

THE EXHIBITION

AT HAMILTON, SEPTEMBER 18 TO 21, 1860.

(Reported by Mr. William O'Brien.)

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GALLOWAYS.

With more apparent reason than the shires the Galloway cattle are rapidly increasing in the country. It is but a very few years since the first animal of the kind was imported, and now, at every exhibition, we find them in larger numbers, and more widely spread over the country. The show this year was exceedingly good, and the hardy, rifty look of the animals exhibited spoke volumes in their favor. Messrs. Roddick, Jardine, and Fleming are the principal breeders, but there are many other farmers who are laying the foundations of very fine studs. Breeders of Galloways claim to find them the size and weight of the short-horn with the hardihood of the Devon, and certainly if they accomplish this end nothing better can be required for the country. We have heard it stated that the first cross of the Galloway with the common cattle is not a successful one, which is a matter which those who are in favor of this breed should make a point of setting at rest. We apprehend, judging from present appearances, that the Galloways are likely before long to take the next place to the shorthorns.

FAT CATTLE AND WORKING OXEN.

The show of fat cattle was a fine one, more than the usual number of first class animals being exhibited, though we saw nothing approaching to monstrosity, as is often the case. William Elliott of Weston, and J. & J. White of Trafalgar, took the first prizes for the best cow and ox respectively, and Mr. Thomas Smith of Bicoke showed three splendid cows, two of which took the second and third prizes.

The show of working oxen was not very good, and we should doubt the capacity of some of those exhibited to do any great amount of work. One yoke in particular was an exceedingly fine one, shown by Mr. Ostader of Oneida, but they were far too heavy for the yoke, and were certainly not more in order for the slaughter-house than for a logging-field. It is absurd to regard such working oxen animals which would be enough to do to carry their own weight,

and which would be utterly useless either in the bush or in the field.

SHEEP—LEICESTERS AND COTSWOLDS. ;

We have mentioned these two breeds together, not because there is any affinity between them, but because they have become so mixed up together by frequent crossing that it requires a practised eye to discriminate between them. The pure Leicester has been crossed with the Cotswold, or some other long-wooled breed, until he has lost his distinctive characteristics, and has become an immense animal fully equalling the Cotswold in size, and if anything rather coarser in appearance. But, as the classes stood, it cannot be denied that the Leicesters as such made a magnificent display, which was only equalled by that of the Cotswolds. The former were the most numerous, but the latter gave the idea of being better bred sheep of their kind. John Snell of Chingacousy, George Miller of Markham, John Miller of Pickering and C. Walker of London, were the principal exhibitors of Leicesters. The names of the three first are those of well-known sheep-breeders, the latter is a more recent competitor, though on this occasion a very successful one.

Of Cotswolds Mr. Stone is confessedly the first breeder in the Province, and those who compete with him have generally commenced their flocks by purchases from his. Thus Mr. Snell, who has now, besides his Leicesters and other long-wooled varieties, a very fine collection of Cotswolds, formed it chiefly in this way, and Mr. George Miller's ram, which gained the first prize for two-shears was also bred by Mr. Stone. And not content with his present flock, Mr. Stone has this year imported no less than fifty fresh ewes and one ram, which did not make their appearance upon the show ground at all. Such proofs of enterprise deserve to be recorded. Of the other long-wooled varieties we cannot speak with any degree of particularity. They comprised, however, some exceedingly fine animals, very little differing to an unpractised eye from Cotswolds or improved Leicesters. Messrs. George and John Miller, John Snell, and James Cowan of Waterloo, were the principal competitors.

CHEVIOTS.

We did not notice any great increase in the number of competitors in this class.