

capable of doing this.) When I first reached the country, in 1889, there were still a large number of oxen being used throughout the district, which have nearly all been replaced by horses during the last five years. Amongst others, a large number of street car horses, trotting stock, and some heavy mares have been introduced, principally by cattle dealers in exchange for stock; and as these have been bred to all sorts of horses, and the produce has not been salable at the low prices which recently prevailed, many of the farmers have a large stock of unsalable horses on their hands. So far as I know, there is no demand whatever for heavy stallions throughout the district, and I keep my own at home. Hackneys have taken fairly well. My stallion, Fireworks, did the best season for me last year that I have ever had, but was not run to his full capacity. There appears to be this year a very fair demand too, but no rush. I think farmers are coming back to their senses, but we will not see any boom before next year. There are here some very good mares, heavy and light, but not a large number. The ordinary farmer being so stuck on the general purpose horse, I would advise him to breed his mares to a heavy horse, with a view to getting express horses, which fetch good prices. Mares around us are not heavy enough for heavy draft. If he has well-bred mares, by all means let him breed drivers. As to sires, I would advise the use of Shires and Clydesdales, also Hackneys and Thoroughbreds. There have been no buyers through our district, that I know of, the last winter. There will be no prospect of draft horses for sale for several years. There will be some drivers in two or three years, and a few roadsters. There may be some express horses. In conclusion, let me ask you to impress on your readers the importance of feeding their stock well. Every farmer can afford to put in one-quarter or one-half acre of carrots, which will go a long way. Too many farmers fail to breed horses for sale, and consequently do not push them along. They seem to have an idea that it is perhaps a good thing for the mare to have a foal occasionally, just to keep her in practice, or the foal will amuse the children. Anyway, he may lose one of his horses some day, or his neighbor may have bad luck, in which case he can make a sale.

Muskoka, Ont.

HORACE N. CROSSLEY.

#### Future Horse Supplies Light.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—The outlook for horse breeding is perhaps a little better than last year, but owing to low prices farmers may still hold back. The supply of good brood mares is very good. They are the blocky type, from 1,200 to 1,400 pounds. Grade Clydes are a good class to breed from, if we had also more clean-boned mares, part Thoroughbred, to use to Coaching horses. We have had plenty of horse buyers through our district, but the prices offered do not seem to meet the seller. There is still a fair supply for sale. The supply from this out will be light, owing to mares not having been bred. There will be some young carriage horses in, say, two years, but no saddle horses to speak of.

Chateauguay Co., P. Q.

ROBERT NESS.

#### That Mutton Test.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—In your last issue John Springer, Springfield, Ill., arrives at a misleading conclusion in writing about the lamb test at the Iowa Ex. Station. He does not take the fleece into account when he endeavors to have the Southdowns show the highest value. Southdowns sold for \$4.75 and Shropshires at \$4.62, while the fleece of the former weighed 6.75, that of the latter made 8.75. Allowing one cent a pound difference, we have the Shropshire fleece at fifteen cents unwashed (as I suppose it was), making \$1.31 + \$4.62 = \$5.93, while the Southdown fleece at sixteen cents made \$1.08 + \$4.75 = \$5.83 as the total. Prices are my own, based on markets. In same report we notice that when dressed the Shropshire lambs gave a percentage of 56.3 and the Southdown gave 55.4, and others higher than either, but a Shropshire yearling outdistanced all by making 62.3 dressed percentage.

I thought after the extraordinary showings that Shropshires and Shropshire grades made at Guelph and New York last fall the lovers of other breeds would for a time quit flinching the Shrops of their world-wide reputation. In this locality no lambs have sold at all up in price to that got for half-bred Shrops. In March one feeder got nearly \$7 each for his bunch and another got over \$6. Out of the latter lot I helped a dealer secure four in January at twenty-five dollars. Need more be written to convince the raisers of butchers' lambs that the Shropshire ram stands unexcelled as the getter of the highest priced and therefore money-making lamb?

A few days ago a dealer, in looking over my flock, noticed spring lambs which he considered would bring in Toronto—dull as meats are—\$6 each. With good, common ewes and a blocky, well-fleshed Shropshire ram, any farmer can secure somewhat similar results. Next to raising high-class breeding stock, there is no other line of farming in which I have as much confidence as in raising lambs for the market. JOHN CAMPBELL.

Fairview Farm, Victoria Co., Ont.

The Nova Scotia School of Horticulture at Wolfville closed a very successful term on May 1st, with an enrollment of 64 students.

#### Our Scottish Letter.

We are into the throes of the show season in the west of Scotland, and one could easily spend every day in the week, except the first and second, attending these meetings. There are few parishes in Ayrshire which have not a show, and besides these there are many gatherings at the principal towns in the west of Scotland.

**Clydesdale Sales.**—During the week ending 25th inst. the Clydesdale has been very much in evidence. Sales have been held in Glasgow of stock from Professor McCall's stud, at Blairtummock, and at Keir, of the entire stud of Clydesdales founded many years ago by the late Sir William Sterling Maswell, Bart. Professor McCall is a great believer in strong, robust, big horses. He attaches little importance to the show-yard taste, and goes on his own way. He sold nineteen head on Tuesday at the average price of £52 3s. 4d.; on the whole, as much as the owner expected; and there were various satisfactory features about the sale, notably the presence of gentlemen from England, who bought several of the best. The Keir sale attracted an immense crowd, about 1,200 people being present from all quarters, and the result was eminently satisfactory; fifty-three Clydesdales of all ages were sold, the average price being £67 11s. 6d. The mares were in good demand, but the stud has for several years been poorly supplied with stallions, the three stud horses selling for £76 13s., £105, and £141 15s. respectively. These prices scarcely indicate the class of horse which would have been looked for in a stud of the best Clydesdale mares the world possibly has seen. The mares have grand bodies and are of great substance. The highest price was made by a mare which, strictly speaking, did not belong to the stud. This was Victoria, a three-quarter-bred Clydesdale, nine years old, for which Mr. Riddell paid 260 gs. Of the old stud, the mare which drew the highest price was New Hope Newstead Darling, for which Professor McCall paid 250 gs. One of the Peggy tribe, (from which Darnley sprung), Lorne Briton Peggy, drew 200 gs., her buyer being also Mr. Riddell. The Marquis of Londonderry gave 160 gs. for a two-year-old filly named Venus, and others of the same age sold for 70 gs. and 60 gs.; yearling fillies made up to 53 gs. and 52 gs.; the average price of thirty brood mares was £76 9s.; five three-year-old fillies made £49 10s. each; eleven two-year-old fillies, £54 2s. each; four yearlings, £42 15s. each; a yearling colt made £26 6s.; and three stallions made £107 16s. The average price of the 106 Clydesdales thrown upon the market during the past fortnight was £67 11s. 3d., or almost to a penny the Keir average. The sixteen sold from Edengrove made the splendid figure of £116 19s. 8d., so that it has had to make up the deficiency supplied by the lower rates ruling at the other sales.

**The Show Ring.**—Glasgow was a magnificent show. Seldom have we seen a better display of Clydesdales, and all through the principle of single judging which was adopted gave excellent results. The Montrave stud, of Mr. Gilmour, furnished the champion female, Montrave Maud 11780, a very gay and handsome mare got by Prince of Wales 673, out of the redoubtable champion mare, Moss Rose 6203. This is a mare of great substance; not particularly noteworthy when walking, but when trotted, a long way ahead of any mare of her age in this country. She has bred one foal of great merit—the three-year-old Montrave Mac 9958, by Macgregor, which was placed fourth in his section same day and is serving mares at £10 10s. each mare, foal or no foal. The champion male Clydesdale was Mr. James A. Wallace's Prince of Clay, winner of first prize in spring, and a great, massive horse with good middle piece and splendid fore legs. He was got by the celebrated Prince Alexander 8890, whose other stock took high places at this show, and his dam was the all but unbeaten mare Pandora, by Darnley, bred and owned by Mr. James Lockhart. He has thus a double cross of Darnley blood, his sire's dam being got by that same distinguished horse, and this will more than counterbalance the fact that Pandora's dam was a Shire mare formerly owned by Mr. Drew, to whom she was known as Flora by Lincolnshire Lad. Prince Alexander is owned by Mr. Wm. Renwick, Meadowfield, Corstorphine, and was purchased for £1,200 when little more than a weaned foal. At Glasgow he won first prize as sire of the five best yearlings got by one sire, and it is worthy of note that his two competitors on the occasion were, like himself, the produce of mares got by Darnley. These were Prince of Albion 6178, the Montrave stud horse, and Master Robin 8040, owned by Mr. Richard Dunn. All three are much above the average as breeding horses, and their dams were both well bred and very good mares. It is curious to note that Prince Alexander has twice beaten Prince of Albion—first when they met individually at the H. & A. S. show at Dundee in 1890, and now when they met for the first time as sires of groups of five yearlings. Another interesting group competition was that for brood mares and two of their progeny. The contest lay between Mr. W. W. Galbraith's Zeynal and Mr. W. S. Park's Hutton Beauty; and both, it is of importance to note, were daughters of Darnley. Thus for breeding purposes the tribe of old Darnley are fairly in the ascendant. In the five female classes at Glasgow two of the first prize winners were got by Prince of Wales 673, and one each by Goldfinder 6807, Buon's Pride 9122, and Fergusson 9526. In the three entire male classes the sires of first prize winners were Prince Alexander 8890, Prince of Kyle 7155, and Riddell's

Gallant Prince; all three sons of Prince of Wales 673. The champion gelding, a truly magnificent horse, was got by Lyon of Purdomstown 4549, a son of Macgregor 1487.

**Hackney Breeding** is making rapid progress in Scotland, and the exhibition at Glasgow was probably never excelled in Scotland. The champion and reserve champion horses were both bred in Yorkshire, but the champion and reserve champion females were bred in Scotland, and are regarded as the best pair in the United Kingdom. The champion horse was The Conqueror, got by Ganymede and owned by Mr. Alexander Morton, of Gowanbank, Darvel, Ayrshire, and the reserve was Moncreiffe Matchless, owned by Sir Robert Moncreiffe, Bart. The champion mare was the two-year-old filly, Lily Grant, got by Donal Grant, own brother to Cadet, out of the full sister of Danegelt, and the reserve, Daisy Danegelt, was got by Danegelt, and the mare by Lord Derby II. Both were bred and are owned by Mr. James MacMeekin, Carnbooth, Busby, near Glasgow. A large number of the best Hackneys were got by the 3,000 gs. horse, Goldfinder VI., recently sold by Mr. Morton to Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Warrington. Mr. Stevens has lately bought a very valuable shipment of Hackneys. His agent was Mr. Alex. Galbraith, of the American Clydesdale Association, who was accompanied by Mr. Gray. The animals selected are the highest-classed Hackneys that ever crossed the Atlantic, and include more than one champion winner at the London shows. "SCOTLAND YET."

#### Details of the Mutton Test by Prof. Curtiss.

SIR,—The lambs referred to in Mr. Springer's communication (May 1st FARMER'S ADVOCATE) are those that I purchased while in Ontario last season; and while the details of the experiment are not yet ready for publication, I take pleasure in giving you such information as is now available. We had in all 12 lots of lambs on full feed from January 1st to March 1st, during which time the 10 Southdowns gained 340 pounds; 10 Shropshires, 341; 10 Oxford, 356; 10 Suffolks, 417; 10 Lincolns, 374; 10 Cotswolds, 419; 9 Leicesters, 317; 10 Dorsets, 362; 10 Merinos, 162; 10 half Shropshire-half Merino, 292; 10 range lambs, 282; and 5 Shropshire yearlings, 115.

The foregoing gains represent the difference between the first and final weights of the feeding period mentioned, but inasmuch as the sheep were weighed with the fleeces on at the beginning of the period, and had the fleeces off at the close, it is fair to credit the amount of wool clipped from each breed, so that the real gains are as follows:

	Flesh.	Wool.
Southdowns.....	340 plus 68	
Shropshires.....	341 " 88	
Oxford.....	356 " 110	
Suffolks.....	417 " 77	
Lincolns.....	374 " 129	
Cotswolds.....	419 " 127	
Leicesters.....	317 " 104	
Dorsets.....	362 " 69	
Merinos.....	162 " 95	
Cross-breds—Half Merino-half Shropshire.....	292 " 75	
Range.....	282 " 51	
Yearling Shropshires.....	115 " 51	

#### ON THE MARKET.

Southdowns averaged 115 pounds and sold for \$4 75	
Shropshires " 121 " " 4 62 1/2	
Range " 91 " " 4 50	
Half Shropshire and half Merino averaged 101 pounds and sold for.....	4 50
Oxford averaged 142 pounds and sold for.....	4 50
Cotswolds " 142 " " 4 50	
Lincolns " 142 " " 4 50	
Leicesters " 153 " " 4 50	
Suffolks " 146 " " 4 25	
Merinos " 94 " " 4 25	
Shropshire yearlings averaged 176 pounds and sold for.....	4 25
Dorsets averaged 121 pounds and sold for.....	3 75

#### AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS' GROWTH OF WOOL.

Southdowns, 366 days; average weight of fleece, 6.75 lbs.	
Shropshires, 363 " " " 8.75 "	
Oxford, 365 " " " 10.95 "	
Suffolks, 383 " " " 7.65 "	
Lincolns, 342 " " " 12.85 "	
Cotswolds, 334 " " " 12.65 "	
Leicesters, 348 " " " 11.5 "	
Dorsets, 359 " " " 6.82 "	
Merinos, 359 " " " 9.5 "	
Half Shropshire and half Merino, 334 days; average weight of fleece.....	7.5 "
Range, 321 days; average weight of fleece.....	5.12 "
Shropshire yearling, 323 days; average weight of fleece.....	10.5 "

\*Have not the exact average for Dorsets yet.

The shearing was done from March 15th to 18th, before the oil was out of the wool, which made lighter weight fleeces than would have been obtained a month later. The percentage of dressed meat by breeds is as follows:—

Dorsets.....	59.6
Merinos.....	51.8
Half Shropshire and half Merino.....	53.7
Range.....	55.6
Leicesters.....	57.8
Lincolns.....	55.7
Southdowns.....	55.4
Cotswolds.....	54.9
Suffolks.....	53.6
Shropshires.....	56.3
Oxford.....	55.2
Yearling Shropshires.....	62.3

The carcasses were cut upon the block and the weights taken of all the cuts of each breed. This, together with a great deal of other detail work, will appear in our report, to be published in the fall in some time during the summer. The gains made by all of the pure mutton breeds, you will observe, are very creditable. Each breed was fed separately and a correct account of all feed consumed was kept for each day. We will probably repeat the experiment this year by again using