

portance, viz.: Is the progeny of one sow liable to be affected by any peculiarities of a sow of different breed or inferior breeding, to which the boar she is mated with has had previous access, and if so to what extent?

My own experience leads me to answer the first question in the affirmative. And as it is a subject that can scarcely fail to interest breeders, though many, most probably, will hesitate before giving full credence to it, I will, at the risk of extending this paper, give it at length.

After an interval of some years since I had kept pigs for breeding, a small paddock close to home was in need of a tenant just as I had the chance to buy a young sow brought direct from the Royal Farm, Windsor; so I took the one and bought the other, and very shortly after I bought a young sow carefully selected from the stock of the Earl of Ellesmere, but which the gentleman who selected her could not get to breed. I also purchased a very good-looking and well-bred boar, by a son of Peacock. All of them were small white pigs of very superior quality. I had the good fortune to obtain a nice litter from each sow—not one of which denoted slightest impurity of blood. The best

Nor is this all. A noted breeder called to see me some three or four years since, in great perplexity. After a greeting, he addressed me.

"You know what a grand lot of pigs I had, those black ones; well, would you believe it? every sow I've got has brought black-and-white pigs. However can it be? I have never had any but black pigs for years, never saw one before with a white spot since I had them."

My first thought was: Had interbreeding anything to do with it? and I asked the question.

"No, I kept the old boar you know, and the best of the sows, and they are just the same I bred those grand pigs from."

"Have you allowed him to serve white sows?"

"Yes, I have done that since I went to—". A lot of my neighbours have sent to me, and I could not refuse them. You don't mean to say that can account for it?"

I gave my experience to my friend, and he said: "No more whitesows upon the place at any price."

I saw him again some twelve months since, when he told me that since refusing the use of his boar he has had no further trouble.—[W. Goodwin, Jr., in Live Stock Journal.

these prizes, were not attained without great expense and good judgment.

No. 1 represents the 3-year-old Devon that carried off the first prize. She is owned by Messrs. G. & A. Wood, of Islington. They are, perhaps, the most careful breeders of these animals we have in Ontario. They have a fine herd and have carried off the principal prizes in this class.

No. 2 represents the 3-year-old Hereford cow that carried off the first prize. She is owned by C. C. Brydges of Shanty Bay, who has for years been selecting and breeding from the best Herefords he could procure. He purchased some fine animals from Mr. Stone, and has imported several very choice animals from England. Such is the result of his judgment and care that he has now carried off the lion's share of prizes in this class.

No. 3 represents a first prize Berkshire sow, the property of J. C. Snell, of Edmonton, who stands high as a breeder of improved Berkshire



GROUP OF PRIZE ANIMALS AT THE LATE ONTARIO EXHIBITIONS.

gilts I kept, and one or two of the hogs beat everything against which they were shown with greatest ease. In due time, both sows (they had littered within a day of each other) were again served by the same boar, but a day or two previously a medical gentleman in the town, who kept a black sow, had sent her to visit him without my knowledge. The next time my sows littered both had several pigs with distinct black spots both on hair and skin, and both litters were in every respect far inferior to the former ones.

Desiring another boar, I went myself down to Worsley, and selected a most promising son of XL, out of a really good sow. I bred both the selected gilts out of the first litters and the old sows to him, in each case with the best results, not one having a spot of any kind. Just about the time several of these were served the second time, my brother sent a young Berkshire sow, which was in company with the boar a day or so. When mine came to pig, the young were spotted with black in a most disgusting manner, and one had a jet-black nose. Now I have long been aware that a young female is apt to sully a portion of her succeeding offspring if her first-born has been a cross-bred or of inferior parentage, but never before had so striking an example been apparent of the possibility of a pure-bred male thus influencing his offspring.

Group of Prize Animals at the Late Ontario Exhibitions.

Every good farmer has one class or more of animals which he deems most profitable. Each class possesses advantages not to be found in others. One is better adapted to one soil or locality, and for a particular purpose, than another. It is for each good farmer to ascertain the class which is best adapted to his purpose, and when that is decided, to obtain the best in that particular class ought to be the aim of the breeder. At sales that we have attended we have noticed that the purchasers of the best stock are principally the most prosperous farmers. This is the case, not only in farming implements and cattle, but in all other things. An illustration like the one we herewith give will impress on the mind some of the characteristics of the different breeds represented, and also let you know where to write if you should wish to procure a really good animal. The owners of these animals are all breeders of the different classes of stock. The high position to which these gentlemen have risen, and the obtaining of

pigs and fairs having the best in Canada. We presume that the great hog crop of the States this day can be traced to show that Mr. Snell's stock has done quite as much or more to improve it than any other person's stock on this continent. The improved Berkshires being so superior to the old common stock, Mr. Snell has for a long term of years been shipping numerous fine animals of this class to the States.

No. 4 represents the first prize two-shear Shropshire ram, the property of Mr. C. C. Brydges, of Shanty Bay. Mr. B. has now a large flock of these valuable sheep.

No. 5 represents a French Merino ram, the property of G. Hood, of Guelph. Mr. Hood claims for this class of sheep that they will produce a better wool and mutton than we can produce from any other breed or cross of sheep. The best cross consists of a French Merino ram and either a Cotswold or Leicester ewe. The French Merinos are claimed to be much superior to the American Merino.