

and can we not claim for Canada that the climate and change of feed, etc., did something towards developing the best Bates bull of modern times?

A herd whose history is not yet written, whose history cannot be written until Shorthorns cease to be—a herd that has been left as a legacy to the breeders of the world, to sustain and perpetuate the handiwork of the great master-workman, or by bad management, bad selection of crosses, or penurious treatment, to discredit and dishonor upon a name and upon a breed that deserve the gratitude of every breeder of Shorthorns, every breeder of good cattle, and of all interested in good beef, milk and butter.

The Desired Mechanism of a Draught Horse.

(First Paper.)

The observer watching the honest pull of an ideal draught horse as he bends his energies and plys his muscles to the moving of his ponderous load, and seeing the working of the levers and the cords as the tension mounts to its height; or the bystander, noting the free and easy stride and princely carriage of the active driver, as he makes the wheels hum their merry tune, cannot but be one with us in saying that a high type of either class with qualities happily adjusted and coupled, is beyond question the noblest of the dumb domestic animals. A mechanism that bears the brand of utility and beauty is theirs, with a mind intuitive and receptive, however much it may be dwarfed by their being slaved because dumb, and abused, because submissive.

Among what may be termed the general qualities that greatly enhance the merits of a draught horse, those of weight and form are perhaps chief. The horse possessed of weight has momentum to aid him, and thus is better at a pull, but he must necessarily lose in activity, though it may be but slightly. The light-soiled farm asks for nothing over fifteen or sixteen hundred, while the city lorry calls for a ton of horseflesh, or more. The stout, blocky horses, free from length of body or of leg, are not only, as a rule, good keepers, but also enduring workers. A handmaid of solidity of form is symmetry. Not only is it pleasing to the eye for all the qualities to be evenly balanced, but it ensures against awkwardness of movement.



A good head, crest and neck.

A nice, clean-cut head, free from coarseness, well set on, and jewelled with a pair of mild but large and bright eyes, forms a fitting prow for the noble vessel which it should head. The

face of a horse is an open book, on which is imprinted in legible lettering an account of his inner character, which he, unlike his subtle superior, is not able to deface. Breadth between the eyes denotes that the brain does not lack development for want of room, while it may be taken that a horse narrow between the eyes and the latter sunken and piggish in their nature, is sure to be very susceptible to bad influences, and will early learn to kick, bite,



An honest face.

or crib. The large-sized nostrils are indicative signs of a lung capacity of the first order. While fine-pointed, medium-sized ears are an embellishment, the width between the jaws is a point of more utility, as it allows the head to play freely on the neck if necessary, and permitting the latter to bow nicely. Quick-

moving ears denote a temperament of a like nature, and a horse that is continually endeavoring to hear what is going on behind him should not be trusted. While not requiring that the neck be "clothed with thunder," yet it very much conduces to the good appearance of a horse, be he draught or driver, to have a clean, well muscled neck, of good thickness, and neatly gathered at the throat. In a stallion a full crest materially adds to his appearance, as well as denoting masculinity. The shoulder conformation, both in slant and mould, is of the greatest importance. A long, slanting shoulder blade or scapula gives quick play to the fore-legs, the angle between the shoulder blade and the humerus (the bone that runs from the point of the shoulder to the elbow) being lessened as the slant increases. This oblique shoulder does not favor the extra knee action that finds an abiding place in the favor of many lovers of strong carriage-horses, but the reverse



An oblique shoulder, favoring quick action.

of this is rather the case, the upright shoulder necessarily calling for more. For leverage it can easily be seen that the upright shoulder has the advantage, though the action must perforce become more stilted as the slant lessens. In some horses it may be noticed that though their shoulders have the desired set, yet they are constantly sore, which is in many



A strong shoulder.

cases due to bad workmanship on the collars, yet it is often to be traced to badly-formed shoulders. They offer no hold or support for a collar, due to the fact that their shoulders are round and not prominent enough, thus giving but little backing to a collar.



A good front.



Clear action, due to good shoulder conformation, short back, long underline and good quarter.

Inquiry re Clydesdale Stallion.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform me as to whether there is a stallion registered in the Canadian Clydesdale Stud Book by the name of The King of the West. There was a horse travelled in this district under that name in the season of 1886-87, and it was stated by the groom that he was a pure-bred Clyde, raised, I believe, by Clark Bros., somewhere in Ontario. As he was largely patronised by the members of this agricultural society, we would like to know something more in regard to his pedigree. JAS. O'BRIEN, Sec. Windsor (N. S.) Ag. Society.

There was a horse called A One alias King of the West, imp. [194] 524, registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Canada, and he is the only one that is given as being owned at the time registered by John Clark, Carleton Co., Ont. This horse, however, is given as a foal of 1863. His breeder was Wm. Kerr, Scroggiehill, Scotland, and he was imported in 1870 by Robt. Ferris, Richmond Hill, York Co., Ont.

As to his pedigree, he was sired by Lochend Champion (448), out of a Clyde mare bred by And. Logan, Scotland. Lochend Champion (448) must have been a horse of some merit if the prizes he has won may be accepted as a test. In 1861 he won 1st prize at the Highland Agricultural Society Show at Perth; gold medal of the same society at Kelso, 1863; 2d prize at the Royal of England at Battersea, 1862, and in 1865 he won the Glasgow premium. He has sired such horses as Enterprise (281), Volunteer (897), Young Barnett, and such mares as Jess of Oakbank (132), Nannie of Balig (375), and Nell of Glamis (409), etc.

The sire of Lochend Champion (448) was Prince (603), winner of the second prize at the Highland Agricultural Society Show at Glasgow, 1850; the Brechin premium horse in 1851, and Lanarkshire in 1852. Clyde (155), the sire of Prince (603), won 1st at the Highland Agricultural Society show in 1844.—ED.

The Shropshire Sheep.

BY EDWARD GOODWIN PREECE, LIVE-STOCK AGENT, SHREWSBURY, ENGLAND.

(First Paper.)

The Shropshire sheep, which by reason of its inherent valuable attributes, has so firmly established itself at the head of all other breeds, not only in Great Britain, but in many other quarters of the globe, is descended from a breed which upwards of two centuries ago was known to exist in the county of Shropshire and part of the adjoining one of Stafford. As far back as 1340 Shropshire produced a breed of sheep celebrated for its superlative quality of wool, as Smith in his History of Wool and Woollen Manufactures (Chron. Rusticum, pub. 1641), quotes the prices of English wool in 1341, as follows:

	To the Staple for home Use	For Exportation.
	Per Sack. Per Stone.	Per Sack. Per Stone.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salop.....	6 6 4	5 0
Staffordshire...	5 6 8	4 2
Nottingham....	4 11 4	3 7
York & Rutland	4 10 0	3 5
Derby.....	3 3 4	2 5
Cumberland....	2 13 4	2 1

In 1792 Prof. Wilson, in his report of the various breeds of sheep in the journal of the R. A. S. E. (vol. 16), writes that when the Bristol wool society in 1792, after much research, had procured as much reliable information as possible regarding the English breeds of sheep, they reported as follows with reference to a certain breed of sheep then existing on the "Morfe common," near Bridgnorth, in Shropshire: "On this large tract of table land there are several thousand sheep kept, during the open months, which produce a very superior quality of wool. They are a native breed, indigenous to the immediate locality, are extremely hardy, with brown or speckled faces, horns, and blocky, thick-set frames, weighing—the wethers from 12 to 14 lbs., and the ewes about 11 lbs. per quarter, and clipping fleeces about 2 lbs. weight. This seems to be the original stock whence sprung the present breed." Again, in 1803, Plymley, when writing on the agriculture of the county, thus describes the breed as it then existed: "There is a breed of sheep on the 'Longmynds' (a range of hills extending from the north to the south of Shropshire on the Welsh or western side), with horns and black faces, which appear to be an indigenous sort. They are nimble, hardy, and weigh nearly 10 lbs. per quarter when fattened. The fleeces on the average will weigh about 2½ lbs." There has also existed for many generations upon the high table-land of Stafford, known as "Canrock Chase," are equally valuable and very similar breed of sheep to the Morfe, but of greater size and scale, and it is without doubt that