

MR. CRESSMAN'S BERKSHIRES.

Among those who have recently entered the arena as a breeder of improved stock is Mr. Israel Cressman, New Dundee, Ont. Living in a locality where breeding and feeding large quantities of swine form one of the most profitable departments of the farm, he soon became convinced that much of the success depended upon the kind of pigs which are raised.

For this two points have to be studied, first, that pigs must mature early and feed kindly, and secondly, that when finished they are of the sort to meet the wants of the present trade. To accomplish this it is necessary to possess the best strains of one of the latest improved breeds. In making his selection from the breeds he fixed upon the large, improved Berkshire, that has been so popular for many years, and in which the most skillful breeders of the day have found a type that has found as many friends among pork producers and farmers as any other sort.

Mr. Cressman started his present herd some four years ago. Since he has continually been adding a few superior individuals, with a view of possessing as good a herd as can be formed. At the head of the herd is Dorset Chieftain, a three-year-old boar, bred by Mr. N. Benjafield Dorset, England. This pig was imported in his dam, Luxurious, by Mr. J. C. Snell, Edmonton. Dorset Chieftain is a pig of great length of side, good depth, smooth and full of quality.

Fanchetta, bred by Mr. J. C. Snell, is by the imported boar, Enterprise, which was a Royal winner. Her dam, Royal Duchess 2nd, by Warrior 2nd, was also imported. Fanchetta is a handsome sow farrowed last May. She has good length and depth, good hams, neat, short face.

Mary Dundee is a very useful three-year-old sow, bred at the Ontario Experimental Farm, Guelph. She was sired by Royal Saxon, her dam being Lass of Riverside. She has a litter of good pigs. Linda is a neat yearling sow that is due to farrow shortly to Scott, a boar of a different line of breeding. Cressman's Belle, a six-months sow by imported Dorset Chieftain, is a neat good sow that is a sample of the choice lot of this age that are now for sale. Princess of Maple Leaf is a large and very long sow of good quality; sire, imported Dorset Chieftain; dam, Springbrook; g. dam, Princess. In the herd are three sows, nine months old, of the same breeding as Princess of Maple Leaf; all possess admirable length and depth of body—qualities imparted by Dorset Chieftain to his offspring. Mr. Cressman is determined to get together a lot of good ones, and in order to get to the top as quickly as possible is making an importation that he expects will be landed by one of the earliest ocean steamers entering Quebec, and hopes to have them home some time in July.

BRIERY BANK STOCK FARM.

Is situated close to the village of Orchardville, and within a short drive of Holstein station, on the Palmerston and Durham Branch of the G. T. R. Messrs. Caldwell Bros., who are the proprietors of this establishment, are engaged in a lucrative mercantile business in Orchardville, but devote the largest share of their attention to their farm and the very superior lot of pure-bred stock, of which road horses, Ayrshire cattle and Yorkshire and Tamworth swine all find a place. We have not space for full particulars, or we would gladly speak individually of the beautiful road horses we were shown, with Chicago King, a son of Chicago Volunteer, at the place of honor in the stud. The Ayrshires consist of a large and select herd, which were purchased in 1887 from Mr. A. P. Ball, Rock Island, Stanstead, P. Q. Messrs. Caldwell Bros. selected no less than fifteen cows and heifers at one purchase. Among these are several noted families that were imported at different dates and by different gentlemen, there being at least seven families having representatives in the herd. With strict attention to a large production of milk, together with careful feeding, we found a thrifty lot of cows, with udders that gave promise of large milk yields, while the younger things displayed careful breeding. The calves by the stock bull, Albion Chief, were particularly good, which we should expect on finding he was bred by Messrs. David Proctor & Sons, Hamilton, and is sired by their imported Royal Chief, his dam being that grand cow Maggie Brown, of Barmoor Hill; with two such illustrious parents it would be strange indeed if he did not give an account of himself, and what makes him still more valuable is that he appears to be an almost exclusive heifer producer. In swine, Messrs. Caldwell are breeding both Tamworths and Imported Large Yorkshires, both of which had some exceedingly good representatives. The former had been purchased from the herds of Mr. Bell, Amber. This breed is fast becoming popular in many parts of the country, proving most satisfactory when used to cross with other sorts, and right here we may say we have recently seen both Yorkshire and Tamworth crosses upon Berkshire sows that would surprise farmers for feeding adaptability. In fact, we are more and more strongly impressed with the superiority of stock obtained by crossing the pure-breeds for profitable feeding for the block, but at the same time we are just as strongly of the opinion that the breeds must be kept absolutely pure, and the first cross fed for slaughter.

Mr. Jonathan Carpenter is the proprietor of INGLEDALE STOCK FARM.

Whose Jerseys have obtained a reputation far beyond the locality in which they are bred, as many

a good one has gone to build up the reputation of crack herds both in Canada and the United States. Here for a length of time was the home of the famous Ida of St. Lambert, who afterwards held the world's milk record, and was such a star in the herd of Miller & Silby, of Franklin, Pa., and of whom so many encomiums have been written. She is the granddam of the bull now in use on the herd, and many of the excellent cows and heifers are descendants of hers, and a beautiful lot they appeared to us, as we had the pleasure of inspecting them out in their pastures. We could not help thinking, now that the value of milk is being estimated by actual test, that a bull from one of these cows should have a desired effect when brought up a herd rich in butterfat is the object sought.

Breeding and developing trotters occupies quite a large proportion of the attention of the proprietor. That Mr. Carpenter is thoroughly impressed with the value the Canadian horse has been in forming the staunchest trotting families, is proved by an analysis of the breeding of the excellent class of brood mares that are to be found in this stud, and to this circumstance doubtless is due the handsome form and good size of many of the specimens we were shown. The wisdom of keeping form, handsome appearance and quality in the foreground in breeding trotters we have already often discussed. By breeding in the most popular trotting lines only a percentage of race horses are produced, but if they fail on the track they should at least be a type that would make good road horses; yet how many breeders have entirely ignored this point. Now, the first thought that strikes the beholder when viewing the Ingledale stud is the handsome form, good size and quality of colts and fillies, while the many promising horses now being worked on the track are a particularly handsome lot. While inspecting the stud we could not help remarking that from the youngest foal to the fastest horse being developed the larger proportion were exceedingly handsome. General Stanton, who has thirteen horses in the 30 list, has been freely used, and if appearances do not deceive several in this stud will also add to his credit. There are also some eight or nine that are sired by Almont Wilkes 2.19 $\frac{1}{2}$, which are also full of promise. However, we unfortunately have no space to particularize, as there are such a number of real good ones to look at that the only plan to adopt is for those interested to pay a visit to this stud, and all we can promise to the horse-loving public is a hearty welcome and a rich treat.

WOODLANDS TERRACE FARM.

Whose proprietor is Mr. C. G. Davis, Freeman, is situated within a short distance of Burlington station, on the Toronto and Hamilton branch of the G. T. R. The farm is beautifully equipped with buildings and fences, both being complete and new, while there are many appliances for labor saving that are well worth a call from those passing who desire to pick up useful ideas in assisting to perform farm work easily. The farm is partly devoted to fruit production. Mr. Davis being of the opinion this department cannot be successfully carried on without live stock to furnish farm yard manure, which he considers necessary to fertilize the ground devoted to this profitable branch of his operations, he therefore keeps a small but choice herd of Shorthorns. Several of these were purchased at the dispersion sale of Mr. J. T. Reid, of Paris, Ont., a few years ago, while others have been bred from a family that has been on the farm for a number of years, as Mr. Davis' father was breeding Shorthorns in early days. Mr. Davis is striving to breed the useful sorts in order to supply the demand from farmers or others who may wish to improve their stock.

Sheep in Manitoba.

In these days when the advantages of mixed farming, as opposed to wheat growing alone, are admitted by all who are interested in agriculture, no apology is necessary for again drawing the attention of readers of the ADVOCATE to the importance of sheep raising as a branch of mixed farming.

The abundant woolly covering with which Nature has provided it, indicates that the sheep is adapted to withstand the severe cold of our winters, and this is amply proved by the experience of those who have been engaged in sheep farming in the Canadian Northwest. Indeed, the climate of the summer as well as the winter months seems to suit them, as they are remarkably free from the diseases which are prevalent among flocks in older settled countries.

To those who have had experience in the old country in fattening sheep with the help of oil-cakes and other expensive artificial foods, the rapidity with which sheep take on flesh and increase in weight in summer, upon the prairie grasses alone, comes as a sort of revelation.

As to the question of profit, there is no doubt that a flock, large or small, managed with care and attention will pay well; indeed there is no branch in farming that at present prices will yield such a large and certain percentage upon the capital invested.

In making this statement we refer to sheep reared for the butcher, and not to pure-bred flocks kept for ram breeding. In the meantime, probably the supply of these latter is in excess of the demand, although by-and-by, when the industry spreads, and the prairies of the Northwest are stocked with flocks numbering millions, there will be ample de-

mand at paying prices for all the pure-bred rams that are raised.

For butchers' sheep it is not necessary to have pure-bred ewes. Good ewes of almost any cross will do to start with, but it is imperative to have pure-bred rams. The particular breed of ram is a matter of opinion, and it is scarcely safe to indicate a preference. He should be a good sheep of his kind, and that a kind reaching a heavy weight at an early age. By the continued use of superior rams, a flock of originally very indifferent ewes will soon be graded up to a pretty fair level.

In Manitoba abundance of food for sheep is found ready to hand, or can be grown at little expense. The prairie grasses in summer, and the same converted into hay for the winter use, are the mainstay. Failing a supply of the latter, sheep will thrive during winter on the straw and chaff of the grain crops, supplemented by a little oats or light grain of any kind.

On a mixed farm a flock of any number from twenty to three hundred ewes would be found profitable. Where settlement is not very close, and a run on the prairies can be got, the oversight of the latter number would occupy the attention of a careful man throughout the year. In more closely settled districts, where the area under cultivation is greater, it is necessary to have inclosed pastures of an extent suitable to the number of sheep. It will be found advantageous to divide the pasture into two enclosures, so that the flock may be changed from one to the other every two or three weeks, as the grazing will thus be kept clean and sweet. The pasture should be on dry land where there is mixed herbage, and not low-lying land of a marshy nature.

Some previous experience in handling sheep is an undoubted advantage, but the want of this should not discourage any one who is anxious to have a flock, and who is prepared to take some trouble with them and give them the necessary care and attention. That is really the point that determines the difference between success and failure.

It would seem to argue a lack of enterprise among the farmers of Manitoba, that Winnipeg has frequently to draw her supplies of mutton from Ontario, Nova Scotia, and even pay the duty of three cents per pound or thirty per cent. on the living animal brought from St. Paul. It may be that this arises from a want of capital, rather than a lack of enterprise. If so, we hope that the Farmers' Provincial Loan Company, whose prospectus we have just had the pleasure of perusing, and which is backed by men of position, will make it a feature of their business to lend money to farmers for the purchase of sheep. The farmer could, from the profits of his flock, repay his loan in three annual instalments, with interest at 10 or 12 per cent., have half as much annually for himself, and at the end of three years have a flock of his own equal in number and quality to that with which he started. This presupposes careful attention and good management, and fair average success.

Feeding Hogs.

In answer to an enquirer, who is in doubt as to whether he is correctly feeding his hogs or not, and who says that "the feed has been ground three-quarters oats, balance shorts and corn," the editor of the "Swine Breeders' Journal" gives the following reply:

"If for breakfast, dinner and supper each day, for the time you have been feeding your herd, the rations have been three-quarters ground oats, balance corn and shorts, then there is a 'big' doubt as to the correctness of your method. But if your three-quarters feed has been supplemented with a change on an average of three times a week, then your ration will do. It is not so much what you feed a hog as it is when and how you feed it. You can kill pigs and worry matured hogs on the ration mentioned, if you keep them at it long and hard enough. The science of feeding is to know what is the best to feed at the proper time. A good feeder can tell when a change should be given, and an experienced feeder the best feed to give at that time. The rotation of feeds by schedule is better than feeding a mixture of all the grains forever. But the best plan is to feed a seasonable variety, also a seasonable management. Breeding boars, old sows in pig, old sows with suckling pigs, young sows in pig and with pig, and fall gilts, is the assortment on nearly every breeding farm in the country to-day. To obtain the best results, each and every one of these classes require a special management in some respect. The breeding boar must sustain vitality and vigor, without making fat; the aged brood sows must be kept healthy, strong and vigorous, and just fat enough to prevent suckling down, yet successfully raise the pigs; the young sow, to farrow, must be built up in bone, muscle and vital forces, and carry as much fat as possible without injury to her; the fall pigs must be making pounds every day, or they are losing money. If a three-quarters perpetual rotation can do this, then there is very little to learn in feeding hogs."

We would be pleased if hundreds of our readers would write the ADVOCATE, giving briefly their method of feeding hogs, presenting the separate management of all classes to be found in a herd. The good to be derived from letters of that character would be invaluable. The feeding of hogs is a simple thing, if a profit is not desired; but feeding hogs to make the best results (the most money) is a problem that has been correctly worked by a very small number of feeders.