

GOSSIP.

ABERFELDY STOCK FARM.

Messrs. John Gardhouse & Sons, Highfield, Ont., owners of the noted Aberfeldy herd of Scotch Shorthorn cattle, stud of Shire horses and flock of Lincoln sheep, were never in better shape to cater to the wants of their customers on both sides of the line than at present. With over sixty head of richly-bred Shorthorns of superior quality, with fifteen Shire mares and fillies, seven of which are imported, with three imported Shire stallions and two yearling stallions (Canadian-bred), and a large flock of high-class Lincoln sheep, parties looking for extra good things in these lines of stock can certainly find it on this noted farm. The Shorthorn herd is one of the oldest established in Canada, having been in continuous existence for over forty years. Many of America's most noted Shorthorns were bred in this herd; sons and daughters and grandsons and granddaughters of those great bulls, Imp. Gardsman and his far-famed son, St. Valentine. Considerable of this blood still in the herd to a great extent accounts for prizewinners being produced from this herd year after year. Later bulls in service were Prince Louis (imp.), a Lancaster-bred bull and a Toronto winner, and Scottish Prince (imp.), a Toronto senior champion. Many of the younger animals now in the herd are the get of these two great bulls. The present stock bull is the Cruickshank Butterfly-bred Imp. Prince of Archers, a son of the noted Royal Ensign, and a nephew of the champion, Royal Emblem; dam Butterfly Girl, by Superior Archer. This bull bids fair to eclipse any former sire at the head of the herd as a getter of extra choice, thick stuff, his get coming true to type and remarkably uniform. He is a wonderfully thick, melow bull, and, we hazard the guess, a coming Toronto champion. A number of the cows are imported, and belong to such fashionable strains as the Claret, Broadhooks, Cecilia, Lovely, Brawith Bud, Roan Lady, Undine, Jilt, Rosebud and Miss Ramsden. In younger stuff are about 15 heifers, two and three years old, a number of them show heifers and some wianers already. In young bulls there are seven, from six months to a little over a year, the oldest being Prince Victor, a roan yearling, by Scottish Prince (imp.); dam Imp. Eliza; a show bull from the ground up, an extra good one. Another is a red ten-months-old, by the same sire; dam Imp. Belle; this, too, is a show bull—a thick, even, sappy youngster. Still another is a roan ten-months-old, by the stock bull, and out of a Roan Lady dam; he, too, will certainly be a future winner. Then, there is a roan nine-months-old, by Scottish Prince, out of a half-sister to St. Valentine, a Clementine; this bull is a rare good one. Another, the same age, is a roan, a Brawith Bud, by the stock bull. The other is an Undine, by the same sire; he is six months old, and will make a show bull of a high order. Of the fifteen Shire mares, ranging in age from one to five years, seven are imported. Two were served in England, the balance after coming to Canada; a typical lot, with abundance of substance and character, standing on grand bone, ankles and feet, and moving with a free, true, springy action—a grand lot of mares that will certainly do good in Canada. Among the stallions is the bay, rising three, Government (imp.), one of the best Shire stallions ever brought to the country, having size, style, smooth conformation and a heap of quality of underpinning. Dominion (imp.) is a brown, same age, probably a little more massive, and a right good one, with a deal of character and quality. Royal King 3rd (imp.) is a brown four-year-old, quality all over; a horse that should take mighty well in this country. Then, there are two Canadian-bred yearlings, one from imported sire and dam, the other by imported sire, and out of Rose, a Canadian-bred mare, and a Toronto champion. Aberfeldy Stock Farm is the Canadian home of the English Shire horse, and certainly never before were so many extra good ones on hand. All are for sale. In Lincoln sheep for sale are about twelve ewe lambs coming a year old, and a few one- and two-year-old ewes; choice representatives.

GEO. G. STEWART'S CLYDESDALES.

One of the leading Clydesdale importers of Canada, and one who has made an enviable reputation for himself as an importer of high-class horses, as well as for straight dealing and honest representation, is Mr. Geo. G. Stewart, of Howick, Que. A gentleman born and bred among the Clydesdale heather of Scotland, he knows what a typical Clydesdale should be, and his many importations have found ready sale, and invariably have given the best of satisfaction to purchasers. His last importation, landed in the late fall, is, we believe, considerably the best he ever made, which is saying a great deal; consists of five stallions and nine fillies. Prominent among the stallions is the renowned sire, Lord Fauntleroy (10370); he is deeply bred in the blood of Prince of Wales and Darnley; is now eleven years old, and as fresh as a four-year-old, and last summer in season condition weighed 2,150 lbs. He is a beautiful, smooth-turned horse, on an ideal bottom of strong, flat bone, well-sprung ankles, and grand feet, and he certainly moves nicely. As a show horse, he won one first and three seconds at Glasgow; while, as a sire, he has been a brilliant success. He was sired by Vanora's Prince; dam by the great Prince of Albion, grandam by Macgregor. He has four registered dams, something few horses of his age have. Last year he had a £100 premium. Another of the good ones that Mr. Stewart was fortunate enough to secure is Sir Vivian (12374), a brown five-year-old, 1,900-lb. son of Airies Prince; dam by Castle-reagh; grandam by Silver Twist. He, too, has four registered dams, and is a very thick, smooth horse, full of Clyde draftiness and character, a horse that should find ready sale in this country. Naldema (13234) is a bay three-year-old, by Baron of Buchlyvie; dam by Lord Lothian; he is a very smooth, compact horse, with abundance of quality and a grand mover. Last fall he won first at Huntingdon. Sagamore (13723) is a black two-year-old, one of the best colts that crossed the water last year; has great size, and is quality from the ground up, coupled with a beautiful mold of body, and lofty, stylish carriage, making a colt very much to be desired. He was sired by Revelanta; dam by Eastfield Laird. Streathern King (13873) is a bay two-year-old, by Getruchio; dam by Royal Erskine. This is a big, growthy colt, with a deal of character, standing on strong, flat bone, and should make over-a-ton horse. The fillies are an extra good lot; large, and all have splendid underpinning, and look like the making of up to 1,800- or 1,900-lb. mares, and all have the best kind of bone and ankles. Lady Buller (18656), a bay three-year-old, by General Buller, and Blackberry (18654), another bay three-year-old, by Baron o' Dee, are a matched pair that weigh 1,600 lbs. each, and are without doubt pretty nearly if not quite the equal of any pair that have crossed the water. Both are in fine condition, and they are a high-class show team of superb quality throughout. Queen of Crief (18662), a bay two-year-old, by Revelanta, is safe in foal to Baronson, by Baron's Pride. She is a grand good kind; few like her have been imported. Maggie Drone (18660) is a bay two-year-old, by Lord Mac, a filly up to a big size, with quality and character, and supposed to be in foal. Daisy Bryce (18657), a bay two-year-old, by Baron St. Clair; Lady Provan (18715), a brown two-year-old, by Maccarie; Springhill Duchess (18655), a brown two-year-old, by Sir Randolph, dam by Cairn-brogie Stamp (this filly is a half-sister to Baden Powell and Clan Chattan); Lady Dawson (18720), a brown yearling, by Rosedale; Strathearn Gem (18691), a brown yearling, by Strathearn Knight. All these fillies are large, full of true Clyde character, and a superior lot, and they can be bought very cheap, considering the class of stuff they are, and on favorable terms. The farm is connected by long-distance phone.

Meeting of the Ontario Yorkshire Club will be held at the Palmer House, Toronto, on Tuesday, Feb. 4th, at 5 p. m. A full attendance of members is requested.

Mr. Thomas J. Hand, one of the principal pioneers in the breeding of Jersey cattle in America, and one of the four who took the initiative in establishing the American Jersey Cattle Club, died in Brooklyn, N. Y., on the ninth of January last, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. He was an ex-president and for many years was secretary of the club.

Mr. D. Ward King, of Missouri, has been engaged for a speaking tour, Feb. 3rd to 17th, of the State of Maryland, in the interest of good roads. The tour is under the co-operative management of Johns Hopkins University, of Baltimore, and the office of Public Roads, Washington, D. C. Maryland has 16,773 miles of wagon roads, of which 840 are of stone.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to "The Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.  
2nd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.  
3rd.—In Veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.  
4th.—When a reply by mail is required to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1 must be enclosed.

Miscellaneous.

NON-TECHNICAL BOOKS ON FARMING.

Can you inform me, through "The Farmer's Advocate" columns, where to obtain a book treating of general farm management, in A-B-C style?

IGNORAMUS.

Ans.—"Successful Farming," by Wm. Rennie; price, through this office, \$1.50 net, or \$1.60 postpaid.

POINTERS ON HOG-RAISING.

I would consider it a great favor if you would let me know the best authority on hog-raising. I am not a farmer yet; am taking possession of one the 1st of March, and am looking for all the pointers I can get.

N. G. B.

Ans.—Prof. G. E. Day, of the Ontario Agricultural College, is the acknowledged authority on Canadian swine husbandry. His book on "Swine," price \$1.25 (postpaid), may be obtained by ordering through this office.

REGISTERING CLYDESDALES AND PERCHERONS.

Can grade Clydesdales or Percherons be registered in a Canadian studbook which have five top-crosses by registered sires?

J. A. W.

Ans.—Yes, in the case of the Clydesdale Studbook. A Percheron Studbook has only recently been opened under the National Live-stock Records system, at Ottawa, and we understand that only animals tracing to imported ancestry on side of both sire and dam are accepted for registry.

SCABIES IN PIGS.

I have a bunch of pigs, three months old, which have some kind of disease. All over their backs, a thick sort of scab has formed, and their hair appears to be wet at times. They become thin, and in poor condition. Am feeding barley and oat chop, one part barley to two of oats, and, also, mangels. They have a dry bed in stone stable. Kindly let me know the name of disease, and what treatment you would advise.

A. E.

Ans.—This is evidently scabies, a parasitic complaint, for which frequent applications of one of the coal-tar sheep dips is likely to be as effectual as any treatment that can be used. The solution should be applied as warm as can be borne, and well soaked in by the use of cloths. A thorough washing with soap suds with a little sulphur in it, and repeated two or three times may answer the purpose. The bowels should be kept relaxed by giving each pig a half pint of raw linseed oil, or a teaspoonful of sulphur daily for a week. Try feeding their meal dry, and give drink in separate trough, as their failing condition may be due to too much cold, sloppy feed, causing indigestion.

MARKET MATTERS.

1. What is the law regarding market fees?  
2. Can fees be collected when there is no covered market?

W. H. Ontario.

Ans.—1. The Consolidated Municipal Act, 1903, makes lengthy and elaborate provisions respecting markets and market fees, and we would refer you to sections 579 and 580 thereof for the desired information.

2. Yes; but subject to the exceptions and restrictions contained in the sections above referred to.

REGISTERING DRAFT COLT.

I have a very fine colt which has five registered crosses on the sire's side, four of which are Clydesdale, but one, it is said, is a Shire. Is he eligible for registration? He is certainly the making of a grand horse, and I would like to keep him for a stallion.

B. L. C.

Ans.—The rule for registration of stallions in the Canadian Clydesdale Studbook requires five top-crosses of registered Clydesdale sires. In all cases of Canadian-bred animals, the dam must be recorded before the male foal is eligible. In the case of a female foal with five crosses, the dam must be recorded before the foal is eligible. A mare or filly having four top-crosses of recorded Clydesdale sires is eligible for registration.

Even if your colt were eligible, which he evidently is not, and even if he is an extra good one, we would not advise keeping him for a stallion. So many stallions are being imported, the market is pretty full, and people will buy and patronize these in preference to home-bred stallions, even though no better. It costs about twice as much to raise a stallion as a gelding, counting time of caring for and cost of extra feeding, and a Canadian-bred stallion with five crosses will not, as a rule, sell for twice as much as a first-class gelding.

WINTERING STEERS.

As we have been thinking of putting in a bunch of two-year-old cattle to feed for the grass, what is the cheapest way to feed them to come out in good shape in the spring?

1. How would they do on straw and ensilage, all they could eat?  
2. How would 25 or 30 do running loose in a stable by themselves?  
3. If we were to tie them up, would they gain enough extra to pay for the extra work and expenses?  
4. About how much should a good two-year-old steer—a thrifty, good feeder—gain in a winter, or about how much profit would he make on an average?

J. M.

Ans.—Steers which are being merely wintered for the purpose of finishing upon grass, as a rule, require very little meal, especially if they can be fed hay. I would not expect, however, that these steers would make any gains worth speaking of upon straw and silage. Of course, being young steers, they would grow some; but the gains would be comparatively light. If they could be fed some hay with the silage during the first two or three months, and then a very light meal ration, say about a pound to each steer to start with, and gradually increase to two or three pounds per steer, I would expect that they would make very fair gains through the winter, and should be in good condition to finish on the grass. These steers, if dehorned, may be expected to make better gains if allowed to run in loose boxes than if tied up. If not dehorned, I would not advise allowing them to run loose. I think it would be better, however, where there are twenty-five to thirty steers, to divide them into two groups, if possible, putting the larger ones in one group and the smaller ones in the other. The troughs should also be fixed with up-rights with intervals of about three feet to prevent one steer from crowding another away from the manger. The amount of increase in weight which a steer will put on during the winter depends, of course, entirely upon the feeding. If fed as I suggested, on hay and silage with a very little meal, they would probably gain in the neighborhood of a pound each per day, and, possibly, a little more. On steers which are being finished for export, and fed a very fair meal ration, an average gain of fifty pounds per month during six months is counted very satisfactory.

O. A. C.

G. E. DAY.