

Improved Yorkshire Swine.

BY J. E. BRETHOUR, BURFORD.

The Improved Large White Yorkshire hog has become very popular with the pork packers, who consider it the best factor for bacon production. The market now requires long, lean pigs, that is, pigs with the red and white meat well mixed. The excessive fat pork which formerly was in demand, is now suitable only for the lumber woods, for which purpose it is purchased at a low figure, while there is an unlimited demand for lean meat at remunerative prices.

This valuable breed has been tried in all parts of the world. Ireland and Denmark hold perhaps the highest positions as producers of superior pork and bacon, and it is mainly due to the introduction of numbers of the Improved Large Yorkshires into these countries that they have achieved such a high position in the markets of England.

The Improved Large Yorkshire answers the requirements of the pork packer in every respect. It is light in the head, neck and shoulders; ribs well sprung, with good heart girth, a well-fleshed back and thick loin, great length, full flanks and hams well let down. The meat consists of a very

coarseness. At five months old she weighed 208 lbs., and at nine months old she produced a litter of twelve pigs; from that time she was allowed to run in the yard until May 11th, when she was taken in to prepare for the exhibitions. During the first thirty days she gained 77 lbs.; in the following twenty-six she gained 61 lbs., followed by 93 lbs. during the next 36 days; and at the time of the exhibition, when fourteen months old, she tipped the scales at 576 lbs., while the following month she proved herself a regular breeder by giving birth to a second litter of eleven pigs, upon the very day that she was fifteen months old. When shown in her own class she has an unbroken record, having won first at the Industrial at Toronto and at Montreal, while at Ottawa she was placed third, competing against aged sows, there being no class for sows under two years old.

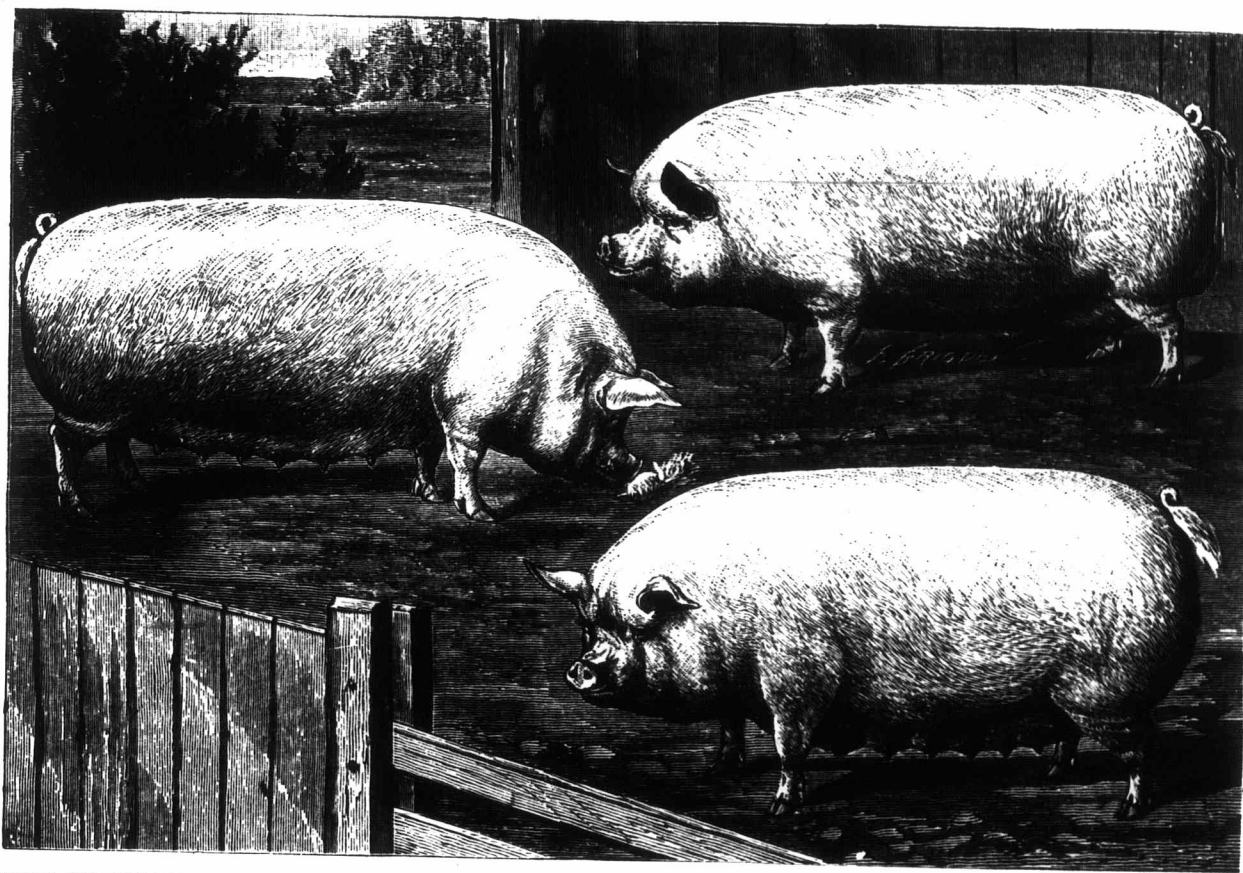
The other sow, to the right of the engraving, is the grand imported sow which won first in her class at the Toronto Industrial and at Montreal, also capturing at the former show the Holywell Challenge Plate, donated by Mr. Sanders Spencer, of Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hants, Eng., for the best Improved Large Yorkshire (boar or sow), over six months old—a place to which it was

Line Breeding.

In the December number of *ADVOCATE* there is an editorial headed "It Pays to Have a Definite Object in View," in which you describe the way two farmers in Renfrew county handled their cattle. As you saw my cattle last summer, when farm judging, and as I did part of what you say Farmer No. 1 did—used the Holstein bull of his neighbor for three years, who had a third interest in him and at whose place he was kept (I gave them \$72.00 for the three years, and I had a Jersey bull this summer); and as that neighbor at whose place the bull was kept was a competitor in the farm competition, so you saw his cattle also; and as this was the only Holstein bull in the county the time you say, and he is the only man in the county of Renfrew that has 30 grade Holstein cows and heifers—the number you say: does not the thing look very pointed? And as it is not very flattering to me with those that have not seen the cattle, and with those that have the editor's good judgment suffers, for both an explanation is necessary.

Please reply in next number of *ADVOCATE*.

JAS. MARTIN, Renfrew, Ont.



A GROUP OF IMPROVED LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE SWINE, THE PROPERTY OF MR. J. E. BRETHOUR, BURFORD, ONT.

large proportion of lean, while it is a rapid grower and will fatten easily at any time.

Apart from its answering the purposes of the pork packer, this breed possesses qualities which commend them to the breeder. Being the direct descendants of the old original English breed, they are very prepotent and stamp their characteristics on their progeny. The sows are excellent mothers and grand milkers, and as might be imagined from their great length, they are well able to raise the large litters which they usually produce. My herd, known as the Oak Lodge Herd, is the largest collection of this valuable breed in America, and contains representatives from the most noted breeders in England, such as F. Walker Jones, Sanders Spencer, C. E. Duckering, Geo. Clearnack and Joseph Ashforth. The boars now in use are the prize boars Stamina [269], Success [330], (Imp.) Gladiator [13], Sir Count [383], and (Imp.) Holywell Emigrant [173].

The sow that stands in the left of the engraving is of Mollington descent, and is a true type of the pig the pork packers recommend, being light in the neck and shoulders, has a well-fleshed back, good hams, and great length and depth of body; but at the same time is totally devoid of all

universally conceded she was justly entitled. She was bred by Mr. F. Walker Jones, Chester, England, farrowed in November, 1888, being imported the following June. She is a short-legged sow, with a light, fine head, long, deep sides, with thick flanks, back and loins well covered with flesh; her hams are full and well let down. She is not only a show pig, but has also proved herself a most prolific breeder of superior stock. When only nine months old she produced her first litter, and when two years and ten months old she had given birth to sixty pigs, while in February last she produced a litter of nineteen pigs.

The boar depicted in the engraving is Stamina [269], of Holywell Manor descent, was farrowed August 6th, 1889; he also stands on short legs, with good, flinty bone, and has a splendid head, smooth shoulders and good hams, with long, deep sides. He holds the proud position of never having been beaten; out of seven contests, including the Industrial at Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, etc., he has each time emerged victorious, besides heading my herd at all the above shows, where my swine secured the highest honors in every competition.

The article referred to by Mr. Martin will be found on page 471, December number, 1891. It is never the intention of any member of our staff to hold any gentleman up for public notice or criticism. Such was not intended by the article in question. The data on which we base our articles are always carefully chosen. We may be sometimes misinformed, though we take every precaution to guard against this. The principle which we were endeavoring to make plain was that in breeding stock to establish a breeding or dairy herd, nothing but pure-bred males should be used, and that these should always be of one particular breed in each separate case. If a farmer has settled the question for himself that Shorthorns are most profitable in his case, then he should always breed his cows to a pure-bred Shorthorn male. Nor is this sufficient. In order to obtain the best results, each farmer should determine the type of animals he wishes to produce, and select males possessing the desired qualities in the fullest degree. To be an impressive sire, the dam and sire of such a male should also possess the desired qualities; in fact, the further back his ancestry possessed these qualities, the more impressive he will be, and the