

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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Fall Wheat.

In our issue of August 15th, we will give reports from the fall wheat sections of Ontario. Those of our readers who have tested one or more sorts this season are invited to write us at once, giving their experience and impressions as to the value of the sorts tried, and other useful information regarding fall wheat.

Studs, Herds and Flocks.

MR. WILLIAM GRAINGER'S SHORTHORNS.

The farm owned by Mr. Grainger is but a short drive from Londesboro', where a most useful herd of deep milking Shorthorns have been bred up. Mr. Grainger's name has lately come more prominently before the public from the fact that one of his cows has been chosen to represent what Shorthorns can do in the way of milk production at the World's Fair, Chicago. Thus Mr. Grainger has the satisfaction of knowing that through his own skill and energy he is not only helping along his favorite breed of cattle, but is doing battle in the interest of Canada and Canadian stock as well.

It, however, must not be supposed that because this cow was chosen for the test she was the only good one in the herd; in fact, Mr. Grainger declares emphatically that he has better ones left behind, but unfortunately for those the test came at the wrong time of the year, as regards the date of calving, and therefore they were out of the question entirely, while another was considered too young, as she had just calved her second calf. However, this young cow we saw milked and weighed the produce carefully in person, and she, within a week after calving, her udder still swollen, gave 45 pounds of milk in the 24 hours, which we consider exceedingly good; while another cow, which we were told it was almost impossible to dry off, though she was within six weeks of calving was giving 25 pounds of milk per day.

The herd are remarkably uniform in appearance, having large, shapely udders, and every appearance of giving abundance of milk and yet retain feeding quality. In breeding, the cows go back to a cow purchased from Mr. William Miller, of Atha, some fifteen years ago; she was of his well-known Atha family that sold so well at Mr. Miller's sale in 1875. Upon these Mr. Grainger has placed the best bulls obtainable, always keeping an eye on milk production, until he has fixed a type of milkers of extraordinary merit.

Among other methods of increasing the year's production of milk, he has kept his cows milking as long as possible, and has been especially careful with young cows, which he invariably keeps in milk until the second calf is nearly due, and is quite assured he will by so doing continue to increase the flow of milk per year in succeeding generations. That he is already being repaid for his persevering efforts in this line is assured by the steadily increasing demand he has already obtained, which he declares has been much greater than ever during the last year. Among the young calves we noticed a particularly promising young bull from Red Britania, the cow mentioned above, which cannot fail to make his mark upon some herd where deep milking cattle are appreciated.

SPRINGHILL FARM.

A length of time has elapsed since our last visit to the stock farm of Messrs. Richard Rivers & Son, whose names have long been identified with Shorthorns and Berkshires. It was quite easy to mark an improvement in the cattle here; it is quite evident that the Messrs. Rivers are among the number who have a firm conviction that whatever is worth doing is worth doing well, and that if there is money in breeding cattle it is among the best where readiest sales and highest prices are obtained. The present stock bull is Brampton Chief, a son of Brampton Hero; that he is doing good service in the herd, one only has to inspect the very excellent crop of calves he has left this season. Brampton Chief is a rich roan, with capital top, well sprung rib, and is a very stylish-looking fellow. Several useful cows have recently been placed in the herd, among which is a thick-fleshed roan bred by Mr. Jos. Crearar, Shakespeare, got by the Kinnellar Ruby Hill bull, Laird of Kinnellar. Over in another pasture we were shown eight very useful heifers, most of which had been bred to Brampton Chief. These were well-grown, displaying good adaptability for feeding, and will be quite an acquisition to the breeding herd later on.

Among the calves we noticed some exceedingly promising bulls, two of which were well advanced in age, having been dropped early in the winter. The first of these is very much like his sire, Brampton Chief, his dam being by Duke of Hamilton, while another in the same pen was a trifle thicker, and evidently had the benefit of a good mother. He was also by Brampton Chief.

The Berkshires are a nice lot, the breeding boar being one of Mr. J. C. Snell's breeding. We also noticed several sows that should play their part in supplying the trade with the kind of pigs now required, as these had plenty of length and depth, good thick and deep hams, and sufficient smooth, even quality to insure ready sale.

HORSES AND CATTLE AT CAMDEN VIEW.

The name of Mr. Carson Shaw has for many years been known in connection with improved stock, and many farmers in the rich corn and hay producing district of which Mr. Shaw's post office town is the centre, have derived benefit from the stock that has been introduced by him.

Mr. Shaw has not been satisfied with breeding well one department of farm stock, for horses, cattle, sheep and swine each claim their share of attention. In horses, Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coach are the sort preferred, and in this line only the best imported stallions have been used in the stud. The mares, as well as the colts and fillies, appear to be of the class that are equally well adapted for per-

forming necessary farm work or heavy carriage work on the road, as required; and again we could not help thinking another vast advantage in this class of horses that the the mares may be bred to thoroughbred or hackney stallions to great advantage, thus producing the most suitable horses to meet the present demand. Dalesman 1st, Disraeli, Volunteer and Dalesman 2nd had each in turn been used, and the steady determination to pursue one course in breeding the horses for the farm and stud has resulted in as uniformly useful a lot as can be seen on any farm.

The Shorthorn herd is perhaps the most important department on the farm. At the head of this is the bull Daisy Chief, bred by Mr. Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, and sired by the imported bull, Indian Chief. Daisy Chief is a useful, smoothly finished bull, with plenty of natural flesh, and when coupled with such cows and heifers as we were shown at Camden View one would expect more than ordinary results. In selecting the bulls for his herd Mr. Shaw has exercised good judgment, but with this alone he does not rest satisfied, as he has purchased cows of equally good breeding and individual merit from time to time whenever such were to be procured.

As this part of the County of Kent is noted for producing large quantities of pork, some excellent Berkshires have been bred, and it appeared to us that just as much attention had been paid to this department as either of the foregoing.

MR. CAIRNS' CHESTER WHITES.

Mr. Cairns, who is carrying on a mercantile business in Camlachie, and is especially fond of agricultural pursuits, finds time to pay considerable attention to stock breeding.

He recently had a herd of Hereford cattle, but these he has sold out to a gentleman who purchased them to place upon a large ranch in the West, and now Mr. Cairns is devoting his principal attention to breeding pigs, for which he finds a ready sale and steadily increasing demand. Chester Whites are the variety that he appears to favor, and of these he has some very good individuals. Among these we noticed a particularly good two-year-old sow, bred by Mr. R. H. Harding, of Thornedale. She was sired by Broadbrim, and is therefore half-sister to Mr. Harding's champion sow at the Guelph fat stock show last winter.

A yearling daughter of the above, sired by Silver Chief, is a particularly smooth sow. She is very deep and long in the rib and smoothly finished, and was in fine condition, considering a litter of seven capital pigs had just been weaned from her. This sow and her dam have deep, thick hams, and carry their weight well back, and show a disposition to put on flesh easily.

The stock boar now in use is Zola, which was bred by Mr. Abraham Gehl, of Preston, Ont.; he also is of the type required by the trade.

Some very nice pigs were on hand at the time of our visit, but if we may judge by the manner in which orders were being received, these will not be long in seeking customers. Mr. Cairns has been shipping in all directions, several having gone down to Quebec.

BROCKHOLME HOLSTEIN-FRIESIANS.

Among the successful prize-winning herds of Holstein cattle is that of Mr. R. S. Stevenson, Ancaster, Ont., who by judgment in selection and care in management has aimed at that enviable position where there is no difficulty in the disposition of his surplus stock. At the time of our visit the cattle were all out at pasture with the exception of the stock bull Netherland Romulus, a portrait of which appeared in (1891) September issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. This bull retains his form in a high degree, and is a splendid type of dairy bull. He combines plenty of size with wonderful smoothness and quality, and retains all the points of a dairy bull so desirable for improving cattle for milk and butter production. Netherland Romulus, was bred by Messrs. Smith, Rowell and Lamb, Syracuse, N. Y., of whom Mr. Stevenson purchased him. Several exceedingly fine imported cows have also been selected from time to time, which have strengthened the herd most materially, and have placed it among the most desirable from which to select bulls to head herds, especially as a number of the cows are recorded in the advanced registry. Among the matrons of the herd are such cows as Johanna Tensen, Antje Houter, and Ideal, all of which were imported from Holland. The first-mentioned belongs to a family that have had several representatives that are prize winners, and this cow has all the appearance of being a heavy producer, together with the neat frame for which her family is celebrated. Antje Houter and Ideal have quite as much promise; the milk of the former gave 61 per cent. butterfat during a test held at Toronto, and she gave 12 lbs. of butter in seven days, as a two-year-old, when tested in Mr. Stevenson's hands. Many other good ones are to be seen, but we have no space to give any individual notice, except in the case of two most promising bull calves, both from cows of the Tensen family, that are good enough to be placed at the head of herds of pure-breds. Mr. Stevenson also breeds Improved Large Yorkshires, of which we noticed some exceedingly good breeding sows that retained all the character of the breed, and were evidently quick feeders that would grow great weights for their age. A lot of growthy young pigs were particularly good, and evidently will not be long in finding purchasers.