

**Thornville Stock Farm.**

The foundation of the Thornville herd, now so well known, was laid by Mr. Frank Shore, the senior partner of the present firm of Shore Bros., White Oak, Ont. In 1872-73, when three cows were bought, viz., May, by Rex = 1010 =, and Fan, by Peveril = 920 =, both of the Pomona family, and Countess, by the 6th Duke of York = 581 =. These proved a profitable investment; the first calves dropped were sold for a price equal to the cost of their dams. In 1882 a public sale was held, at which the descendants of these cows, then on hand, realized \$3,000. Immediately after this sale, the herd was re-established by the purchase of animals of the celebrated Aberdeen sort, chiefly from the herd of Cruickshank, Campbell and Marr, and now numbers upwards of sixty head. The Cruickshank families are represented by the Victorias, Brawith Buds, Orange Blossoms and Duchess of Glosters. The Campbells by the Minas, Buchan Lassies, Fair Queens and Clementinas. The Marrs of Upper Mill by the Rachel or Scottish Lass family. As a lot they are a large, even, useful, well bred herd; the younger animals are growthy and strong boned, generally promising to be larger when grown than the imported cows. They are not kept in high condition, but in good breeding flesh.

Among the yearlings is Bucan Lady, a light red; sire, Vermillion (50587); dam, Bucan Lassie, by Golden Crown. She is a deep, thick beast, close to the ground, and nicely finished, not large, but very tidy, a typical Scotch Short-horn.

Lady Languish is a red roan; sire, Vermillion (50587); dam, Laura Languish, by Cambridge Duke 2nd = 395 =; she is more growthy than the above, not quite so blocky or finished, but has a very nice fore end, and a neat and clean cut head and neck.

Mina E. is a red, with a little white; sire, Vermillion; dam, Mina B, by Prince of Northumberland (46911). This is the best heifer of the three, possessing the massiveness of the first, and the size and growthy qualities of the second.

Among the heifers two years old, Mina D. is a deep red; sire, Vermillion; dam, Mina A., by Prince of Northumberland. At the present time, this is the best two-year-old on the farm. She is a beautiful, thick, massive beast, close to the ground, and well finished throughout, even and well developed; her beef qualities are splendid. She is a heifer of more than ordinary promise.

Mary Booth 8th, of the same age and color, also by Vermillion; dam, Mary Booth 3rd, by Statesman 1st (44096); is of the same type as the last, but not quite as massive, or as mature, but is a promising heifer, and is perhaps more growthy.

Mary Booth 9th, of the same color, and by the same sire, is the most growthy beast of this age; she is not quite as thick or as neat as the last two, but will grow to be a good smooth cow of large size, and will doubtless be a good milker and breeder.

Among the breeding cows is the famous show cow Ruby Hill 12th, now five years old, bred by John Isaac, Markham, Ont.; got by Prince of Northumberland; dam, Ruby Hill 11th, by Statesman 1st (44096). In color this cow is a beautiful red roan, and possesses wonderful substance and quality. There are few as good cows

on the continent. Though she has had no feed but grass since May, she is now fit for the show ring. Her flesh is even and firm throughout.

Countess 6th, by Vermillion; dam, Countess 3rd, by Duke of Rutland, is a roan, three years old, a truly magnificent young cow, full of quality, and possessing wonderful substance. She is massive and withal neat; an extra beast in all particulars.

The females of this herd are very prolific; as an instance, the imported cow Whin Blossom may be mentioned, which has produced since 1884 four bulls and two heifers. One of the latter having also given birth to two heifers.

Bucan Lassie 3rd, by imported Golden Crown = 114 =, now ten years old, is a nice, even, red roan cow. Since 1883, \$300 has been received for her produce, all of which were sold when under one-year-old; herself and two of her heifers are still in the herd. One of her calves, by Vermillion, is the stock bull in the herd of Sharman & Sharman, Souris, Man. This bull was the sire of some fine stock before leaving Ontario.

Vermillion (50587), bred by Edward Cruickshank, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, got by Candor (44506), is still at the head of Messrs. Shore's herd, he is of Mr. Cruickshank's Victoria family; a deep red in color, of very large size, with plenty of bone, yet not a rough beast. He is a fine feeder. His owners bought and used him with the express purpose of obtaining more size; considering many of the Scotch cattle too fine, they have recently bought another stock bull, Aberdeen Hero, bred by the same gentlemen. He is of the Orange Blossom family, so well known at Sittyton. This is a neat, stylish, promising youngster, and will doubtless be a good sire. There are many other animals in this herd worthy of mention, but space forbids.

In 1876 twelve Cotswold ewes and a ram were bought, and occasionally, after that date, imported animals, male and female, were added as required. Before the auction sale of 1882, the amount received for the produce of this flock, sold at various times, amounted to \$3,000. Those sold at the auction sale realized \$1,200, making a total of \$4,200. Soon after the sale, fourteen imported Shropshire ewes were bought. This breed has been continually bred since, and at the present time the flock numbers about thirty head; sales all along have been satisfactory.

Grade Clydesdales have heretofore been bred, as yet no imported mares have been bought, but the imported stallion, Marquis of Salisbury 5208, was bought last fall. He is a bright bay, foaled May, 1885; bred by M. J. Stewart, M. P., Ardwell, Scotland, imported by Messrs. Charltons, Duncrief, Ont.; sire, Auld Reekie 1920; 1st dam, Virginia 2nd 5071, by Macgregor 1487; 2nd dam, Virginia 1170, by What-Care-I 912; 4th dam, by Dainty Davie 211. This is a pedigree of the very first order, the blood of many of the finest Clydesdale sires of the past and present flows freely in his veins, and in no way does he disgrace his splendid breeding, he is worthy son of noble sires, large, active, stylish, well coupled and well ribbed, standing on splendid feet and legs, which he handles in fine style. He certainly is an acquisition to Middlesex, and should be liberally patronized. His colts are like himself—very good.

Last year 500,000 persons in the State of New York, about one-twelfth of the entire population, received aid from some benevolent institution.—[N. Y. Tribune.]

**FIRST PRIZE ESSAY.****How Shall We Best Protect Our Flocks From the Ravages of the Dog?**

BY W. A. HALE.

By no one golden rule can we hope to protect our flocks from the ravages of the dog. Eternal vigilance is now the price of successful sheep raising, and the subject is of far too much importance to the general prosperity of the country to be lightly set aside. The existing laws, from which we might hope for better things, are altogether inadequate and unsatisfactory, and should be altered and amended, and though we can literally "get down behind our wincheters" when an opportunity arises, still the main source of protection must come from a better code of laws, in which the municipalities, the counties and the legislatures should work in harmony. I would not for a moment counsel a war of extermination on this, the most faithful and trusty friend and companion of man; other animals may endure his rule and submit to his guidance, but to the dog it seems only a pleasure, and instead of bearing malice, for blows cruelly and unjustly dealt, he often licks the very hand that, in return for his most friendly services, administered the lash. Just as "a weed is but a flower out of place," so is the untutored sheep killing dog, whose wasted energies and perverted intellect are as much his misfortune as they are the result of a want of system in training him while young. In the city of Montreal, in the year 1888, 1145 dead dogs were collected in the streets; surely now, from a humane point of view, it were better for most of these had they never been, or being, had they died as young and painless a death as blind puppies are usually called upon to endure. Here then seems to be one of the main starting points in curtailing the unnecessarily large number of useless and expensive animals which have to be supported often in sin and idleness. The law in the Province of Quebec for the protection of sheep from vicious dogs is very meagre, and I fancy in the other Provinces of the Dominion it is no better. In many of the United States the farmers have endured this nuisance till exhausted patience has risen and demanded redress. Laws have within the last fifteen years been passed by many of the State Legislatures, all more or less framed upon the same general principles, and from the accounts furnished of the depredations by dogs alone, it would seem that these laws were brought into force none too soon. In 1872, Ohio claimed 183,000 dogs, with \$3,000,000 worth of sheep destroyed, and injuries amounting to \$1,000,000 more. Missouri, in 1875, claimed 400,000 dogs, and sheep killed to the value of \$5,000,000, and estimated the cost of each dog at 25 cents a week, or \$5,000,000 a year, for the dogs of the State. Georgia, in 1876, claimed 99,000 dogs, and 26,000 sheep killed. New York State, in 1878, claimed 500,000 dogs, while in the same year the total number of dogs in the United States was estimated to be 6,000,000, and the number of sheep killed, 5,000,000. With such startling facts as these before them, the various legislatures were not slow in passing laws, not only for the better protection of the sheep industry, but also for restricting the unnecessarily large number of dogs. These laws were more or less similar, and were in substance somewhat as follows: An annual tax of from \$1.00 to \$3.00 on each male