

ther, as follows:—

or every pound of
ound of butter fat,
ner solids, and one
calving after the

shires were only
number of points
s they could not
t. One of them
months, and Em-
Jerseys were five
, and all of them
d in full flow of
be considered.

bove quoted as the
Robertson's report
ed by each three

245.06
168.80
104.36
63.90
582.06
175.75
282.40
109.88
13.60
580.63

the aggregate in
ad of a large one
product been con-
the great dairy ex-
out doubt attracts
ority of those en-
where, the balance
uld be very much
milk to ever lb. of
rds, as Mr. Cheese-
1885, the respec-

s. cheese, at 3
73.50
63.90
137.40

s. cheese at 3
52.37
13.35
65.72

ifference in favor
Robertson's report

twenty-eight cents
for the amount of
the Jerseys during
asily be accounted
erseys, which had
e test, were stunted
g on. This was
it was suggested to
r cows, but I was
wanted a fair and
faction, as well as
e fed our animals
y had been before.
s proposed the Dr.
he other side. Any
ires and Jerseys, as
be fully convinced
largest amount of
end that had those
o their merits and
tioned, this prize
the Ayrshires. I
usly offered to give
ar, but permit me
dard of judging is
e to predict there
naps, some Jerseys,
ondon as decidedly
any other breed.

THOMAS GUY,
b, 1889.

Why the Holsteins Did Not Exhibit.

In an article in your last issue headed, "Handled with Gloves," Stockman makes a few remarks that call for an answer. We can scarcely hope to satisfy a man who throws stones from a glass house, protected by an assumed name. But there may be some fair-minded and unprejudiced persons who wonder why the Holsteins were not in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE test at the London Provincial. We are pleased to see the enterprise of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, but think the test should have been made so all could compete, and would suggest that if a prize is to be offered the time should not be restricted to a few days in September, but breeders should be allowed the option of sending their cows to London, Guelph, or any other place selected, any time during the year, and Prof. Robertson should be asked to conduct the test, as at present. With us it was an impossibility to compete, because our cows are bred to calve in October, so that they will be giving the largest amount of milk and butter when these products are dearest. We may also add that the Holsteins are a new breed in this country, and, although spreading rapidly, yet there are very few matured cows that came in so as to enter the test, and these were owned by small breeders who would not go to the trouble and expense of sending a single animal, and the larger breeders did not have three cows that came in near the right time.

The reason that Stockman gives a fling at the Holsteins (although only two breeders competed) is readily seen. He evidently feels sore at "seeing the people running after the Holsteins," as we heard an old Shorthorn breeder say a few days ago, but Stockman must remember that this is an age of progress, and should shake off his Rip-Van-Winkle sleep and join the procession. His remarks simply imply that Holsteins are rapidly displacing other breeds, else, why should he single them out for an attack? and "a little chap sitting by our side" (a chip out of the old block, we suppose) would not talk of sending them back to Holland, if he were old enough to know that they are a strong factor in our country's prosperity and wealth, just as they have been in Holland. Holstein men should have nothing to fear from competition, as shown by the following results:—

The following tests, open to all breeds, were for the largest amount of butter made on the fair grounds during the respective exhibitions held this year:—

Iowa State Fair, 1st, 2nd and 3rd went to the Holsteins; Detroit International Exposition, 1st 2nd and 3rd went to the Holsteins; Nebraska State Fair, 1st and 2nd went to the Holsteins; Chicago Fat Stock and Dairy Show, 1st and 2nd went to the Holsteins; Ohio State Fair, 1st went to the Holsteins; Michigan State Fair, 1st went to the Holsteins; Tennessee State Fair, 1st went to the Holsteins; Virginia State Fair, 1st went to the Holsteins.

The "English and Scotchmen that simply overran Holland," did see "their highly lauded usefulness," for they brought over these identical cattle and laid the foundation of the Shorthorns, and to the Holsteins they owe their size and best milking strains, as the following quotation from the consular.

Report on cattle and dairy farming (page 98) shows: In referring to the cattle brought from Holland, it says, "These cattle were of larger bulk, and the cows better milkers than were then known. The new breed formed by the admixture and crossing of these imported animals soon asserted their superiority over all other races. Such was the origin of the Shorthorn."

Trusting that our explanation may be satisfactory to your many readers, and thanking you for the space,

We are, yours truly,
SMITH BROS., Churchville, Ont.

Why Holsteins Did Not Compete.

I notice an effusion from Stockman re the Provincial dairy tests. He seems to take a special delight in the fact that the Holstein breeders did not enter the late test. In fact the bare mention of the name Holstein acts upon him like the proverbial red rag. But, as he professes to be a Shorthorn breeder, it is plain that he has sense enough to know which boot pinches him most. But assertions unsupported by proof are no arguments, and will not aid any cause.

As to why Holstein breeders did not enter the tests we do not know, as we are not in the confidence of those breeders, but it is safe to say they had as good reason as other breeders (the Shorthorns, for instance). One cause may have been, and likely the true one, because these breeders did not have the requisite number of cows, fresh or in good shape, to make a creditable display of their capacity. It would be natural for an exhibitor not only to desire to secure the coveted prize, but also to show to the public as near as possible, under the great disadvantages of a public test (which disadvantages we will notice further on), as near as possible what his favorites are capable of doing, and the public would naturally expect that the exhibitors would make the best records they could. Now, as practical men, we know this could not be done if the exhibitors did not have their best cows in "shape," and "coming in" in October, or even February or March, would not be in the best of "shape," and as after July 1st they are barred, a cow to be in her best would need to calve in June. Now, this is not the time breeders are in the habit of timing their cows to calve, hence it would be necessary to have a year, or, in many cases, two years, to get into shape. But, at the same time, a breeder might have his cows just right for business the first year. Evidently the Holstein men were not so lucky, and as they are the newest in the field, have therefore the fewest to select from, many of the breeders having made no calculations to show at all, and have been paying more attention to raising calves, which sell so readily to what other breeds do, hence neglecting record making. Or they may have had valid objections as to the regulations. We don't think so many conditions and regulations were ever imposed in a test before, and although they are undoubtedly made to be equally fair to all contestants, it would indeed require a professor to determine the bearings on practical dairying. As I am not a professor, but a practical dairyman, I would rather look at the regulations from their working in practice.

If I remember right cows "A" averaged about 35 lbs. of milk daily, and cows "J" about 20 lbs. (It is not necessary to be exact to a fraction to illustrate what I want to.) Now, cows "J," by total points allowed, were as to "A" as 44.—odd is to 11.—or, in other words, cows "A" would need to give four times the quantity of their milk to equal the quantity given by cows "J," or the Ayrshires would need to give 140 lbs. of their milk to equal 20 lbs. of that given by the Jerseys. If these deductions are right, they would have a big contract on hand to knock the little Jerseys out, and evidently there is a "hole in the wall," as there cannot be this much difference in the actual values of the two milks, although one was poor and the other rich in "butter fat," and also as the report does not show an enormous difference in the amount of food consumed. Of course, if this

is all wrong I stand open to correction. In fact, I give it to start a discussion to obtain information as to the bearing of the points allowed on the value of milk in practical dairying. Is "butter fat" everything of value in milk for either cheese or butter? Prof. Robertson says, in his able article in your December issue on "Butter Making in Winter," that the skim milk, when properly saved, is equal to nearly one-third the value of the butter. From this I would conclude I would rather have a cow that would give 40 lbs. of milk testing 3.50 per cent. "butter fat" than one giving 20 lbs. testing 7 per cent., even for butter, I would be away ahead on the skim milk.

Stockman seems to expect the Holstein breeders to equal in public test the tests made in private, and often quoted naturally by breeders of this class of stock. If this is not done, why all are a delusion. Now, as has been said in reference to these very large private tests, "They appeared to be phenomenal yields of dairy cows to those unacquainted with the capacity of a specialized cow under the high pressure system of feeding." But large as they are, be it remembered that even the largest are backed by affidavits of the "owners," attendants, merchants, bankers, rival breeders and preachers. And could more disinterested parties be found to witness a public test. In fact, a good authority says, "many of these tests are backed by enough evidence to hang a dozen men."

But why are they not equalled in "public tests?" A practical man should not need to think twice to know "Why." The Breeders' Gazette, in a late able editorial, reviews the whole question, and says:—

"Dairy cows will not yield their normal amount of milk or 'butter fat'—especially the latter—when subject to the strain of fair ground excitement. The trials all prove this; in fact it has gone on record but once that a cow has made over 3 lbs. of butter in twenty-four hours in a public test. But observe how this failure is interpreted by skeptics. Private records are contrasted with public trials by the same cow, and the marked discrepancy is hurled, as if a weapon of utter demolition, against all private tests. In this the skeptics betray either an ignorance profound or a malice reprehensible. When consideration is given the subject, the wonder is that thoughtful students of dairy cattle ever consented to enter their cows in a show ground test. That the nervous function plays a prominent part in the elaboration of milk and 'butter fat' passes all dispute. A change of milkers, all other conditions remaining the same, will, in many cases, lessen appreciably the amount of 'butter fat' elaborated and 'let down.' Railway journeys, new quarters, strange cattle, the excitement of show ground, and more especially strange water, cannot fail to operate disadvantageously to a cow when put to a test. The one item of water alone is sufficient in itself to prevent a normal yield."

This must commend itself as a very common sense view of the question, and necessarily all public trials must be a very incomplete test. Incomplete, we say, because for reasons given a cow can never show her full capacity in a public test, and because there can be no fixed rule to determine how much cows will vary between public test and private.

So far these remarks apply with equal force to all breeds, and public tests are only of value to