

**A Word of Caution.**

We observe that large numbers of horses have been exported from Canada and sold by auction in the Glasgow marts at prices said to yield those engaged in the trade a profit after paying freight, commission, insurance and other charges. Most of them are grade horses of medium weight, by Clydesdale stallions, out of Canadian half-bred mares. An English writer notes as worthy of commendation, that they have been broken to work in a very superior manner, and he advises the home breeders to look also to the breaking and finishing of work horses.

For draught horses of good quality and weight there always will be a demand, and one of the leading Canadian buyers of fancy drivers and saddlers remarked to the writer recently that superior animals of these types appeared now to be harder to get than ever. The horse that has drugged the market is the common street-car plug, which electricity has crowded off the track. The widespread use of the bicycle, no doubt, obviates to some extent the use of the light road horse. Horse breeding, as some would say, has been "in the dumps" of late in America, but, notwithstanding that, here and there men are rearing the right sorts, and making it pay. Undoubtedly, there has been a great falling off lately in the number of mares bred, and one of these days people will wake up to realize that some first-class horses would be an exceedingly valuable farm asset. Then, as usual, there will be a general stampede in the opposite direction; but horses are not like hogs—a stock cannot be produced in six months or a year. In horse breeding, as in many other departments of agriculture, steadiness of purpose is a most desirable characteristic, and will eventually secure its reward. As was pointed out in the *ADVOCATE* for August 1st, when wheat is cheap the wheat grower should exercise all the greater care in cultivation, manuring and the selection of seed, in order to obtain the largest possible yield of good grain, even if for feeding purposes only. The same principle applies with equal force in the domain of horse breeding. In the choice of mares, stallions, feeding, fitting, etc., the greatest possible care should be taken so that the best of whatever desired type may be produced. That such will be in demand, at remunerative prices, we believe there is no reasonable doubt.

**Lord and Lady Aberdeen Visit the Maritime Dairy Farmers.**

Under the management of Prof. J. W. Robertson, Dairy Commissioner of the Dominion of Canada, three monster dairy picnics were arranged for in the Maritime Provinces. The first occurred at the capital of Prince Edward Island, on August 10th; the second at Fredericton, New Brunswick, August 16th, and at Truro, Nova Scotia; the last one was held on August 21st. Perhaps the most attractive features of the meetings were the presence and assistance of Lord Aberdeen and his highly esteemed wife, Lady Aberdeen. At the first of the picnics the great exhibition hall, on the Fair ground, was filled with the immense audience of 4,000 people. Prof. Robertson ably presided, and briefly addressed the meeting, after which followed a most interesting feature of the occasion. It was the presentation, by Lady Aberdeen, of gold and silver medals as follows:

Dairy Commissioner's medals to the patrons of the Dairy Stations who supplied the largest quantity of milk per cow in 1893.

Gold medal for the Province—Mr. John Moar, New Perth factory.

Silver medals—Mr. J. M. Wright, Dunk River factory; Rev. E. Walker, Gowen Brae factory; Mr. Owen Sullivan, Vernon River Bridge factory; Mr. James MacDonald, Red House factory; Mr. Donald Murchison, Cornwall factory; Mr. Neil MacDonald, Murray Harbor North factory; Mr. Louis C. Haslam, Kensington factory; Mr. Crawford Hyden, St. Peter's Bay factory.

Suitable congratulatory expressions were extended to the Governor-General, who in turn moved a resolution, setting forth the important services performed by Prof. Robertson, on behalf of agriculture, especially dairying, in that quarter of the Dominion.

Prince Edward Island has proved itself to be one of the finest portions of the North American continent for the production of the choicest butter and cheese. Until 1890, dairying received but little attention in that Province, when Prof. Robertson gave special attention to bringing before the people the capabilities of the Island in that direction. In 1892, one factory was built, operated successfully by the Agricultural Department, and was largely visited by farmers from all parts of the Province. In 1893, 9 factories were built and equipped by the farmers themselves, and now 16 cheese factories and 2 creameries are in operation, and the value of total product is estimated at \$80,000.

**STOCK.**

**The Highland Society's Show.**

The most important show of Scotland is that of the Highland Society. It was held this year at Aberdeen. The entries, on the whole, were satisfactory, although not up to last year's number at Edinburgh, but, as one would expect in that great stock centre, quality of exhibits was the outstanding feature. The cattle entries numbered 314; for horses, 324; sheep, 314; swine, 52; poultry, 365; dairy produce, 56.

A visit of the Duke of York, President of the Society, lent an additional attraction to the show. The presentation to His Highness of Mr. Amos Cruickshank and Mr. Duthie was an event of special interest to breeders.

**HORSES.**

*Clydesdales.*—There was a splendid turnout of the premier draft breed. The stallion exhibit was very good. Montgomery Bros.' Baron's Pride was the successful horse in his class. He was bred at Springhill, got by Sir Everard; he has the rarest quality of bone, and is every inch a show ring animal. The second prize was captured by Prince of Garthland, the Prince of Wales' sire, owned by Matthew Marshall, Stranreer. The 3rd prize horse was a splendid 4-year-old—Prince Albert of Rosehaugh—owned by Mr. Douglas Fletcher. Several valuable horses had to leave the ring unrewarded, except by praise of spectators.

The 3-year-old class was well contested. Last year's two-year-old Highland winner, Holyrood, owned by the Marquis of Londonderry, was the first prize winner, in strong company. He is got by Gallant Prince, out of a Darnley mare. S. Park came 2nd, with Prince of Erskine, got by Prince of Albion. For the 3rd place came Goldmine, by Goldfinder. He was a winner as a yearling, and may have had a better place this year had he handled himself with more grace. He was shown by R. C. Macfarlane, Greenburn.

Two-year-olds and yearlings commanded quite as much attention as their older brothers.

The brood mare class was not large, but contained quality. Mr. Leonard's Pilkington's Queen of the Roses, by Prince of Albion, made a worthy leader. She was in fine form and had a Macgregor youngster at foot. Con. Stirling's noted Brenda was a good second, while Messrs. Ferguson, Lumbhart, Old Meldrum, secured the 3rd award with Lady Dora.

In the yeld-mare class Montrave Maud was a good first. She is a daughter of that noted show ring winner, Moss Rose, which was awarded the Cawdor cup for dam and progeny. All the younger mare classes compared well with those already mentioned.

*Hackneys.*—The Hackney classes called for some very fine discrimination on the part of the judges to satisfactorily allocate the awards. Among the prize-winning exhibitors were Mr. Gilbraith, Messrs. Crawford, Dumfries, Dr. Mackay and Mr. G. R. Shiach, Elgin.

**CATTLE.**

*Shorthorns.*—Very few Shorthorn admirers who witnessed the show of this breed would be inclined to dispute the excellence of the Shorthorn section.

In the aged bull class, Mr. Graham, of Edengrove, carried off the first ticket with Fairy King, which has been a general first prize winner this year. He was bred at Alenwick Castle, and sired by Royal Arthur. A creditable second was taken by a beautiful 4-year-old, None Such, bred by Mr. Hill, Langside, Fifeshire. He was shown by Mr. Thos. Lambert, Elrington Hall, Hexham. Mr. Milne came 3rd, with a grand 3-year-old Waverley, bred by the late Mr. Andrew Strachan.

There was a splendid array in the younger bull classes. The 2-year-olds were not wanting in this respect. A splendid winner was found in an improved young sire, Pride of the Morning, got by Star of the Morning. Two bulls from Col. Smith's, Minmore, were respectively 2nd and 3rd. The former is Goldspur; he was bred by Mr. Duthie. He is a beautiful red, and much stronger behind than his more successful competitor, but in some other points he lacked superiority.

In the yearling class the judges are said to have erred in decision by placing Lord Polwarth's Imperial Gold in first place. He is a neat, level bull, but lacks in size when compared with Duke of York and Champion Cup, which were awarded 2nd and 3rd places. The former was bred by Mr. Strong, Crosby, and shown by Mr. Handley. Champion Cup was bred at Bapton Manor, and is now owned by Mr. Harrison.

The cow class was good. The first prize was awarded to a Campbell-bred cow shown by Mr. Geo. Harrison, Underpark. She is a cow of great character, with capital head and neck. Mr. James Carnegie, Ayton Hill, came second with Rock Cistis, first prize winner at former shows. Lord Polwarth was 3rd with Heroine by Royal Rigby.

The 2-year-olds and yearlings had a good entry. The prizes were largely taken by men already mentioned.

*Aberdeen-Angus, Galloways and Highlanders,* being near home, turned out well with good specimens. The numbers were hardly up to those of last year, owing to the dispersion of some of the largest and best herds.

*Ayrshires* have made a better showing on previous occasions, owing, no doubt, to the fact that their home is a long distance from the show ground, and not from any lack of popularity of this breed. The cow class specially was small.

**SHEEP.**

Black Faces, Cheviots, Border Leicesters and Shropshires were the principal breeds represented. The principal feature of the Shropshire classes was the success of Corston sheep and Corston blood. All the classes were headed by Mr. Buttar's sheep. The 2nd place in the old ram class was taken by the Earl of Strathmore, Home Farm, Glamis, with a sheep of his own breeding by Corston the Fourth. The 3rd sheep was also from Corston, being bred by Mr. Mansell, Harrington Hall, Shifnal. In the yearling class the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th tickets went to Corston sheep. Mr. Buttar was the only exhibitor of ewes.

**The Improved Large Yorkshire Hog.**

BY J. E. BRETHOUR, BURFORD, ONT.

It has been the custom among the pork raisers of this and other countries to supply the markets with very fat, heavy pork. Why such a practice should become so universal is somewhat difficult to understand. Feeders seldom considered their porkers ready for market before they were swollen out in all directions with fat, fat, fat! In this condition the pigs reflected credit upon the feeders; they were very handsome, if a pig is ever entitled to that epithet. They also "opened well" and presented a fine appearance when dressed and hung up. At this time the pork supply had not assumed the enormous proportions of the present day, and when pork was asked for by customers, nothing else was expected to be given them but something "good and fat." Not at all strange to say, people have found out that pork can be produced in a very much more palatable and nutritious condition by being less fat; hence the present preference for what might be termed half-fat bacon. Mr. Sanders Spencer, in a recent article in the *English Live Stock Journal*, said:

"Almost every variety of pig bred in England has been declared by its breeders and admirers to be the only 'beau ideal' bacon curer's pig. In this interested praise of one's own speciality there is, doubtless, much to admire, but the disinterested opinion of the bacon curers of England, Ireland, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Denmark and Canada may, perhaps, be of more practical value, from the fact that their opinions are based upon experience in handling millions of pigs each year, while most of those who strongly champion the cause of their favorite breed may actually rear one or two hundred pigs per year, the best of those being sold for breeding purposes; therefore the owner's experience of procuring bacon curer's pigs is not extensive."

Those who have been sufficiently interested in the pork producing industry to notice the current articles in agricultural papers, written by pork packers, would see that the long, deep side, not overly fat, is just what is wanted. Short, thick, chunky pigs cannot find an outlet except in the lumber shanties during the coldest weather. It is only reasonable to conclude that pig breeders must pay more attention to the wants of their customers—the consumers of pork and bacon—or else other kinds of meat will be more extensively used and the demand for pork will grow less and less. Much of the success of the development of the export trade will depend on producing an article suited to the demands of the British market, which we well know calls for what is known as the "bacon curer's pig." The following extract from the *National Provisioner of New York* is exactly to the point:

"The difference between Irish and American bacon, and the superiority of the former, is not a matter of 'cure' and 'cut,' but of 'breed' and 'feed.' The ruling breed in Ireland is the Yorkshire White—very uncouth-looking animals, with long necks, heads and legs. When dressed, with their heads and legs off, they look much better, and one decided advantage over the American is that they cut 'lean,' and throughout the fat and lean is much more evenly divided."

There is no doubt but that what is said of the popular Irish pig applies equally well to the Canadian, as the Yorkshire fills the requirements in every particular. This 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 to the introduction of large numbers of Improved Large Yorkshires into those countries that they have achieved such a high position in the markets of England. This breed answers the requirements of the pork packers in every respect. It is light in the head, has light neck and shoulders, well sprung ribs, with good heart girth; a narrow, well-fleshed back, and thick loins; great length, full flanks, and hams well let down. The meat consists of a very large proportion of lean, while it is a rapid grower, and will mature easily at any time.

Apart from answering the purposes of the pork packer, the Improved Large Yorkshires possess qualities which commend them to the breeder. Being the direct descendant of the original English