

The Ontario Fat Stock Show (Concluded).

SHEEP.

It was thought two years ago that the sheep exhibit had reached the probable limit of excellence and numbers, but for several years the regular attendant has seen an improvement year by year until the present climax has been reached.

Cotswolds were the first to be called into the ring. The exhibitors were: J. G. Snell, Snelgrove; Thos. Waters, Rockwood; John Park & Son, Burgessville; Geo. Weeks, Glanworth; W. E. Wright, Glanworth; and John Rutherford, Roseville. The five yearling ewes were, perhaps, the most uneven section in the long-wooled breeds. Mr. Snell's imported pair were the best individuals—lengthy, broad, and deep in front and well covered on back; but the second ewe might have carried considerable more width of thigh without being out of proportion. She handled well, however, and was followed by John Park & Sons with two fairly good specimens. Mr. Snell's best ewe was hard to fault. The seven ewe lambs had among them at least five well-fitted entries of pronounced Cotswold character. Parks' first prize lamb need have no hesitation in preparing for the fray of 1897. She is already well advanced in growth, and is withal of nice quality. Mr. Weeks came in second and third, and Snell fourth and fifth. Evidently Cotswold breeders do not find it advantageous to use the castrating knife extensively, as only three yearling wethers were out in competition. John Rutherford has frequently proved himself a judge of what to feed advantageously, and also to possess a knowledge of how to fit them. In this case he had little difficulty in heading the list with a massive sheep, followed by a couple of ripe sheep of Snell's breeding, shown by Mr. Wright. John Park & Sons showed three prime wether lambs, upon which he defeated Snell's trio in the grouped contest.

Judges.—Wm. Thompson, Uxbridge, and Jos. Gaunt, St. Helen's. Reserve—E. Parkinson, Eramosa.

Lincolns.—While there were only two firms exhibiting, with the exception of Rutherford's yearling wether the competition was keen and the individuals of high merit. In each ewe section the judges took considerable time in deciding, so even were the sheep. Gibson & Walker, of Denfield, won the first and third awards in each case, however, by reason of their possessing more of the ideal Lincoln type; while Wm. Oliver, of Avonbank, came between them. These two flocks always send out high-class representatives, both in character and fitting. The first-prize yearling made herself and breeders famous by bringing to the flock for the second time in succession the \$100 Cooper silver cup premium for best sheep bred and owned by exhibitor. Gibson & Walker took first and second on a massive pair of yearling wethers, with Rutherford third. The cup now becomes the property of Messrs. Gibson & Walker. Gibson & Walker again led in single wether lambs, with Oliver second and third, the latter winning first in the group of three. Throughout the whole class there can hardly be said to have been an indifferent individual shown.

Judges.—E. Parkinson, Eramosa, and Jos. Gaunt, St. Helen's. Reserve—Wm. Thompson, Uxbridge.

Leicesters were shown by Orr & Lillico, Galt; J. S. Smith, Maple Lodge; John Kelly, Shakespeare; A. & W. Whitelaw, Guelph; and John Rutherford, who competed only in the different wether sections. The yearling ewe section, although having four in competition, was an exceedingly difficult one to judge. The four firms mentioned each put in a sheep. Kelly came out ahead more because of the high condition of his entry than for her Leicester character; the second and third winners, of Whitelaw's and Smith's, surpassing her in type. The seven ewe lambs that lined up were also a magnificent row, not only nearly all ideals of the breed, but they were fat and well-grown. They won in the following order: Whitelaw first, Kelly second and third. Yearling wethers and wether lambs compared favorably with the female sections. Kelly won first in each of the single sections and second in the trio of wether lambs. Orr & Lillico won second in each of the single sections, first in the trio, and third in ewe lambs; and Rutherford third in yearling wethers.

Judges.—Jos. Gaunt, St. Helen's, and W. Thompson, Uxbridge. Reserve—E. Parkinson, Eramosa.

Oxfords, like the Cotswolds, dropped out last year, but were again forward upon this occasion. The flocks of Smith Evans, Gourcock; Peter Arkell, Teeswater, Ont.; J. H. Jull, Mt. Vernon, were represented in each of the female sections, while W. E. Wright, of Glanworth, and John Rutherford showed wethers. The numbers were in no case large, but the quality was up to the best. The first prize Toronto Industrial yearling winner led in this contest. She was upon this occasion shown by J. H. Jull, who also was awarded third on her mate; while Mr. Evans' flock, out of which they came since the Industrial Fair, carried away the second and fourth prizes. We might say that the first prize ewe had no walkover, as the reserve judge had to be called to decide the matter. Evans, Jull, and Arkell won, as mentioned, in ewe lambs, with not much between them and all good individuals. In wethers Mr. Wright came forward with a very handsome, well-fitted sheep, while Rutherford followed with one of his ripe mutton sort. Mr. Arkell was placed third on a good sheep carrying less mutton than the other two.

Judges.—Henry Arkell, Teeswater, and J. Miller, Markham. Reserve—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip.

Shropshires attracted much attention, as well they might, when the flocks that stood so well in New York at the recent show were present. These, however, were not the only good ones, although they were, perhaps, the most highly fitted. The exhibitors were John Campbell, Woodville; D. G. Hanmer, Mount Vernon; John Rutherford; R. Gibson, Delaware; W. E. Wright, Glenworth, and W. H. Beattie, Wilton Grove. The five yearling ewes were exceedingly pleasing to witness, so broad, deep and even were they. Not only were they models of the breed, but the perfection in which they were brought out showed what applied skill can attain to. Mr. Campbell's New York winner can hardly be improved upon as a mutton sheep, while her wool covering is about as near as possible what the standard of excellence calls for. She won first, and was followed by her mate, a ewe having a little less development, but very nice. The backs of this pair met one's hand surprisingly firmly, so short was the covering of wool. Some of the others looked as well, but had not been so highly finished. Mr. Beattie was placed third on a well-fitted entry, with hardly the briskest of those above her. Messrs. Hanmer's pair would take a deal of beating if judged solely on Shropshire character, but they had hardly flesh enough to compete successfully at this fat stock show. Campbell again led in ewe lambs, taking first and second. Breed type and high flesh were

land, while Gibson's defeated everything he met last fall at New York and at Guelph. Campbell's sheep was given the preference, and an excellent individual of Hanmer's was placed third, and Campbell fourth. The string of twelve wether lambs was such as to make a judge's head ache, so even were the best half dozen, while Gibson's New York lambs seemed certain of something very good. A big-little beauty of Hanmer's was right among them, and won second premium, the first, third and fourth going to Gibson's. The fifth ticket was fastened to a real Shrop. of Mr. Wright's. There was no looking over necessary to place the first award in three lambs, as Gibson's lot had full and undisputed right to it. Hanmer was placed second and Wright third.

Judges.—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip, and Henry Arkell, Teeswater. Reserve—J. Miller, Markham.

The *Southdown* class was the big one of the show. Every section was well filled, and every prize-winner was a good sheep. The main contest lay between John Jackson, of Abingdon, and T. C. Douglas, Galt. Other exhibitors were: A. Simen-ton & Son, Blackheath; Geo. Baker & Son, Simcoe; W. H. Beattie, Wilton Grove; A. Telfer & Son, Paris; and Thos. W. Smith, Glanford. The twelve yearling ewes were not all crackers, but more than half of them were good sheep. Mr. Jackson has always been a successful exhibitor, and we suppose he will continue to be for years to come. His pair of snug, well-covered, well-fitted ewes were correctly placed first and second. Douglas followed next in order with perhaps the fattest ewe in the row, and Messrs. Telfer came fourth. Jackson's ewe lambs were quite in keeping with his yearlings, winning no less than first, second and fourth. Douglas was placed fifth with a very fat lamb, a bit plain in the head but well developed in body. One of the sensational sheep of the show appeared in the yearling wether section (we refer to that shown by Mr. Beattie), winning here and also for best sheep any breed, grade or age, in a strong ring of supposed champions. Two noble specimens that would tickle the palate of an epicure, shown by Mr. Douglas, were placed second and third, followed by Messrs. Simen-ton. Mr. Douglas made a clean sweep of all the money offered for single wether lambs, and first and second for trios. Messrs. Baker followed him next in order in each case.

Judges.—J. Miller, Markham, and Henry Arkell, Teeswater. Reserve—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip.

Dorsets were better shown on this occasion than for several years, although just two competitors were out, Messrs. R. H. Harding, of Thorndale, and James Bowman, Guelph, the latter exhibiting just three sheep, viz., a yearling ewe and two ewe lambs, upon which he won third, and third and fourth, respectively. Mr. Harding's nine entries were all good specimens of the breed, and in good flesh.

Judges.—T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip, and Henry Arkell, Teeswater. Reserve—J. Miller, Markham.

Hampshires and Suffolks were out in competition in meager numbers; the former shown by John Kelly and John Rutherford, and the latter by W. J. Rudd, Eden Mills. While these two breeds are much alike in body, the Hampshire has possibly a more roomy frame, more wool on the head, and a brown face and legs as against the blacker points of the Suffolk. Mr. Kelly's ewes in both sections were well fitted. They won all but second in yearlings, which went to a strong ewe of Mr. Rudd's. Mr. Rutherford had no opposition in either wether sections. Judges as for Dorsets.

Grades.—The class for grades was well filled in every section by grades of mostly Lincoln, Leicester and Shropshire. The exhibitors in every case were men who competed in the various pure-bred classes. The Shropshire breed drew most honor to themselves in this open field. A half dozen yearling ewes made up the smallest section. Campbell and Wright had neither much to boast over the other, as each had low, wide, deeply-fleshed ewes sired by rams of their favorite breed. Campbell's ewe was particularly firm and "Shropy" and won first place. Orr & Lillico had out the next in merit in quite a typical Leicester. Yearling wethers compared favorably with the ewes, being from the same flocks. Here the Lincoln blood scored in a massive sheep of Gibson & Walker's. Campbell was next in order and Kelly following, each with a Shropshire grade. Wether lambs, both single and in threes, made strong sections, there being some dozen or more of various shades of complexion in each lot. Shropshires again scored, with Leicesters in second place. In ewe lambs, Shropshires showed the greatest excellence, with little margin over well-grown, firm-backed Lincolns that took second and third awards; Beattie's prime little Blackfaced fatling receiving the highly-commended ticket.

Judges.—Wm. Thompson, Uxbridge, and T. M. Whitesides, Innerkip. Reserve—Henry Arkell, Teeswater.

SWINE.

The exhibit in the swine department exceeded in numbers that of previous years, but the general quality and finish was hardly up to that of 1895. Although in the several classes of breeds many very excellent and even superior individuals were exhibited, a large per cent. seemed to lack the finishing touches, and there was also, in many cases, a noticeable weakness in quality and conformation. But as in last year's exhibit, there was a marked disappearance of the overloaded, unmarketable sort, giving place to a decided type and weight, for which the packers and shippers of the present are calling.

The Maritime Provinces Experimental Farm.



MR. G. W. FORREST, SUPERINTENDENT.

In the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* for Sept. 16th, 1895, we gave an extended account of the origin, development and work of the Dominion Experimental Farm system, together with portraits and biographical sketches of Dr. Saunders, the able Director, and entire staff. Some time ago we announced the retirement of one of the Superintendents (Col. W. M. Blair) of the Experimental Farm at Nappan, Nova Scotia. Above we give a portrait of his successor, Mr. Geo. W. Forrest, whom we might say has always been engaged in farming. Starting with small capital, by care, economy, and good methods he became possessed of one of the best farms (now managed by his sons) in that part of the Dominion, which is saying a great deal. His mottoes have been, "Whatever you do, do well," and "Feed your farm and it will feed you." His ancestors came from Ireland over a century ago, and were among the first settlers in Cumberland county, where Mr. Forrest was born, at River Hebert, in 1838. Among the positions of trust previously held were those of militia captain, municipal councillor, valuator on the Intercolonial Railway, and member of the Provincial House of Assembly. The farm at Nappan has done well under his care this season. Steps have also been taken, by the disposal of the cattle on the farm and the introduction of improved pure-bred stock, that it is hoped will prove decidedly advantageous.

both exemplified, while Hanmer's third and fourth awards require no apology made for them, so nearly are they perfect. A warm contest waged in the yearling wether section between Campbell's and Gibson's sheep. Here is where we do not envy the sheep their mutton, but it does seem a matter for regret when the pick of ewes are rendered liable to be ruined as breeders at the commencement of their career. These two sheep had little between them; Campbell's was of this year's importation and no doubt was as good as could be procured in Eng-