

Seagull (2261), also four years old, in appearance is much like the above. He is very fashionably bred; sired by Danegelt; he by the celebrated prize winner Denmark, who sired several winners at the late New York Show, while Matchless of Londesboro, which won 1st in his class, is also by Danegelt, therefore half brother to Seagull.

Dundremnan (2959) is another chestnut, a three-year-old. He is sired by Dorrington 2nd. Another son of the above-mentioned Denmark, Lavender (3076), a bay rising three, is a promising colt, with most attractive action. He is sired by Donald Grant (1473); he by the great Lord Derby 2nd (417).

Connet, a mare rising three, is by Dorrington 2nd, her dam being Cigarette (210).

In addition to the above are a lot of beautiful Welsh ponies, that attract the admiration of all visitors. Many of our readers will have an opportunity of inspecting a number of these horses, as Messrs. Graham intend exhibiting twenty at the coming Spring Stallion Show to be held in Toronto March 9th and 10th.

Is Dehorning a Requisite.

BY W. C. EDWARDS, ROCKLAND.

I am in receipt of yours of 21st inst., and in reply have to say that I will very gladly give you my views as to the question of dehorning cattle. In the last few years, in connection with my general reading on agricultural topics, I have come across much in reference to the question of dehorning.

In no case do I think I have ever heard of it being condemned, but otherwise I think it has always been favorably spoken of. But I will confess that much as I have read about its advocacy, at the same time I am only a very recent convert to the desirability of dehorning steers that are to be fed for beef. And I do say most unhesitatingly that I am a convert to the desirability of doing so, not only as a matter of profit, but as a matter of kindness to the animals themselves. And I will proceed to tell you why I am so convinced, and the occurrence which brings about such conviction. With the view of economy in feeding steers, and at the same time saving manure in the most approved method, I planned and erected a building with these special objects in view. The building was completed in December last, but up to within a very short time of its completion the question of dehorning had not entered my head. Such a thought would have been most repulsive to me, and I will say that, much as I had read in favor of it, yet I never expected to practise dehorning. However, shortly after the final completion of the building, I one day had the steers driven into it, and stood for some length of time watching their actions. The conclusion I then arrived at was that the experiment would prove an utter failure unless the steers were dehorned; and then for the first time the question of dehorning entered my mind, and knowing that a few steers were to be dehorned at the Government Farm, Ottawa, for experimental purposes, I wrote Professor Saunders on the subject, and I also went to Montreal and had a long consultation with several of the large cattle shippers there on the subject, all of whom spoke most approvingly of it. At the same time they said that, although they knew that it was largely practised in Scotland and England, yet they had no knowledge of its being done in this country, that is, in Canada, for, of course, we are all well aware that it is largely done in the Western States. However, after a great deal of consideration I made up my mind that, repulsive as

the idea was to me, we would be compelled to try the experiment. So finally, I sent a man to the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, to borrow their dehorning tools, and at the same time get all the information he could as to the process.

Now, I did not see one of the steers dehorned myself. I was at home and could have seen it done, but the idea was so repulsive to me that I purposely avoided it; but I have questioned the man who performed the operation very closely, and from all he has told me, and from the results that are following the operation, my conclusions are as follows:—That it is more humane to cut the horns off a lot of steers and allow them to feed in their natural way, loose, than it is to tie up an animal on a hard floor and keep it so confined in a narrow stall for six months or more without any freedom or relaxation. Next, in my opinion, it is by no means so severe an operation as castration. The natural condition to keep an animal is loose. In this cold climate cattle must be housed in winter time in comparatively narrow limits, and the most natural and humane way is to let them run loose. Bumptious steers particularly would tear each other to pieces with their horns if allowed their natural freedom; and it is my candid opinion that it is a positive kindness to deprive them of these dangerous weapons. No doubt horns are provided for self-protection to the animal in his wild state, but when he becomes a domesticated animal, if he will use this intended article of self-protection to maltreat and destroy his neighbor, then humanity demands that he shall be deprived of those dangerous weapons.

Now, as to the profitableness of dehorning feeding steers:—They are more cheaply fed, so far as labor is concerned; the manure from them is saved in the best possible way, and our opinion is that they will make a greater gain for the feed given. We believe that the progress our steers are making will prove this to be the case. We may say that the number of steers we dehorned is thirty-four. The operation was performed about the middle of December. Generally they recovered from the effects of the operation very rapidly. Two of them only showed any symptoms of real sickness, but even they were soon over it, and all are doing remarkable well. Their ages are two and three years. Had we castrated this number of steers at the same time of the year, we think the chance of the loss of several of them would have been very good indeed. But society would not rise in indignation against the barbarous practice of castration because society has become accustomed to it, and society will have to become accustomed to dehorning, and when the steer feeders of Ontario get into the way of it and feed loose in buildings such as we have arranged here for the purpose, it will be millions of dollars annually in the pockets of our farmers in the saving of manure and the economy of feed and labor. And my wish is that this great advance shall in no way be retarded at the instance of any well-intending but misguided and uninformed cranks.

A cellar-hole for a house 18x20, and 6 ft. deep, was lately excavated by a man, a boy, two horses, a scraper and spade for \$9.75. A similar job done by hand labor cost over \$20. Which leads a "County Gentleman" correspondent to question if in moving soft earth Italian "sand shovellers" are cheap at even \$1 a day. He reckons that "a Yankee with a good team and a quick boy can do more effective work than a whole gang of ignorant foreigners."

Auction Sale.

DISPERSION OF THE SHERIFF-HUTTON HERD, OWNED BY WM. LINTON, AURORA, ONT.

The foundation of the Sheriff Hutton herd was laid as far back as 1835, by the late Wm. Linton, when two heifers, Sowerby and Gertrude, were purchased from Mr. Richard Booth at Warlaby. The first bull used on them was Marcus (2262), the sire of Mantalina, and his son, Prince Albert (4791), followed him. Liberator (7149), bred by Sir C. R. Tempest, a son of the prize bull Dan O'Connell, left some remarkably good stock, as also did his son, Ingram (9236), out of Mr. Booth's Gertrude. General Fairfax (11519) was bought from Mr. Cruickshank, of Sittytown. Bates (12451), bred by Col. Duncombe, and Col. Townley's Third Duke of Athol (12734) were also used. Mr. Cruickshank's Magnus Troil (14880), a son of the Baron, was used. Earl of Windsor (17788), bred by Mr. Carr, of Stackhouse, brought in again the Booth blood, and was followed by that splendid sire, Mountain Chief (20383), from Warlaby, who left some very fine cows in the herd. British Hope (21324), from Lady Pigot's, was also used, and Mr. John B. Booth's Sergeant-Major (29957) and Paul Potter (38854), with the well-known prize bulls Lord Irwin (29123) and Sir Arthur Ingram (32490), were used. Next came Arthur Victor (39380), and Lord Irwin 2nd (49924) also bred at Sheriff-Hutton. Then came Ruben (46977) and Paul (53393), by Mr. R. S. Bruce's Star Scepter (47150), and latterly Royal Booth (3817), and Royal Booth 2nd (3818), from Mr. Chas. Morgan's herd, of New Warlaby, New Jersey, U. S., have been used. The principle has been to breed the heifers when young, resting them after their first calf. In this way the herd has been kept both healthy and prolific, and the magnificent animals that have been so successfully exhibited since 1868 prove the judgment of the breeder and the skill of the feeder. The herd was first shown as far back as 1847, when Star (8698) won at the Royal, at Northampton, and in 1848, Hudson (9228) stood first at the Royal Show at York, and was sold to Mr. Cruickshank for use in the Sittytown herd.

The second period of showing began in 1868, and in the ten years that followed animals from this herd had won 167 first prizes at the leading shows in Great Britain, such as the Royal Show of England, and Highland of Scotland, Bath and West of England, etc., etc., eighty-one second prizes, ten thirds and thirty-four fourths, thirty-one silver cups, ten of them valued at £105 each, nine special prizes, four pieces of silver plate and nine gold medals. This does not include any of the animals exhibited by other parties, but bred by Mr. Linton.

Since 1879 the get of Mr. Linton's bulls have been even more successful than his own. Mr. Wm. Handley, the purchaser of Sir Arthur Ingram (32490), bred five royal prize winners by him in two years, and Mr. Robt. Thompson, of Inglewood, with the get of Beau Benedict, bred at Sheriff-Hutton, took five first prizes at the Royal Show of England out of a possible eight offered. Animals from this stock have gone on steadily gaining in public favour, until they now top the market. A roan heifer, Windsor's Beauty, from one of Mr. Linton's families, and bred by Mr. Robt. Thompson, Penrith, Cumberland, sold at his sale, September, 1890, for \$1,500, and another cow, ten years old, and her sucking calf, realized over \$700, and a third cow, ten years old, with a heifer calf, sold for \$650 at the same sale.

The present owner of the herd has not, with one or two exceptions, attempted to exhibit animals, but has been building on a good and substantial foundation animals that he can with all confidence recommend to the Canadian public. The dispersion of such an old and soundly bred herd affords a grand opportunity to lay the foundation of a superior stock.

The sale will take place March 24th. See advertisement.