

HILLSIDE FARM HERD OF AYRSHIRES.

We have much pleasure in presenting our readers with the following account of the Hillside Farm Herd of Ayrshires, already well known throughout the Province both by reputation and the prizes which its members have taken at the Provincial Exhibitions:

This fine herd of thorough-bred cattle is the property of C. P. Blanchard, Esq. of Truro. It consists of eighteen, head most of them under four years of age. The leader of the herd is the bull "Bismarck," a magnificent animal purchased in Ontario last winter, and believed to be the finest specimen of the breed in the Dominion. A likeness of this bull, accompanied by a fuller description, will probably appear in the next issue of the JOURNAL. The rest of the herd are all females, the great demand for Ayrshires having enabled the proprietor to dispose of all the young bulls, the last of which, "Lord Raglan, Junior," a calf four weeks old, was sold to John A. McCurdy, Esq., of Onslow, the owner of one of the Ayrshire heifers imported by the Board last Autumn. Conspicuous among the cows are Blyth and Merry Duchess, imported from Scotland by the Central Board last year, and which, at the sale, produced such spirited competition. These cows had their calves, both heifers, in the last of October, and have since, as milkers, quite equalled the expectations then formed regarding them. They are now somewhat thin in flesh, but this is to be looked for in cows of large milking capacity. They are now both in calf to Bismarck, and are due to calve, the one in October and the other in December.

Next to these stand Miss Cuthbert and Josephine; the former a white and red cow imported from the herd of the Hon. M. H. Cochrane of Compton, Que., a small cow but an abundant milker. She is now 12 years old but is in perfect health and shows no symptom of declining usefulness. Josephine was her first calf, a dark-red cow with fine milking properties. She has taken first prizes at several of our Provincial and County Exhibitions, and, if nothing unforeseen occurs, will be on hand again this year, both at Kentville and Truro.

Besides these, there are four others in milk, not yet, however, of an age to have their milking qualities fully tested, but which give fair promise of future excellence.

The younger heifers are all handsome, and are (with the exception of the calves of Blyth and Merry Duchess and one other from the Taylor Stock) descended from Miss Cuthbert and Josephine.

A number of them are in calf to Bismarck, and it is expected that before the

season is over there will be in all twelve in calf to him, so that before next year the owner of Hillside Farm hopes to be in a position to put into the market a number of animals of a breed well adapted to the requirements of this country and of a character equal to imported stock.

J. FRASER, Esq., writes as follows from Shubenacadie:

June 4th, 1877.

I herewith enclose pedigree of Short Horn bull calf, dropped on Friday last. It is a very good one; the cow is doing very well. Capt. Cawood is a very fine bull, and has grown a good deal since last Fall; he is getting very fine stock. Cambridge Witch and Lady Mary are doing very well, they are both excellent milkers and have very fine calves.

Our farmers are taking greater interest in thorough-bred stock; they now see what they are, and how vastly superior to common scrub cattle.

J. B. FRASER.

AMONG the recorded pedigrees this month will be found that of a Jersey Heifer Calf, already recorded in the American Jersey Cattle Club's Register, viz.: NABRITZA, bred by C. E. Brown, Esq., of Yarmouth. Nabritza is described as "a beauty," weighing 187 lbs. at 54 days old, and likely, in Mr. Brown's hands, to make a Jersey cow equal to any in the Dominion, or out of it.

THE great difficulty of raising young ELLESMERE Pigs arises from the remarkable tendency of the breed to fatten. This lessens, or altogether prevents, the flow of milk, and milkless mothers make poor nurses. The remedy is to allow the sows plenty of range, such as a small field to pasture and dig in, and food that is not too rich in starch, or fat.

Crop Reports.

FROM HENRY LOVETT, ESQ.,
KENTVILLE.

Kentville, June 23rd, 1877.

DEAR SIR,—Your post card to hand. In reply, beg to state, that there has never, during my remembrance, been a more encouraging appearance of a good crop of everything that grows from the earth, than at this time. Grass is very good, and may now be considered as safe, even if we have no more rain until it is harvested. Grain of all kinds is looking well, and I think is also secure, as far as growth goes; it may be destroyed by some fly yet. Potatoes have come up very regular and look finely. Fruit will be at least an average crop, and hay seed sown this spring is all up and looking finely. The foliage of the trees is just splendid, such a rich dark green. Squashes have suffered some from the squash bug (so called), but the rains are destroying them somewhat,

and I think we shall have a fair crop yet. Pumpkins and Corn look first-rate. The pastures are good, and stock generally (although hay was so dear and scarce for a time this spring) are looking well. There are several farmers who are fattening their Stock for exhibition, and some four are fattening herds of thorough-breds. I cannot doubt but our Exhibition will be a success. They are now pushing on the building operations, and although some difficulty as to location of building, sheds, &c., has arisen, yet I am told all has been arranged, and the buildings are under way. The Trotting Park, about one mile from Exhibition grounds, is now about completed, and is said to be (by those who are competent judges,) a very fine one; it is to be opened on Wednesday, 27th inst., by races, &c. The caterpillars are very thick this spring, but we have all given attention to their destruction, and have, I think, pretty well succeeded.

Yours very truly,
HENRY LOVETT.

FROM J. B. FRASER, ESQ.,
SHUBENACADIE.

Shubenacadie, June 23rd, 1877.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to yours of the 22nd, would say the prospects for an abundant Crop never looked better. The Grass crop looks splendid and is secure from drought at least. A greater breadth of Grain and Roots has been put in this season than usual, as it has been a very favorable season for putting in crops, and the high price of flour and potatoes has induced the farmers to plant and sow more than they usually do. A good deal of wheat has been sown, and more would have been, but it was impossible to get seed until too late. Over six thousand bushels Oats have been imported into this place this season and sold to mostly farmers at about 75 cents per bushel, and one shopkeeper in this village alone has sold 60 bushels Hay seed and could have sold more, besides large quantities of Clover, Turnip, Mangold and other seeds. There has also been a large quantity of Superphosphate sold, which is showing good results already. If the remainder of the season is as good as it has been so far, we shall have an abundant crop of all kinds.

Thorough-bred Stock are rising in the estimation of our farmers; there is nothing so convincing as ocular demonstration, which we have here.

Yours,
J. B. FRASER.

FROM C. F. EATON, ESQ.,
CORNWALLIS.

Port Williams Station. }
June 22nd, 1877. }

I THINK the country is looking as well as I ever saw it at this season of the year, the recent rains, which have been frequent, giving increased freshness to all kinds of vegetation. The Hay crop will be large on the dyked marshes and on good uplands, while, as usual, on the mountains and poorer soils, the prospects are not so good. Grains of all kinds are looking very fine indeed. Potatoes, which are a large item among the productions of King's, are looking well, and it is thought that there are more planted than in any preceding year.