

GALLOWAYS.

Mr. D. McCrae, Guelph, and Mr. J. Sibbald, Annan, were the exhibitors of Galloways, and the prizes were awarded in nearly the same order as at Toronto, Mr. McCrae coming in for sweepstakes on his grand bull, Canadian Borderer, and Mr. Sibbald for sweepstakes on his peerless cow, Countess of Glencairn 3rd, winner of the championship as best female in her class at the Columbian exhibition.

DEVONS.

Messrs. Rudd & Son, Eden Mills, were the only exhibitors in this class, and they brought out, as usual, a good representation of the breed.

AYRSHIRES.

The Ayrshire class has been an exceptionally strong one this year at all the leading fairs. The display at Ottawa was quite up to the standard of first-class. The principal exhibitors were: R. G. Steacy, Lyn; D. Drummond, Montreal; D. McLachlan, Petite Cote; Jos. Yuill, Carleton Place; and Wm. Stewart & Son, Menie. There was more than the usual amount of adverse criticism of the judge's work in this class, which is saying a good deal, and we are inclined to the opinion that there was some ground for it here. The Toronto decisions were, in several cases, reversed, but that fact does not settle anything, as the complaints were nearly, if not quite, as strong in regard to the judgment at the first show. The judging at Montreal is said by competent men to have been the most generally satisfactory of the season. Mr. Steacy had a continuation of his success, being again winner of the herd prize, a gold medal, and the sweepstakes for best bull, on his imported Carlyle of Lessnessock, a decision to which many good judges demur, contending that Mr. McLachlan's Silver King is a typical Ayrshire bull of exceptionally strong points and rich quality, which opinion is strongly supported by his show yard career, having won 13 out of 14 first prizes and four championships previous to this season, including the World's Fair at Chicago. Mr. Yuill scored a success in the two-year-old ring, winning first with his Leonard of Meadowside, the first prize bull calf at the Columbian exhibition. The same exhibitor won first prize on his bull calf over six months, beating a very fine son of the famous cow Nellie Osborne, and of Mr. Reford's grand old bull, Glencairn 3rd, both of which made such a high record at Chicago, Nellie Osborne being the champion female of that great show of Ayrshires. This decision was a surprise to many on-lookers, the Drummond entry being a general favorite, combining the excellencies of his illustrious parents in a high degree, and showing fine dairy form and breed character. He was purchased by those fine judges of Ayrshires, Messrs. Robertson & Ness, of Compton and Howick, and no doubt will be heard from again. A still greater surprise was in store for the interested crowd when the championship for best female went past such cows as Mr. Drummond's Nellie Osborne, dam of the great bull, Silver King, and herself the champion of the World's Fair; Maggie Mitchell, shown by Mr. McLachlan, and Mr. Steacy's fine cows, standing second and third at Toronto, and was settled on Messrs. Stewart's three-year-old cow, White Lily, which was unplaced at Toronto, and which, though a good one, is not by any means the best in the herd to which she belongs.

HOLSTEINS.

were largely represented and the competition was close and keen. The exhibitors were: C. J. Gilroy & Son, Glen Buell; G. W. Clemons, St. George; A. Hoover, Emery; and A. & G. Rice, Currie's. The judges, Mr. Robertson, of the Model Farm, Compton, Que., and Mr. J. C. Snell, Edmonton, Ont., overturned several of the Toronto decisions, but on the whole, we believe, gave general satisfaction. The first prize for aged bull and sweepstakes went to Mr. Hoover's Emery Prince over Mr. Clemons' two-year-old Netherlands Consul, the champion at Toronto. The same exhibitor had the first prize two-year-old heifer, beating Mr. Clemons' heifer which received the sweepstakes silver medal at Toronto. Mr. Hoover's heifer had calved in the meantime and made a very fine show of udder, which gave her an advantage which she may or may not hold in the future. Mr. Clemons had the first prize bull calf, a very promising youngster, full of quality and of fine dairy form. Mr. Gilroy's fine cow, Carman Sylva, winner of the first prize in the milk test at Toronto, but, strangely, left out of the list of prize-winners in her class there, was here promptly sent to the head of her class, followed by Mr. Rice's Eunice Clay, the first prize and championship cow of last year, and also unplaced at Toronto this year. These are both extraordinary cows, both in regard to dairy points and to actual work, and the former was also awarded the sweepstakes as best female here. Mr. Clemons' first prize three-year-old, Madge Merton, is an exceptionally good one and should develop into a grand cow. The gold medal for best herd of Holsteins went to Gilroy & Son, and probably the proudest man in Ottawa that day was Gilroy's son.

JERSEYS.

The Jersey breeders seem to be enjoying a revival. They have come out strong at the fairs this year. Nearly ninety head were entered at Ottawa. The principal exhibitors were: Mrs. E. M. Jones, Brockville; A. Reburn, Montreal; Dr. Ball, Stanstead; E. B. Eddy, Hull; and C. C. Coleman, Stanstead. Mr. Robertson and Mr. Snell were associated as judges in this class also. The two first named breeders have met on many a hard-fought field be-

fore, and when "Greek meets Greek then comes the tug-of-war." To many it seemed strange that they didn't meet at Montreal, though Mrs. Jones' herd was there, but they met at Ottawa under fairly favorable circumstances. Neither herd was in as fine condition as we have seen them in former years, but most of the animals in the class were in good condition. Mrs. Jones was successful in winning first prize in the class for aged bulls with Lillium's Rioter, and the same bull carried off the sweepstakes for best bull any age and headed the herd winning the gold medal. Mrs. Jones had also the first prize bull calf, two-year-old heifer, yearling heifer and heifer calf. Mr. Reburn had the second prize aged bull, first prize yearling bull, first prize cow, first prize three-year-old cow, and second prize heifer calf, and sweepstakes for best female any age. The cows were a very fine class and the contest for first place lay between Mr. Reburn's Jolie of St. Annes 3rd and Mrs. Jones' Gipsy of Sprucegrove. They were both grand cows. The former was in fine condition and fresh and carried a finely formed and well-balanced udder and well-placed teats, except that the front teats pointed backwards a little; the latter had been milking five months and was in thin condition, but showed fine dairy form and a well-balanced udder, well-set teats and good milk veins. The judges differed in their judgment on these cows, and the referee decided in favor of Mr. Reburn's cow, which was later made the champion female of the class.

GUERNSEYS.

were shown by W. H. & C. H. McNish, Lyn; Isaac Holland, Culloden; and Wm. Butler & Son, Dereham Centre. The first named firm won the most of the prizes, including the gold medal, herd prize and sweepstakes for best female, Mr. Holland's bull, May Roseberry, winning first in the aged ring and sweepstakes.

SHEEP.

The breeds of sheep were nearly all represented here, and the quality in all the classes was of a high order, but, with the exception of the Shropshire and Southdown classes, there was very little competition.

Cotswolds were shown by John Miller & Son, Brougham, who was awarded nearly all the prizes in the class.

Leicesters were entered by John Kelly, Shakespear, and R. Miller, Brougham, who showed two imported yearling ewes, one of which was awarded second prize, the rest of the prizes going to Mr. Kelly's flock.

Walker & Gibson, Ilderton, had the Lincoln class to themselves, and were awarded all the prizes they entered for.

Southdowns were shown by John Jackson, Abingdon, and R. Shaw, Glanford. The former exhibitor was awarded the flock prize and the larger share of the first prizes.

Shropshires made by far the largest class in the show and the competition was close. The exhibitors were: John Campbell, Woodville; John Miller & Son, Brougham; and R. Davies, Toronto. All three had first-class specimens of the breed, and the prizes were nicely divided, Mr. Campbell coming in for first prize on aged ram, aged ewe, ewe lamb and flock; and Mr. Miller for first prize on shearing ewe, shearing ram, and ram lamb.

Oxfords and Hampshires were classed together. Peter Arkell, Teeswater, showed a grand lot of Oxfords, and took most of the prizes, but Mr. John Kelley's Hampshires made a strong show, and came in for several prizes.

Dorset Horns were shown only by John A. McGillivray, Uxbridge, who filled the class creditably and got all the prizes offered.

Merinos were exhibited by Mr. R. Shaw, Glanford, and a local breeder had two entries which both came in for prizes, Mr. Shaw taking the rest.

SWINE.

With the exception of the Berkshire and Yorkshire classes, the best herds shown at Toronto and Montreal were again forward at Ottawa, and divided the spoils somewhat after the same fashion as at Montreal, there being no fresh opposition excepting in the above-mentioned breeds.

The best of the Berkshires were only of average quality and were not in high enough flesh to do the breed justice amongst the other highly-fitted sorts. Alfred Davies, Lachine, won the most firsts. D. W. Henigan, Vankleek Hill, also came in for a slice, and R. Reid & Co. was out with a herd of well-bred pigs of all ages, but apparently not fed up for show purposes.

Joseph Featherstone's strongest competitor in the Yorkshire class was J. G. Clark, Ottawa, who was out with quite a large herd, containing a number of good animals, but not having the show-ring finish of his opponent.

Chester Whites were represented by the excellent herds of Wm. Butler & Son and H. George & Sons, the former getting the preference.

W. & H. Jones swept the field in the Poland-China ring.

In Suffolks Robt. Dorsey, Burnhamthorpe, made a clean sweep of it, and in the class for Tamworths and Duroc-Jerseys Wm. Butler & Sons and H. George & Sons divided the honors, H. George & Sons winning the herd prize. As already stated, these herds have been shown at Montreal and Toronto, and it would only be a repetition of our Toronto report to give a detailed description.

It is sufficient to state that we believe the season of 1895 is not apt to produce stock of a higher quality or better finish than was represented in

some of the classes this season, notably the Chester Whites, Poland-Chinas, Tamworths and Duroc-Jerseys, while there is room for decided improvement in the Yorkshires, taken as a class. There is also room for developments in the Berkshire breed throughout the country before they will assume the lead amongst the porcine race.

Advice to Hog Feeders.

SIR,—The extremely low price of potatoes (they having been sold in Toronto for 20 cts. per bag) will lead to large quantities being fed to live stock.

We wish to point out to farmers that the only way they can be fed to hogs with profit is to boil them; if this is not done the flesh will be watery and the fat soft, and the carcass as a whole of very inferior quality. But that is not all. The animals will not thrive if fed raw potatoes; but if properly boiled and mixed with meal they will give excellent returns for the feed. In this connection it will be of interest and of service to farmers to read the following circular issued by the Irish Bacon Curers.

Meanwhile the curers have not been letting things slip from them quietly. A strong united effort is being made to bring back the home trade, and to secure for home meats that superior reputation which was lost during these few recent years. The following notices have been widely circulated throughout the whole of the pig-breeding localities, and are important enough to be given here.

Notice to Farmers.—The Irish Bacon Curers, having ascertained that the old-fashioned custom of spaying female pigs has been discontinued to a very large extent, hereby give notice that on and after Jan. 1st, 1896, they will not purchase sows that have not gone through this operation.

At the present time the competition between foreign and Irish bacon is so keen that everything must be done that will improve quality; and as the flesh of spayed animals is decidedly superior, the practice must again be resorted to. Moreover, uncut sows cause great damage and hindrance to growth of those feeding with them, thus inflicting unnecessary loss upon both feeder and curer.

The bacon curers press this point on the immediate attention of all pig-breeders, as it is a matter of very great importance to the whole trade.

Breeding and Feeding of Swine.—Irish bacon has long held a high position in the English markets, and it is a matter of great importance to Irish farmers that it should continue to do so. In these days of keen competition, when several continental countries have turned their attention to curing bacon for the English markets, and, by careful breeding and feeding, have been able to encroach on those markets hitherto held by Irish curers, every effort should be made by owners of swine throughout Ireland to assist the curers in the struggle in which they are engaged. In doing so they will only be attending to their own interests, as it is self-evident that the price of bacon is more a farmer's question than one effecting bacon curers or provision merchants. There are two all-important matters connected with the bacon trade, which are entirely in the hands of the farmers, viz., the breeding and feeding of pigs.

Breeding.—Different breeds suit different districts, but at present white breeds are most in favor with buyers in Ireland. Speaking generally, short, dumpy boars and sows ought to be avoided, as it will be found that extra length of body not only adds much to the weight of the carcass, but insures a larger proportion of lean meat to the gross weight. Every care ought to be taken to prevent consanguinity or close breeding. The evil effect of close breeding shows itself sooner in the case of pigs than in any other of our domestic animals, and therefore fresh blood is most essential. In practice it will be found that a well-shaped pig can be reared, fed, and brought in a shorter space of time to a greater weight, upon a smaller amount of food, than a mongrel-bred one; while the bacon and hams cut from the carcass of a well-bred pig are superior in quality and command a higher price in the market. Even in the heavily-stocked markets of the present day there is still "room at the top," and to-day there is a very great margin in the wholesale and retail markets between the price of ordinary bacon and hams and those classed as best quality.

Feeding.—The flesh of pigs is soft if fed on brewery and distillery grains. Turnips and mangolds are unsuitable for producing good bacon. The following is an interesting resume of foods producing good bacon: Potatoes (cooked), milk, barley meal, oatmeal and crushed oats, pollard bran, wheat (ground), rye meal, Indian corn (used sparingly, ground and cooked).

WM. DAVIES,

President The Wm. Davies Co. (Ltd.)
Toronto, Ont.

Farming, to be profitable, must be conducted on the most exacting plan of economy in every department; study to have the work done in the best manner with the least labor. Good fences make peaceable stock. Keep the farm tools in repair and under cover. Don't let manure go to waste. Study the comfort of all farm animals, including the hog. A half-starved animal indicates the character of the farmer. Never allow the weeds to get ripe. Look well after the weak animals—the strong ones will take care of themselves. A leaky roof means a rotten floor. The store box is not a good place on which to raise a revenue.