

Sheep and Pigs at the Royal Show.

In writing a summary of the sheep section of the Royal Show of 1905 for Canadian readers and friends, the first thing we must do is to point out the fact that, so far as we were able to ascertain, no Canadian buyer was present. Amongst sheep men no face was more missed than the genial, honest one of Mr. Robert Miller, whose regular attendance at our Royal Shows for many years past made his absence this year all the more noticeable. On all hands it is trusted that this is but a temporary stoppage of the annual visits he has paid, and it is hoped that we may see him again next year.

The Southdowns made the largest entry of any breed in the show, doubtless due to some extent to the location of the show being very central for many of their breeders, but the fact of their entry being so much larger than any others shows that breeders of this class appreciate the opportunity that such a show affords them.

H. M. the King was deservedly successful, and the victory he secured by winning both male and female championship is a notable one. In the two-shear ram class the winners were the Duke of Northumberland, the Duke of Richmond, H. M. the King, and Mr. E. Ellis, in the order named, showing four superior two-shear rams. Probably the better one, so far as type, quality and flesh were concerned, is that with which the Duke of Richmond took second honors. In the section for yearling rams, with 27 entries, H. M. the King was first and third. The winning ram was made champion of the breed. He was somewhat narrow, but had beautiful quality of skin and fleece. The Duke of Richmond, who came in second, had one which distinctly showed to its fullest advantage the true type of the Southdown, so far as quality, flesh and fleece were concerned. Mr. O. H. Berners came in r. n., with a wide, deep and good-fleshed ram. Messrs. E. Ellis, J. Colman, O. R. W. Adeane, and the Earl of Cadogan, were all h. c. for rams of superior quality, scale, type and substance. A new class for pens of three yearling rams was instituted this year. Here again H. M. the King took first honors, and the three rams with which he won were of superior merit, and easily first; followed by the Duke of Devonshire and Mr. E. Ellis. The contest was very keen, and it is probable that Mr. Ellis' should have won; they were better matched.

The ram lamb and ewe lamb classes were of good merit, and the winning pens in each case were from Mr. Ellis' flock, and of these it may be said that the Summersbury flock never in its career has been represented in these two sections by more typical or more evenly-matched rams. Mr. O. R. W. Adeane was second in each of these classes. His pens, too, were of superior quality, with very grand flesh, and wide and deep in the carcass.

The yearling ewe class, in which H. M. the King also took first prize, and with this pen won the female championship, is one in which we cannot agree with the award, for the better pen, from the breed point of view, was that which won second prize, i. e., Mr. E. Ellis' pen. The Duke of Devonshire was third here.

The Oxford Downs were well to the fore in respect to quality and merit. Mr. A. Brassey has won many notable victories in bygone years, but none, we think, more thoroughly deserved than that he secured this year in winning first and second for yearling rams, and first for yearling ewes. They were fine sheep, with great scale. Mr. J. T. Hobbs was second and third for yearling rams, second and third for yearling ewes, first for ewe lambs, and third and r. n. for ram lambs—a record of success which at once stamps his flock as being full of merit, type and character, and needs no further comment to emphasize the high class of these exhibits. Mr. R. W. Hobbs won first and fourth in the ram lamb class, and r. n. in that for ewe lambs—a very fine collection, indeed, showing substance, type and character. Mr. James Horlick was represented by a very good entry indeed, and Mr. W. A. Treweeke, who was second and h. c. for ram lambs and third and fourth for ewe lambs, had a particularly fine lot of lambs on exhibition. They were very choice in quality, good in their fleeces, and of a scale and character that secured plenty of admiration.

The Shropshires, as is usual at this show, were largely represented, with a thoroughly typical exhibit. The two-shear ram class had Mr. R. P. Cooper's grand stud ram at its head, first as a ram lamb at the Royal, first as a yearling ram at the Royal, and now first as a two-shear, a record which shows the superior merit of this particular sheep. The yearling ram class was hardly so even in quality as we have seen it before. Of the winning rams there was no doubt that Mr. M. Williams' entry was the best; a ram of immense scale and substance, with good quality. He won easily. Mr. R. P. Cooper was second and r. n., for two very choice sheep of merit and quality. Mr. E. Nock took third honors, with another very nice ram. In the pens of five yearling rams, Mr. Cooper won again, and here was even type and good quality. Second honors went to Mr. M. Williams, who had a nice lot of sheep present, with good merit. The third prizewinners here were a very choice pen indeed, from Sir P. A. Muntz's flock, and these certainly received no more if as much recognition as their merit and type entitled them to. Mr. E. Nock followed with a pen of rams, of very good quality and merit. We may mention that the whole of Mr. Cooper's first-prize pen of five yearling rams were sold by auction at the show, and they averaged the high price of £70 2s. 9d. In the selling class for yearling rams, Mr. R. P. Cooper was notably successful, first, second, third, r. n. and

two h. c.'s were given to his entries. Mr. Cooper was again to the front in the yearling ewe class. Here he was first and second, with two grand pens of sheep; Sir P. A. Muntz taking third and Mr. P. L. Mills fourth honors. The ram lamb class was one in which merit and quality was found all through. Mr. E. Nock, with a pen of the choicest quality, went to the top, followed by Mr. R. P. Cooper, Jas. Harding and T. S. Minton, in the order named. The last-named exhibitor was first for ewe lambs, with a pen of excellent merit and superior quality. Mr. James Harding, however, ran him very closely indeed, for his too was a pen of high merit. Then came Mr. E. Nock's pen, and last, but by no means least in merit or type, was Mr. A. Tanner's pen.

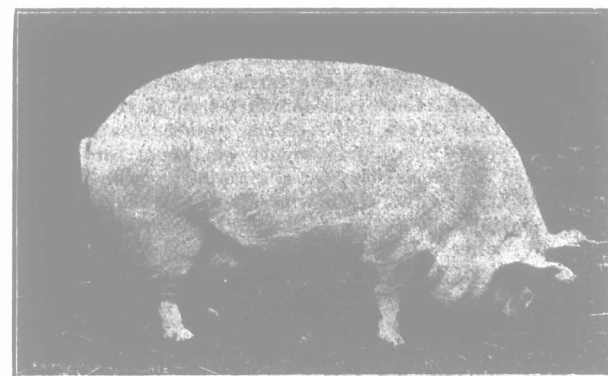
The Hampshire Downs made a very good entry. The



Shearling Shropshire Ram.

First prize, Royal Show, 1905. Exhibited by Mr. M. Williams, Whetstone Hall, Wolverhampton.

old rams were a small class, all of which were sold by auction, and three out of the five so sold were for Australia and the Argentine. Mr. Carey Coles won here with a ram of great quality, full of good merit and true type. The yearling ram class found Mr. James Flower at its head, with a ram of very high quality indeed, a ram such as few other breeders could produce; he, too, has gone to the Argentine, together with half a dozen more from the same flock. Mr. T. F. Buxton followed, and then came a beautiful ram of Mr. Carey Coles' breeding—very rich in flesh, and excellent in merit. Then came a wide-topped, good-loined ram; from Mr. H. L. Cripps, who had to be content with r. n. The ram lamb class had Mr. James Flower's pen at its head, a pen which has secured for the flock from whence it came world-wide renown; this pen was easily first, and with equal ease won champion honors. Sir W. G. Pearce's pen was second, and Mr. H. C. Stephens third. In both of these pens merit and quality were found, but the scale of the latter was notable, and amongst them was one ram lamb that was sold at \$500 to go to the Argentine, to head one of the best flocks there. As has been the case for many years past, Mr. Flower won first for yearling ewes, his second entry taking second honors. It will suffice to say that these ewes were as good as could be. Mr. T. F. Buxton was third; Mr. H. L. Cripps r. n. In the ewe lamb class Mr. H. C. Stephens won, with a pen that has only known defeat once, and this only by the narrowest margin; a pen which is probably one of the best we have seen for some time,



Walton Jewel II.

Middle White sow. First and reserve champion, Royal Show, 1905. Exhibited by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.

showing immense development combined with good quality. Sir W. G. Pearce took second honors. This pen had many admirers, but was not quite so perfect as the leading pen. Mr. Coles was third, with a very choice pen indeed, some of which were particularly good in flesh, fleece and type.

Suffolks.—This breed, which does not at the present time enjoy a large patronage from the export buyers, has undoubted merit, on account of its superior flesh. This year's entry at the Royal Show was not a large one, neither do we think it was quite so good as we have seen in recent years. The winning flocks were owned by Messrs. R. Barclay, H. E. Smith, S. R. Sherwood, M. G. Hale and the Earl Cadogan.

The Lincolns made an average entry. The merit

was superior, and the demand for these sheep was the keenest we have ever seen. Mr. Tom Casswell won in the two-shear ram class, with a masculine, square and deep carcassed ram. Mr. H. Dudding was second and r. n. with sheep of superior type and quality. The yearling rams had for their winner Messrs. Wright's notable ram, of whose merit and type no further comment is needed than the fact that it was sold for 1,000 gs. for the Argentine immediately after the award was given. Second and r. n. went to Mr. Dudding, but neither of these two sheep could be sold, as they are entered in Mr. Dudding's sale, a report of which will follow by next mail. Mr. Tom Casswell, with a choice-bred ram, compact and true in formation, was third, and Messrs. Dean and J. E. Casswell were h. c. In the class for pens of five yearling rams, Messrs. Wright won again, and immediately sold them at 300 gs. each. Mr. Tom Casswell came in second with another first-class pen. Mr. Dudding was third, and J. E. Casswell r. n. Messrs. Dudding and Dean won all the honors in the ram lamb and ewe lamb classes. The former was first and second for ram lambs, and third and r. n. for ewe lambs; and Messrs. Dean occupied the corresponding position in the ewe and ram lamb classes respectively. Type and character, combined with quality of flesh, were clearly apparent here. In the yearling ewe class, Messrs. Wright were first and second, with two of the best pens we have seen out for many a day. Messrs. Dudding and Dean were third and r. n., respectively. In the ewe hoggett class, shown in full fleece, Messrs. Dean were first and second, and Mr. H. Dudding third. The winning pens were all of very superior character. In the Lincoln wool class, Mr. Dudding's two entries were again first and second, and thus his unbeaten record for wool at the Royal Show has been continued.

The Leicester breed were very typically represented, Messrs. George Harrison and E. F. Jordan dividing the honors all through the four classes.

Cotswolds.—A dozen pens represented this breed, and the well-known flock of Messrs. W. T. Garne without difficulty secured leading honors for yearling rams, ram lambs and ewe lambs, and second for yearling ewes; Mr. W. Houlton, who has a very fine flock of this breed, taking first honors for yearling ewes, and second and r. n. for yearling rams.

Border Leicesters.—A small entry, but most typical of this breed, was present, each pen being of a very high merit indeed, the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour winning all through, and Mr. Thomas Winter, a breeder well known to Canadians, taking second honors.

The Kent or Romney Marsh sheep made one of the largest entries the breed has ever made at the Royal Show, and the importance of the demand for these sheep for export was one of the features of the show, quite a number of the exhibits, or of the flocks they represented, having been purchased at high prices for the Argentine.

The Wensleydale breed, with 21 entries, displayed to advantage the high merit, type and quality of this particular breed of sheep. The executors of T. Willis, Lord Henry Bentinck and Mr. E. Horseman were leading winners.

The Dorset Horn breeders have at last discovered that it is advantageous to their breed to enter at the Royal Show, and the entry made this year was of superior merit, real good quality, and excellent type. Mr. W. R. Flower was leading winner. He won first and second for ram lambs, first and champion for yearling ewes, first and r. n. for ewe lambs. These were all of superior merit, and about as good a lot of sheep as we have seen out from any flock for a long time. Mr. E. A. Hambro was first for yearling rams, a decision with which we do not agree. The second ram, from Mr. James Attrill's flock, was clean away first in the class, and of beautiful type. Mr. F. J. Merson won several prizes, with sheep of high character. Mr. E. A. Hambro was second and third for yearling ewes and ewe lambs, and Mr. S. Kidner, who had present a yearling ram of high merit, was omitted from the award list, for reasons we cannot understand.

PIGS AT THE ROYAL.

A full entry, and a representative one, was found in this section. Probably, taken as a whole, swine exhibitors have not made so excellent an entry for several years past.

The Large White or Yorkshire breed first claims attention. Worsley Duke 4th, owned by the Earl of Ellesmere, a lengthy, good-topped hog, took first honors in the senior boar class; Holywell Ezeca, from Messrs. S. Spencer & Sons, was second (and he certainly ran the winner very close); Watford Wonder 4th, owned by Mr. R. Ayre, came in third, and Fulwood Duke, from Mr. R. R. Rothwell, was r. n. The class for three boar pigs, born 1905, was a very large one. Here again the Earl of Ellesmere won first. They were good pigs, of very nice type. Mr. T. S. Jay followed with a useful pen, but we should have given preference to Mr. D. R. Daybell's third-prize winners, which had greater strength, and yet quite as much quality. The Earl of Ellesmere's second entry was r. n. The last-named breeder was first, second and third in the sow class, the leading sow, Worsley Sunbeam, being made champion of the section. Some exception was taken to the notable success of the Ellesmere herd, but whilst giving every credit to the very excellent pigs, particularly Lindsay A., owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, that came r. n., we do not think any undue preference was given to this excellent exhibit. Again in the sow pig class, the Earl of Ellesmere was first, second and third, and Mr. D. R. Daybell was r. n. There is, of course, always room for difference of opinion, and here