

weight, but each individual had a perfect coat, and the legs of each were as fresh as in a two-year-old. Although it could hardly be expected that these ponderous horses, each weighing considerably over a ton, would be able to show the light, gay movements of the youngsters, yet as each giant moved off on the trot the crowd could not refrain from signifying their approval by applauding each favorite as he took his turn up and down the hall, for there was none of the pony about the *big four* that were fighting it out for position and honors, for each belonged to the *wide as a wagon* sort, of which English Shire breeders are wont to boast. Very carefully every point was weighed, every trait noted. The grand masculine character of the son of Prince of Wales, his capital feet and faultless pasterns, his heavy, clean bone, his grand top, his great width and immense weight. Grandeur, too, is built on nearly as large a scale, and he, too, is grand at the ground and equally good above, neatly turned, and both had that strong, hard-as-iron-look, as if they could work if this was required of them. Then there was Energy, the son of an equally illustrious sire, a trifle smoother finished above than either, yet built on quite as big a pattern as either of the foregoing. His legs and feet have all the freshness of a youngster, although he has been fitted and fitted well for each show, both fall and spring, since he was first imported. Much admired were his well placed ankles, well muscled forearms and second thighs, his strong hocks, all giving every token of immense strength. In general make-up there was very little advantage—where one lacked a point he more than made amends somewhere else; it was therefore action that must tell the tale and decide the difference, and at the trot it was as nearly a tie as in the former test, and yet the decision could not be made. Again and again they were made to show their paces. At length it was at the walk in which Grandeur won the day. He went off with that easy swinging gait that is so much admired by all lovers of the draft horse, and which all find so difficult to produce, so to Grandeur was given the first, Queen's Own second, and Energy third, Sir Walter bringing up a strong fourth. In response to the call for horses rising three, a particularly evenly balanced lot were brought out. Eight good ones were matched against each other for honors to be won. As several of them were on exhibition for the first time, it made the contest all the more exciting. The short list in this section was composed of Wm. Innes (Bradford) Symmetry, by Ensign, yet unbeaten in his class; R. D. Dundas' (Springville) McLaws, by General Wolfe, dam Imp. Queen of the Forest, by Sir Hildebrand; John Davidson's (Ashburn) Balgownie, by Gallant McCamon; John Vipond's (Brooklin) Erskine's Lad, by Erskine (imported), dam Heather Bloom (imported), by Farmer's Boy; John Davidson's Westfield Stamp, by Cairnbrogie Stamp. The contest was clearly between the first mentioned three, and for a length of time the chances wavered as to which would win. Symmetry was hardly in the form that we have seen him. He was hardly carrying sufficient flesh, but his flash, legs, often admired, gave an advantage that was difficult to get over. McLaws is a right good one, and, as he is a Canadian, he had many friends who thought he should have been placed a notch higher. He is certainly one that will come again, for he has a lot of good things about him, and reminds us of his sire, General Wolfe, which horse won second at the Industrial in 1889. In Balgownie John Davidson had a grand colt, and here again many would have placed first honors, for he was quality from the ground up, lacking a bit in feather, but otherwise as good as could be, and certainly had more flesh and was in better form than any other horse in the ring.

Another good Canadian was Erskine's Lad, a bit up on legs and might have carried a little more flesh and looked better. The previously mentioned colts in this list, bred and raised in Canada, show that it only requires the proper breeding in sire and dam to develop prize winners. A thick, wide and good colt is Westfield Stamp, and the fact of his being awarded fifth in this ring does not place him one whit lower in the scale of merit, for it was a case of comparative quality in which all were good. The honors were afterwards placed in the order named above, with Geo. Pepper's Daisy's Maclaskie very highly commended. Four came forward in the section for colts rising two. In this Alex. Cameron's (Ashburn) Royal Stamp, by his noted breeding horse, Tannahill, dam Imp. Mary's Pet, by Cairnbrogie Stamp, was an outstanding first; J. & J. A. Boag's (Queensville) Blooming Heather, by Macneilage, was given second; W. Philip's (Yelverton) Sir Burnie Dale, by Erskine's Pride, third; and Jos. H. Millard's (Altona) Merry Monarch, by Macneilage, fourth.

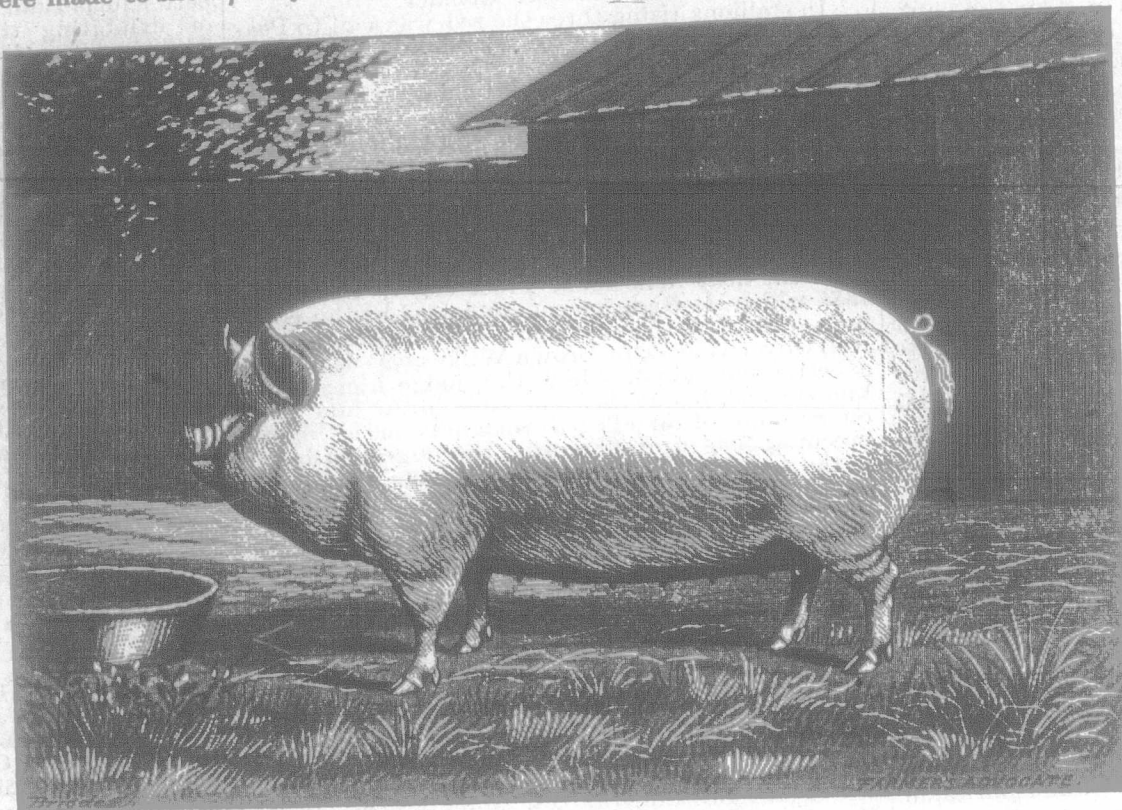
## STOCK.

## Improved White Yorkshires as Bred at Oak Lodge.

This breeding establishment is one of the largest engaged in swine breeding in the country, and no judge of pigs can pay a visit to Oak Lodge without awakening to the fact that a most superior herd of Improved Large White Yorkshires is stationed here.

The proprietor, Mr. Brethour, decidedly favors Walker Jones' breeding, and the lot of splendid sows of this strain which we were shown goes a long way towards convincing a visitor of the value of this breed, although a few sows of combined Spencer and Duckering breeding show exceptionally good points. In fact, the marked feature of the herd is the entire absence of coarseness, with a uniformity of type in which substance and quality are both retained in a high degree throughout the whole of the individuals of which it is comprised. In these particulars there is shown a skill in management that only an advanced breeder can attain. Success in any herd or flock may often be ascribed to one or two superior individuals that have stamped their impress upon their progeny, and in this case an imported Walker Jones sow named Marion, has done royal service in the breeding pens, her progeny having won many honors in the herd, while in fecundity she has been equally remarkable, having produced 84 pigs in less than three years. She is a sister to the sow with which Mr. Brethour won the silver cup given by Mr. Saunders Spencer for the best Yorkshire boar or sow over six months, competed for at Toronto in 1891.

The sow in the illustration, which is appropriately named Marion's Choice, is a daughter of the



IMPROVED LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE SOW "MARION'S CHOICE," PROPERTY OF J. E. BRETHOUR, BURFORD, ONT.

foregoing, and inherits her dam's form and quality. She is very deep in the side, with smooth shoulders, good loin, and exceptionally well developed hams, has a capital head and good heart girth, and is a remarkably handsome sow.

Maid 6th, another daughter of Marion, imported in her dam, is a sow possessing great substance. She has a capital head, great depth, standing on short logs, and, although probably a trifle short, she is a sow of capital breeding character, with splendid coat of hair.

Milly 3rd, yet another from Marion, farrowed December 1st, 1890, won second both at Toronto and London last season. She has already produced two litters, the first of eight, the second of thirteen, and is again due to farrow in a few days.

Imp. Mollington Lass, another sow of Walker Jones' breeding, is now suckling a choice litter of pigs that should give customers satisfaction.

Imp. Lady Duckering, that won second in Toronto in the aged class in 1892, as well as first and diploma in London, is a sow of beautiful-Yorkshire type; possesses great length and depth, and has remarkably good hams. She weighed eight hundred pounds at the time of the exhibitions, and has since produced a wonderfully even and thrifty litter of thirteen pigs that show great development.

Space will not allow anything like an individual notice of the many good things in the herd, but for those who may find it convenient to journey to Oak Lodge, we bespeak a gratifying visit.

Five stock boars have been used on the herd during this mating season. Two of these are bred by Walker Jones, Chester, Eng. Two of Saunders Spencer's breeding are also kept, while Diamond 2nd, bred by Joseph Ashforth, of the Rookery, Sheffield, Eng., is another good one. The above have been selected with a view of retaining the high character of the herd.

Of thirty-five breeding sows that have already been selected for producing pigs to fill orders through the coming season, six are imported sows, of which four were of Walker Jones' breeding, another from C. E. Duckering, Lincolnshire, Eng., and another from George Charnock, Pellor Lane, Halifax, Eng., the balance being chiefly bred by Mr. Brethour from the admirable stock of imported sows he has on hand.

Something over two hundred pigs were sold for breeding purposes during 1892, which gives an idea of the volume of business transacted, and which is yearly increasing.

Oak Lodge is situated within sight of the Burford Station, on the Brantford and Tilsonburg branch of the G. T. R., and is nine miles from the former city.

## Chatty Letter from the States.

From Our Chicago Correspondent.

Arrivals of live stock for the year so far show some decrease in cattle, a great decrease in hogs, and a liberal increase in sheep.

The great Chicago packers propose to develop the meat industry on the Pacific coast. Large packing houses and stock yards are being built by them at San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Arrivals of Texas cattle at Chicago the first week in March were 8,600, the largest receipts in over three months, and the largest receipts on record from Texas for this time of the year. The previous week 7,500 arrived, and the corresponding week last year only 1,246 arrived. March, 1892, 11,705 arrived, and the whole month of March, 1891, only 1,964 Texas cattle arrived. Indications point to very liberal offerings of Texas "fed" cattle during the month of April. It is said fewer cattle have been fattened in Texas this spring, but they are being marketed earlier than usual.

The following will give an idea of how live stock is coming forward at the principal markets of the States:—Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis received 114,500 cattle, 153,000 hogs, and 78,000 sheep one week, against 97,000 cattle, 206,000 hogs, and 57,700 sheep one year ago, and 81,000 cattle, 336,300 hogs, and 54,100 sheep the corresponding week two years ago. While receipts of cattle the past week were 33,000 larger than two years ago, the arrival of hogs decreased 178,000, and sheep increased 22,000.

Top native beefs, \$6; top hogs, \$8; top sheep, \$5.50; top lambs, \$6.60. A year ago the best native cattle sold in Chicago at \$5.15, the highest paid during March, April, May and June, 1892. The top for hogs last March was \$5.10, which was also the highest paid the first five months of 1892. A year ago lambs sold up to \$7.10, the highest recorded the first quarter of 1892.

The current prices for cattle are \$1 per 100 lbs. higher, and of hogs \$3 higher, while sheep and lambs are not so high by 50c. to 75c. per 100 lbs.

The future course of hog prices is a question of great interest. Hogs are certainly very scarce in the country, and packers are only doing a hand-to-mouth trade. The general feeling that hogs were entirely too dear has been more widespread of late, but the countrymen stop shipping when prices go off. A firm of hog salesmen say:—"We think hog feeding will pay, but, of course, there will be a reaction in a year or so, unless everybody discounts it and keeps the breeding down."

The hogs received at Chicago last month averaged 214 lbs., against 217 for January, and 219 lbs. for February, 1892, 208 lbs. for February, 1891, 232 lbs. for February, 1890, and 249 lbs. for February, 1889.

There is a great demand in the country for store pigs, and farmers are paying extravagant prices for them. At the same time thousands of 80 to 100-lb. pigs are being thrown on the market by men who think they are worth more than they would be when grown.

It is not to be wondered at that there is talk of using some of the thousands of surplus western ponies and plugs for food purposes. Horse meat would to-day be the cheapest on the list.

There is, according to latest Government statistics, one horse to every four men, women and children in the country, but a large number of them are hardly entitled to the dignity of being called horses—they are scrubs.

American farmers and dairymen are interested in Prof. Robertson's ensilage experiments.

W. W. Chapman, 27 Baker street, Portman Square, London, Eng., Secretary British South-down Flock Book, has sent to this office the first volume. It is strongly bound and well edited, and contains the pedigrees of a large number of South-down sheep, as well as much valuable information relative to this ancient breed of sheep. Every Canadian Southdown breeder should procure a copy.