

Agriculture in Easter Rosshire.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I attended an Agricultural Show in Inverness, but, as seen through Canadian spectacles, it was not a great success. There was quite a good show of horses, about one hundred being on the ground altogether. One feature of the horse show was that there were eighteen cart horses with their harness on. Most of them heavy animals, a good many just in fair working condition, none fitted up especially for show. The harness was all very heavy, we would think much too heavy. It was all in fine condition, in fact just looked as if it had come out of the harness shop that morning. There were not very many cattle though quite a few sheep, but only a few of them good. There were no pigs, no poultry, and no dairy exhibits or grain or roots, and the attendance was not very large.

From Inverness I went on to Dingwall, which was the home of the celebrated Rev. Dr. Kennedy, the farmers' Free Church Minister. A large monument has been erected to him near the church. I visited two farms which supply milk to the town. The first one I called at had seventy cows, mostly Shorthorn and Ayrshire grades, only a few of them would I consider good milkers. None were dehorned. They are not fed anything, but are on good pasture, and are milked three times a day. The milk is delivered twice a day at three pence a quart, and one and a half pence per quart for skim milk. There were generally eight or nine milkers to milk the seventy cows. This farm is quite near a large distillery, and in winter a large quantity of distillery grains is fed to the cows. The cows are milked about eight o'clock in the evening and the milk is set in large pans to supply the customers who require cream, and what is not sold is churned into butter. There are two light pony carts which peddle the milk and cream every night and morning. I think this farmer would do much better if he would start a herd of either Holsteins or Ayrshires. He rented the farm, but he had to put up quite a few of the buildings himself on the agreement that, at the end of the lease he was to receive pay for what he had done. Of course he would not get any interest for the money he had invested. He also had a fine up-to-date threshing machine, driven by an oil engine of fifteen horse power, which he liked very well. This threshing machine had a rubbing cylinder, which did not break up the straw and what he used for bedding he ran through another machine to break it up. A Canadian would naturally think that he had better have a toothed cylinder and cut the straw up at one operation. He told me that the oil engine, when working up to its full capacity, used about a gallon of oil per hour. We in Canada wonder at the tenants putting up buildings but I learned that many of the landed proprietors are really poor and hard up. They keep up too much style.

I visited another dairy farm where about forty cows were maintained, which two men and three women milked twice a day only. This farmer did not think it paid to milk three times a day. He had a few pure bred Ayrshires, one or two Dutch cows, and a few Irish, the others being Ayrshire and Shorthorn grades. This man also delivers the milk in town, night and morning, and he also supplies a large hotel in Strathpeffer, the great mineral water summer resort, which is over six miles from his farm. This milk he delivers with a small motor car. He has two registered Clydesdale Stallions and two very fine mares. There is an oatmeal mill on his farm, but it is so much out of repair that it has not done anything for years. There is water power to run his threshing mill which is also out of date and out of repair. There are a great many of the threshing mills on the Scotch Farms that are at least fifty years old and are away behind the times and generally out of repair.

The crops in Easter Ross are the best I have seen in Scotland. There are many fields of oats and barley so heavy that the late heavy rains have knocked them down very badly. But all the wheat was standing up nicely. Near Fearn I saw a field of beautiful turnips, which I was told contained sixty-four acres. The drills looked to me to be about three quarters of a mile long, and appeared to be as straight as a chalk line pulled tight. A man and a team were cultivating with a two horse cultivator, but it was not nearly as good an implement as we use in Canada. This man told me that they had another sixty-four acre field all in potatoes. He said that they got women and boys to pick up the potatoes for 2s. (50 cents) a day without board, and that last year they sold some potatoes for £2 10s. per ton. On this farm there were six span of working Clydesdale horses, and a great many cattle and sheep. On another farm I saw a twenty acre field of potatoes, and was told that they had altogether about forty-two acres of potatoes this year. Potatoes, mostly everywhere in Scotland, look uncommonly well. I measured some whose tops were taller than my umbrella handle. They are now out in full bloom, mostly of a rich

purple flower, and some fields at a distance look more like a large flower garden. I saw one field that you could not tell which way the drills ran. I saw many fields of oats that had straw enough to carry one hundred bushels per acre, if it had only stood up. But I was very sorry to notice that where everything else seemed to be so well managed and prosperous, some fields, in fact a good many fields, were badly overrun with sow thistle, and in a few years it will have entire possession.

Hay is a wonderful crop in Scotland this year, very heavy but they have to give it much more work than we do in Canada. Here it has all to be put up in small cocks, and after a time these have to be put in much larger ones, with bosses or hollow frames in the centre to allow the hay to cure. It would not keep otherwise, the climate is so damp.

D. L.

South Perth Notes.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The remarks of your able correspondent from South Peel have reminded me that South Perth has now for a long time been unrepresented in your columns. But time flies quickly on the farm in the summer, so that amid the stress of other interests one is apt to neglect literary duties.

Probably owing to the severe winter and the prolonged cold in spring, this summer has only fairly begun, but already signs of autumn are apparent. The leaves of some maples are coloring, the sun sets more southerly, stubble is seen in the fields, and the thresher's whistle is heard. I have not seen any wheat threshed yet, but am told that while the sample is good it is not "turning out" any too plentifully. Barley, oats and hay, while not heavy, are somewhat better than last year. Corn and roots are doing well, and altogether feed is likely to be more plentiful. Small fruits are scarce, but apples are more plentiful than they have been for two seasons. I think this can be attributed to warmer weather at blooming time, thus giving a better chance for pollination by bees and other insects. The white honey harvest has just ended, with the closing of the basswood, which lasted two weeks, having been preceded by two weeks of white and alsike clover. Though late in coming the flow is considerably better than usual. New potatoes are not plentiful yet, the cold spring retarding the early ones, and the plentiful rains later induces a heavy growth of top, delaying the maturing of the tubers. Like all other crops, they vary from very poor to very good, depending on the care and attention given the preparation of the ground and the crop. There is not help enough nor knowledge enough on the average farm to grow maximum crops. There has been a heavy death list among this spring's foals. Spring litters of pigs have also suffered heavily, especially those kept in cement or stone pens or on cement floors. I doubt if cement or stone is the most economical stabling after all for any kind of live stock. I saw four yearlings that passed the severe winter in a single-boarded annex with large cracks in sides and roof, and open door on east side, with liberty to go in or out, yet although fed sparingly on fine hay and oat sheaves, and without water for two months, they were sleek and thrifty in spring and fattened up rapidly on the grass.

J. H. B.

Effects of Cool Weather in Essex.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The unprecedented and unusually cool weather, following the heavy rains of a few weeks ago, has, in many instances, seriously injured the prospects of an abundant harvest in Essex, while in a few cases the very opposite result has followed. Corn has suffered severely. Farmers were caught with their cross furrows almost filled, owing to the corn being much later than usual in its growth, and therefore cultivating was but partially accomplished, leaving surface drained fields in a position easy to be destroyed. Tobacco in many sections is entirely annihilated. Tomatoes are also sadly damaged. Onions, which gave promise of an enormous yield, are largely turning to "thick necks," thus very materially lowering their commercial value, and also increasing the difficulty and expense of the harvester.

On the other hand, oats have been benefited and are an extraordinary crop, both as to quantity and quality. Cutting will be almost over by the time this appears in print. The cool moist atmosphere, while retarding the ripening of small fruits has increased its yield.

Apples have received beneficial aid and promise a good yield, especially in orchards which were carefully sprayed. Pasture is good, but stock suitable for marketing scarce. Hogs are not available, except in small lots. The land fever is not abating and Americans are still flocking into our country.

A. E.

The Tanners' Section of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association have decided to advance the price of leather 10 per cent. at an early date.

Saskatchewan's Great Exhibition.

Despite the fact that, but four short weeks previous to the date of opening of the annual exhibition at Regina, the city was torn by a tornado, the provincial exhibition of Saskatchewan was a great success. The exhibits from displays of machinery to live stock left little to be desired, the live stock sections making a showing which merited more appreciation than they apparently received. Shorthorn cattle and Clydesdale horses were the feature.

Clydesdales.—The showing of Clydesdales at Regina was the best seen in the West this year. While the aged and three-year-old classes of stallions gave the male line-ups their great strength; the female classes, every one of them, were strong, and made as fine a showing of draft horseflesh as one could wish. The two-year-old fillies excelled, if that can be said of any one class. Among the exhibitors were: W. H. Bryce, Arcola; Colquhoun & Beattie, Brandon; Will Grant, Regina; Thos. Reggie, Condie; P. M. Bredt & Sons, Edenwold; Robert Sinton, and Peter Horn, Regina; Geo. O. Stutt, Brookside; R. H. Taber, Condie; R. W. Caswell and W. C. Sutherland, Saskatoon; B. F. Bray, Foam Lake; J. E. Martin, Condie; H. Smith and F. J. Robinson, Regina; James Lemon, Ralph, and Hugh McLean, Arcola.

Alex. Galbraith, DeKalb, Illinois, placed the awards. Awards—Aged Stallions: 1, Bryce, on Revelanta's Heir, by Revelanta; 2, Lemon on Baron Chapmanton, by Baron's Pride; 3, Bredt and Sons on Royal Robin, by Baron O'Dee; 4, McLean on Prince Robert, by Perpetual Motion; 5, Stutt on Mahomet, by Dryden. Three-year-olds—1, Colquhoun and Beattie on Critic, by Everlasting; 2, & 3, Robert Sinton on Dunurie Tidal Wave, by Revelanta, and Royal Purple, by Everlasting; 4, Caswell on Royal Shapley, by Prince Shapley. Two-year-olds—Taber, on Fyvie Stamp, by Baron Beaulieu. Yearlings—1, Sinton, on Free Trade, by Marquis of Breadalbane; 2, Stutt, on Mahomet's Heir, by Mahomet. Brood Mares with foal at foot—1, Bray, on Irene, by Labori; 2, Taber, on Queen of the Revels, by Revelanta; 3, Bredt & Sons, on Estelle, by Up-to-time; 4, Stutt, on Flower of Shallock, by Baron of Buchlyvie; 5, Taber, on Lady Smith, by Royal Favorite. Taber got first and second on foal by The Bruce; Stutt third, and Bredt & Sons fourth. Yeld Mares—1, Caswell, on May-oress; 2, Taber, on Queen of the Waves, by Netherlea; 3, Sutherland, on Dunmore May, by Baron of Buchlyvie; 4, Stutt, on Lady Electa; 5, Bredt & Sons, on Zuleika, by Everlasting. Three-year-olds—1, Bredt & Sons, on Dunrobin Pearl, by Celtic Land; 2, Caswell, on Amy of Darley, by Best of All; 3, Bray, on Pirene, by Baron Kerr; 4, Bredt & Sons, Mamie Gammel; 5, Taber, on Chalice. Two-year-olds—1, Bryce, Craigie Bell, by Bonnie Buchlyvie; 2, Grant, on Lady Hopetoun, by Baron Hopetoun; 3, Bredt & Sons, on Queen Alexandra, by Search Light; 4, Grant, on Nelly Lansdowne, by Lansdowne; 5, Taber, on Jessie Lawrie. Yearlings—1 and 2, Bryce, on Countess of Moray, by Bonnie Buchlyvie, and Doune Lodge Floradora, by Revelanta's Heir; 3 and 4, Grant, on Kismet, by Sir Chandos Laird, and Royal May, by Baron Allister; 5, Martin, on Cora B, by Baron Cedric.

Revelanta's Heir was made champion stallion and Fyvie Stamp reserve. The female championship went to Craigie Bell with Grant's Lady Hopetoun, reserve. For five best Clydesdales, any age, Bryce was first, Bredt & Sons second, and Grant third. The Canadian-bred classes were not strong. The championship for stallions went to McLean on Prince Robert, while in females Bredt & Sons won the championship on Queen Alexandra, a mare that stood well up in the open class. Grant was reserve on Nelly Lansdowne. For best team sired by a Clydesdale stallion, Caswell was first and Bredt second. For single mare or gelding, Bryce was first on Craigie Bell.

Percherons.—Percherons were judged by R. E. Drennan, who also placed the awards in Belgians. Pootmans & Sons, Regina; J. W. McInnis, Regina; E. Williams, Roleau, and R. W. Hammil, and Colquhoun & Beattie, exhibited.

In aged stallions Colquhoun & Beattie were first on Gasdon; Williams second on Izola, and Pootmans third and fourth on Gigot and Antron. Two-year-old stallions, Colquhoun first on Jaume, McInnis second on Rolland, Colquhoun & Beattie third on Joseph, and Williams fourth on Costilet.

Williams got first in year-old stallions on Suspense.

In Yeld mares Hammil was first on Lilly. She was made female champion. Williams won first on mare and foal with Sadie.

The championship for stallions went to Colquhoun & Beattie on Jaume, with their aged horse Gasdon reserve.

Belgians.—Belgians made a high-class exhibit, coming out strong in several classes. The major portion of the exhibit was put up by E. Poot-