLE.

THE POLLED ANGUS, OR ABERDEEN  
POLLED.

The Polled Angus cattle being black, and without horns, are frequently confounded with the Galloways, although an entirely distinct breed, as may easily be observed by comparing the two. The Polled Angus are a highly improved breed, long established in Aberdeenshire, on the east coast. The Galloways are from the county bearing their name, on the western seaboard of Scotland. Very little has yet been known of the Polled Angus cattle in Canada, but what has been heard of them has generally been in their favour. A short account of their origin and history may be interesting to some who are unacquainted with either, or with the characteristics of the breed.

From the very earliest of times Aberdeenshire, in Scotland, and particularly that part of it called

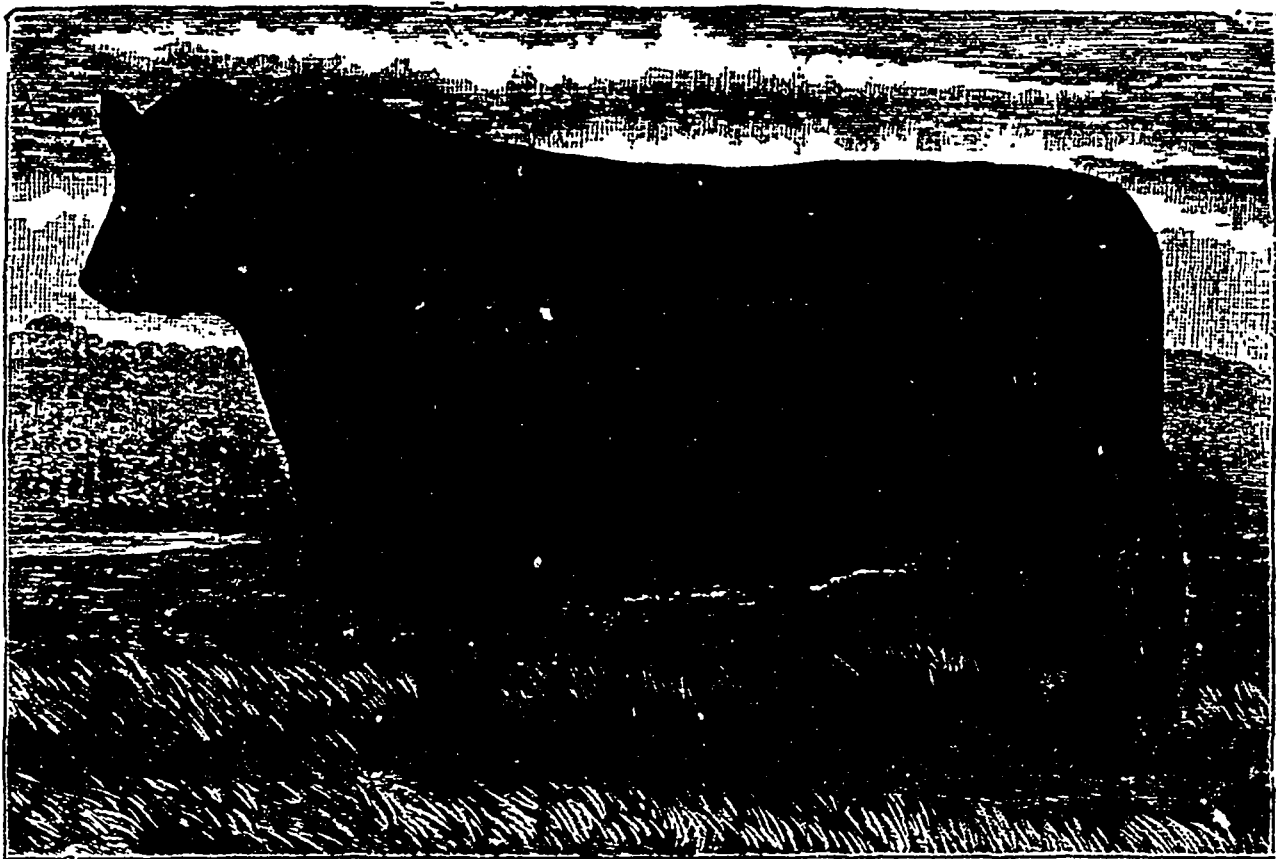
the prize ring would be too numerous to recapitulate here. Suffice it to say, it was a Polled Angus bullock that carried off Prince Albert's cup, at Poissy, in 1862, the competition being between all the breeders of the world; that a Polled Angus yearling bull won the gold medal of his class at Paris, in 1878; that a Polled Angus has repeatedly gained the chief prizes at Birmingham, and carried off the champion cup on at least three occasions at the great Christmas cattle show in London, the last of these triumphs being at the show for 1880. The Tillyfour herd now exists no longer. On the 26th of last August it was sold by auction and dispersed. The accompanying plate supplies a very excellent illustration of the Polled Angus breed, of which some very fine animals are to be seen at the Agricultural College and Model Farm at Guelph.

Professor Brown says of these Aberdeen Polled cattle:—

"I am very well acquainted with the Aberdeen Polled, and it is well known that for early maturing it is equal to the Shorthorn, though not, so far as our experience

sent out from her hills and valleys. The Morgan strain produces excellent, wiry, hardy, and unusually active and stout carriage horses of a smaller and more compact size, and such animals are in demand in the cities and larger country towns as family carriage horses. The large dray horses are the produce of crosses of Clydesdales and Percherons upon large well-built mares, and three or four crosses make a horse in every respect, except for breeding, quite equal to the thoroughbred sire.

We might, perhaps, be pardoned for remonstrating against a too common practice of retarding the growth of a colt by a somewhat mistaken, if not niggardly, economy. What advantage is there in taking the pains to procure a good colt at considerable expense, and of then sparing the food and care upon which the profits of the venture depend? Yet many persons do this very thing from mistaken motives of economy, rather than from a knowledge of the certain effect of this poor management. A colt should be kept thriving



POLLED ANGUS BULL.

"Buchan," has been famous for its breeds of cattle, the name itself, so it is said, being derived from the fact that it paid tribute to the Romans in oxen, "Buchan" being derived from the Gaelic word "bo," an ox, and "caen," the head or poll. With the three brothers known as the "stately Williamsons," the largest dealers in cattle of their day, the Aberdeen Polls were, during the last century, special favourites; and later still, they were the chosen breed of Watson, of Keillor. It was, however, chiefly by William McCombie, of Tillyfour, a member of a family whose intense enthusiasm in cattle breeding could be traced back for six or seven generations, that the Aberdeen Polls were so greatly improved and brought prominently into notice. From 1880 to the time of his death, not long since, Mr. McCombie bent all his energies to the task of making his Polled Angus herd famous in the land. His skill as a breeder, and practised judgment, were extraordinary, and enabled him, by careful selection and in-breeding of the most judicious character, to produce a race of animals that were able to send to the great shows representatives that could hold their own against all comers.

The victories won by the Polled Aberdeens in

goes, equal to it in improving other breeds or in attaining a greater weight in a certain time. At the present time we may call them our second-best beefing breed."

## PROFITABLE HORSES.

## THE BEST ANIMALS FOR FARMERS TO BREED.

The history of a well-bred, sound, and well-trained work horse of style sufficient for a carriage horse, or of substance enough for a superior truck horse, is entirely in favour of its judicious breeder. Such a horse is able to begin work early in its third year, and before it is three years old can be trained to any work that may be required of it. Indeed, regular but moderate work is beneficial, because it tends to develop the muscle and fill up the form, besides giving that habit of docility, steadiness, and obedience which contributes greatly to make up its value. A good styled carriage horse is bred from a large, roomy, sound, docile mare and a stallion having a fair proportion of thoroughbred blood in him. The Hambletonian, Messenger, and Black Hawk families are renowned for the fine carriage horses sired by them, and Vermont has a high reputation for the fine animals her farmers have

and growing from its birth. The dam should be made the instrument of feeding it well at the first. The best of food and care should be given to her. Wheat or rye bran and sound oats, with good hay, will be the best food both for dam and colt, and care should be exercised that the mother is not exhausted by over-work or injured by exposure, either of which would have a bad effect upon the colt. After it has been weaned, the colt should be liberally fed from the first. The best the farm affords will cost but little more than the waste usually given to these young animals, and a warm, comfortable stable will cost no more than a poor shed or a pen under a rough barracks. A part of the stable should be provided for it where it may have the care and attention given to the other horses, and with as great regularity. The training should be begun with the feeding. The colt should be haltered, curried and brushed, and handled daily, and be made familiar with its owners and the manners of the different persons about the farm. Any farmer who will take this trouble with his colts will find that a brood mare is the best investment he can make on the farm, and that a colt will be the most satisfactory and profitable product he can raise.