

The Fourth Volume of the Clydesdale Stud Book of Canada.

That Canada has now taken her stand as one of the chief stock breeding grounds of the world is borne out by the present activity of our many live stock associations, the arrival at this office of the fourth volume of the Clydesdale stud book of Canada is one of the many reminders of the talent engaged in the breeding operations that are now carried on. When we consider that the registration of Clydesdales began in the closing of the year 1882, and the numbers have now rolled up to a total of 2,388 stallions and mares, from these figures we can form some idea of the amount of capital invested in this branch of our breeding industry. The fourth volume contains the pedigrees of 259 stallions and 290 mares, with an additional 62 stallions and 102 mares in the Scottish appendix, making a total of 703 animals. There is also an appendix showing the change of ownership and corrections of pedigrees; and a new appendix is started in this volume giving the additional produce recorded from the mares in Vols. I., II., III. and IV., and a most convenient index of Vols. I., II., III. and IV., which is a great help in searching up pedigrees. Illustrations of the prominent prize winners of the Clydesdale spring show, viz., McNielage, the winner in the aged class, and McClaskie, the first prize in the class rising three, as well as the sweepstakes horse of the show, both owned by Graham Bros., Claremont, Ont.; a trio owned by R. Beith & Co., winners of last fall shows, including Sir Maurice, winner and sweepstakes horse at London and Toronto; Eastfield Style, second at London and third at Toronto; and Eastfield Chief, first in two-year-old class at both the above shows. The book is altogether complete and neatly gotten up, similar in binding to the previous volumes, and is a credit to its editor, Mr. H. Wade, Toronto. Every farmer in Canada who is interested in heavy draft horses should own the volumes of this record. No stallion should be used even on grade mares whose owner claims him to be a Clydesdale, if not found recorded in some of the volumes.

Mortality in Foals.

The now very prevalent disease among foals, described as "Joint" by numbers of the old writers, was ascribed to rheumatism, while leading veterinarians now designate this scrofulous ostitis, and impute it to this cause, but most authorities are still in the dark as to how the complaint is engendered; however, it is becoming year by year a serious loss to those engaged in breeding horses. A thorough study of the causes and effects would not only be useful, but particularly interesting. In many cases the disease is accompanied with a dribbling of urine from the umbilical cord through the urachus, the natural passage for the urine before birth, and at present theorists claim is that scrofulous or tuberculous matter in the urine prevent the natural closing of the urachus, and therefore claim scrofulous matter to be present wherever this disease shows itself; and although the natural passages through the urethra may be normal and urinate freely, still the dribbling goes on. The patient will be found stiff and lame in one, two, or more of his joints, the affected parts swollen and tender, the appetite in some cases remaining unimpaired for a length of time, but the swollen joints suppurate, abscesses form, the patient losing flesh gets unable to rise, and dies a miserable object. For this reason many breeders become disheartened directly a case is presented

and immediately destroy the patient. The chances of effecting a cure depend upon the severity and situation of the inflammation of the larger joints, those having most motion, such as the back and elbow, and if once opened the case is hopeless. In treating, tone up the system, if attended with diarrhoea or the bowels are costive; in both these conditions a gentle laxative, such as from two to four ounces of castor oil, with two drachms of bicarbonate of soda, and when the bowels are restored to their normal state, give a pint or half pint, according to age, of lime water, in milk, two or three times daily, which, by-the-by, is good for all young animals in case of scours. The lime water is recommended as an antacid; half-ounce doses of compound syrup of phosphates is also a good tonic, and used with much benefit to young animals, but these must be made use of at an early stage. In case of the urachus remaining open, which is of quite frequent occurrence, a suture should be passed around the umbilical cord. It is better applied by means of a needle passed through the skin on both sides, which prevents it slipping, and then it is better to take a deep hold to hasten adhesive action. By injecting within the urachus a solution of nitrate of silver, ten grains to the ounce of water, would assist healthy action. Many authorities claim that in all cases the cord should be tied up by means of catgut, steeped in a strong solution of carbolic acid, and the loose end of the cord dressed with the same, as the cord in a new-born colt is very sensitive; by this it would quickly dry up, and would not absorb poison, which, it is claimed, is a fruitful cause of many complaints in young animals.

Essex Pigs.

I have read with considerable interest the discussion going on in your columns lately between the breeders of the Improved Yorkshires and the Berkshires. It is certain the breeders of Yorkshires are bound to bring them to the front if printer's ink will do it, whether they are the pig best adapted for the Canadian farmer or not. They look to me like a breed of hogs of some time back, say fifty years ago, such as our grandfathers bred, and which we had lost sight of, as not being adapted to our wants. Now we find these large-boned animals suddenly brought to the notice of Canadian farmers, with long pedigrees and still longer prices, in spite of the fact that we have been breeding for years, and have succeeded in getting just the pig we want. The Berkshires have been the favorite breed for some time, and have given fair satisfaction, though they are rather coarse and heavy boned. It is hard to fatten them, or the Yorkshires either, at as early an age as these breeders claim for, viz., six months. Then we have the Chester Whites, another large breed, which have not grown in favor, nor have the Poland-Chinas, though neither of these breeds have been boomed like those I have before mentioned. Then we come to the Suffolk; these seem to be rather too small for general use. They are of very quiet disposition, with great aptitude to fatten at any age. And lastly, we come to the Essex, a breed well adapted to the uses of the farmer, the cottager, or, in fact, any one that keeps a pig. They are of good size, larger than the Suffolk, will not blister with the sun, are of a quiet disposition, and will fatten early, producing a quality of meat not excelled. They are not very widely known in this country, from the fact they have not been boomed as other breeds have. Men that have bred them have not done so with a view of making great profits out of them by making

sales at fabulous prices. In fact their breeders have been like the American breeders of Ayrshire cows, they have a good animal, but do not seem to want anybody to know it, for fear they will get some, too. Breeders of Essex do not claim the whole earth, as our friends in the former issues of your journal have been in the habit of doing, but we claim that for general use our favorites cannot be excelled. I have sold numbers of them the last two years, and have yet to hear of a single instance in which they have not given entire satisfaction to the purchaser. I have not written this with a view of entering into a controversy with other breeders on the merits of the different breeds, but it seems to me we should have a small patch of the earth, and I suppose there is no other way to get it except to speak for it. R. T. PADDOCK, Florence, Ont.

Southdown Sheep—The Sheep that Produces the Best Quality in Paying Quantities.

BY MR. JOHN JACKSON, ABINGDON, ONT.

The readers of the ADVOCATE have heard a good deal of late on the sheep question, and no doubt have read with interest the controversy between Messrs. Snell and Dryden, "Quality vs. Quantity." However, I think if the personalities indulged in had been left out the argument would have looked stronger for the sheep, although Mr. Dryden is certainly deserving of credit for the moderate way in which he replies in the last issue of the ADVOCATE.

But it is not my intention in this article to take part in this controversy. If more remains to be said it is in able hands. Mr. Snell's success as a breeder of Cotswold sheep is a sufficient guarantee of his judgment; and Mr. Dryden's success with Shropshires is ample proof that he is a splendid judge of them.

Discussion of the merits of the different breeds of sheep does good, it sets farmers thinking; but it's the "quality," not the "quantity" of the argument that tells. Some breeders, like politicians, "dye in the wool," cling to their "first love" through good and evil report, and no amount of argument will change them. There are others who are open to conviction, or have not yet decided which of the breeds would suit them best, and may be waiting until there's "another county heard from."

We quite agree with Mr. Dryden's theory of producing the best quality, and that it will and does have its influence on the market, although in practice we are not quite so sure that he is exactly on the right track yet; but it is not advisable to change too often. The man who is breeding a sheep that is paying him well is wise to stay with them. The question is not whether the Cotswold or Shropshire is the most profitable sheep, but which, of all the different breeds, will return the most money for a given amount of food consumed.

To Mr. Snell the Cotswolds are a profitable sheep, whilst Mr. Dryden finds Shropshires more profitable for him; Mr. Kelly is making his pile with Leicesters; others find the Southdowns do well, and Rock Bailey pins his faith to the Merinoes, with all their wrinkles.

It is quite clear to any one who watches the market reports, and considers the small cost, quick returns, and many other advantages in raising sheep, that they are the best paying goods on the farm, and yet we find very many farmers who haven't a single sheep. If the country had three sheep for every one it now has, we would hear less cry of "hard times,"