

MAY 18, 1911

of the shearer. Commence shearing at the throat, shearing down the brisket, then shear the belly and inside of the hind legs; then commence at the jaw on the left side and shear to the back-bone on that side; then commence at the jaw on the right side, and shear from the back to the belly and down the thigh and buttock, until the whole fleece is removed. It is good practice to trim the hoofs with a sharp knife before commencing to shear, to avoid foot ailments. To provide for any sores between the hoofs, it is well to have on hand a small phial of powdered bluestone to apply. The fleece should be laid on the floor with the white side down, the edges drawn to the center, and the fleece rolled from tail to neck, and a rope of the neck wool twisted with which to bind the bundle.

Cost of Raising Lambs.

From the 1910 annual report of Prof. G. E. Day, O. A. C., Guelph, we glean these interesting particulars concerning the cost of raising lambs. In the spring of 1910 seven ewes which had been bred to a Shropshire ram gave birth to ten lambs between March 1st and 5th, and a record was kept of the food consumed by the ewes and lambs. Following is the food consumed by the seven ewes and ten lambs from the time of lambing till May 3rd, when they were turned out to pasture. The first lambs were dropped on March 1st, and the last on March 5th:

Oats, 560 lbs., at 40c. per bush.....	\$ 6.59
Barley, 224 lbs., at \$20 per ton.....	2.24
Oil cake, 196 lbs., at \$36 per ton.....	3.58
Roots, 1,648 lbs., at 10c. per bush.....	2.75
Alfalfa, 1,120 lbs., at \$8 per ton.....	4.48
Total	\$19.64

To arrive at the total cost of the lambs, we must charge all food consumed by the ewes during the year, and add charge for service fees. The complete statement of charges, therefore, would be as follows:

Hay, 1,680 lbs., at \$8.00 per ton.....	\$ 6.62
Roots, 2,250 lbs., at 10c. per bush.....	4.20
Oats, 105 lbs., at 40c. per bush.....	1.23
Bran, 105 lbs., at \$20 per ton.....	1.05
Total	\$13.10
Pasture, 7 ewes, May 1st to Nov. 1st, at 25c. per month	10.50
Service fees, ewes, at 50c.	3.50
Value of food consumed by 7 ewes and 10 lambs, as previously shown	19.64
Total charges	\$46.74

Against these charges must be credited the wool produced by the ewes, 60 pounds in all, amounting to \$8.91. The net cost, therefore, was \$46.74, minus \$8.91, equals \$37.83, for the ten lambs, which averaged up to \$3.78 per lamb at two months of age. The total weight of the ten lambs on May 3rd, when they were approximately two months old, was 552 pounds, so that the average cost per lamb at this age was \$6.85, which is less than half of what the lambs could have been sold for at that time. In the calculation of cost, risk, interest, labor and manure were left out of consideration. "If the foods consumed by these sheep were charged at the actual cost of production on a reasonably good farm," says Prof. Day, "the cost would be greatly reduced."

Sheep vs. Hogs.

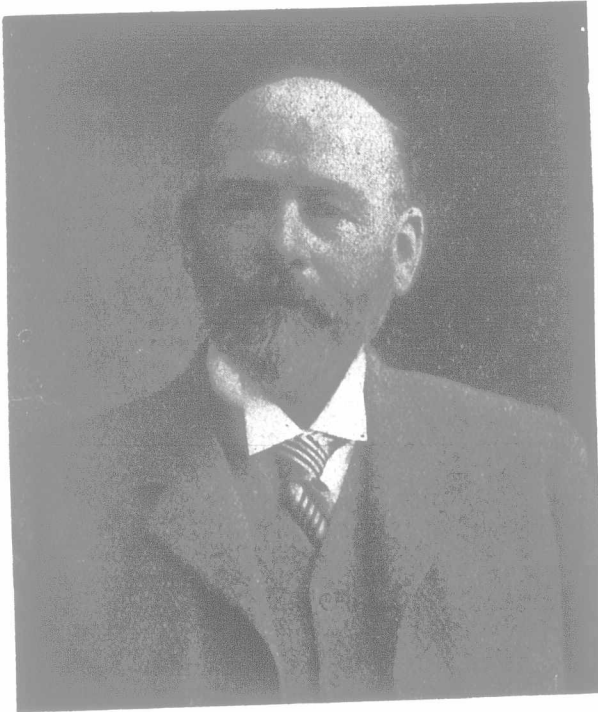
The hog is never finished without grain, while sheep that never saw grain have topped the market. The question then is, how do the commodities that it takes to make one or the other compare in value? It costs money to grow grain, and it takes labor to keep down the weeds and grass which injure the grain and which sheep thrive on. It would pay to have a bunch of sheep to clean up the farm, even if they brought in no income, as they are the best fertilizers we have. One would hardly miss what 100 ewes and lambs would cost in a year's time on a quarter section (160 acres), and the profit would be about this: Estimate the cost of beginning at \$4.00 per head. They should be worth at least as much the next year. With very little care, these ewes will raise 100 lambs that will bring \$4.00 per head and they will shear at least \$2.00 per head of wool. This gives \$6.00 per head for the caring of them for a year, or 50 cents per month—five times what is generally considered the cost of raising sheep. J. J. GLADISH.

W. J. Lotte Co., Kansas.

Satisfactory results, both as to yield of wool and lamb crop, were obtained during 1910 by the Animal Husbandry Department of the Ontario Agricultural College, from the feeding of alfalfa hay to breeding ewes.

Death of Richard Gibson.

The death of Richard Gibson, the well and widely known breeder and judge of pure-bred live stock, which occurred on Tuesday, May 9th, at his home, Belvoir Farm, Delaware, Middlesex County, Ont., in the 71st year of his age, has removed from the activities of life one of the most prominent men in the ranks of Canadian stock-breeders, and one of the most experienced and skillful all-round judges on the continent of America. Born February 10th, 1840, at Belvoir, Leicestershire, England, he was one of a family of fourteen children, and the oldest boy of eight



The late Richard Gibson.

sons. On arriving at the age of twenty-one, having determined upon trying to carve out a home for himself in the new world, he landed at Quebec in May, 1861, and soon after located on a farm, in London Township, where he remained two years, when he received the appointment as manager of a 1,500-acre farm on Long Island, remaining there two years, when he secured the position of manager of the 1,500-acre farm of the Honorable Samuel Campbell, of New York Mills, near Utica, N. Y., where he remained seven years, improving a rough and much-scattered farm, on which, at his suggestion, was selected and established a herd of Shorthorn cattle, which, at its dispersion, on September 10th, 1873, made a record of high prices never before or since equalled anywhere in the

in Chicago, April, 1882, he sold thirty-three head for an average of \$736.36, and in April, 1883, twenty head for an average of \$1,016, the best average of the year on the continent for all breeds.

On removing his family from the United States, he rented a farm, but in 1883 he purchased Belvoir Farm, 300 acres, which he farmed skillfully, producing maximum crops and raising superior stock, his specialties being Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep, his prizewinning record with the latter at leading shows being exceedingly creditable. Mr. Gibson had been honored by his brother stockmen with many positions of preference. He was an ex-president and life member of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association. He had the distinction of being the only Canadian ever elected president of the American Shorthorn Association, and at the time of his death was first vice-president of the International Live-stock Exhibition Association, at Chicago. In 1880 the Ontario Government appointed him a member of their Agricultural Commission, which collected and published much useful information in that year. At the Columbian Exposition in Chicago, in 1893, he officiated as judge in a larger number of classes of live stock than any other man on the list. He was also sole judge of all breeds of sheep at the Lewis and Clark International Exposition at Portland, Oregon, in 1905.

Mr. Gibson is survived by his wife (a daughter of the late George Robson, of London Township, and sister of Captain Thomas E. Robson), and by his son, H. Noel Gibson, now in charge of Belvoir Farm; and three daughters.

An educated, cultivated, genial and generous gentleman of fine ability, Richard Gibson distinguished himself as a farmer, a breeder and a judge. A thoroughgoing English countryman of the old school, he ever did honor to the traditions of the noble race from which he sprang. His library was one of the best we have seen at any rural home, and the home one of the most cultured. In his demise, Canada loses one of its most distinguished farmers and stockmen. His frequent contributions to the agricultural and live-stock press were marked by a versatility and vigor of expression that lent charm to the extent and variety of the information conveyed. A short time before his death, Mr. Gibson donated to the City of London, to be planted in Victoria Park on Coronation Day, a number of young oaks raised from acorns gathered from trees on the Royal Farms, in England.

THE FARM.

Flat Top for Sleighs.

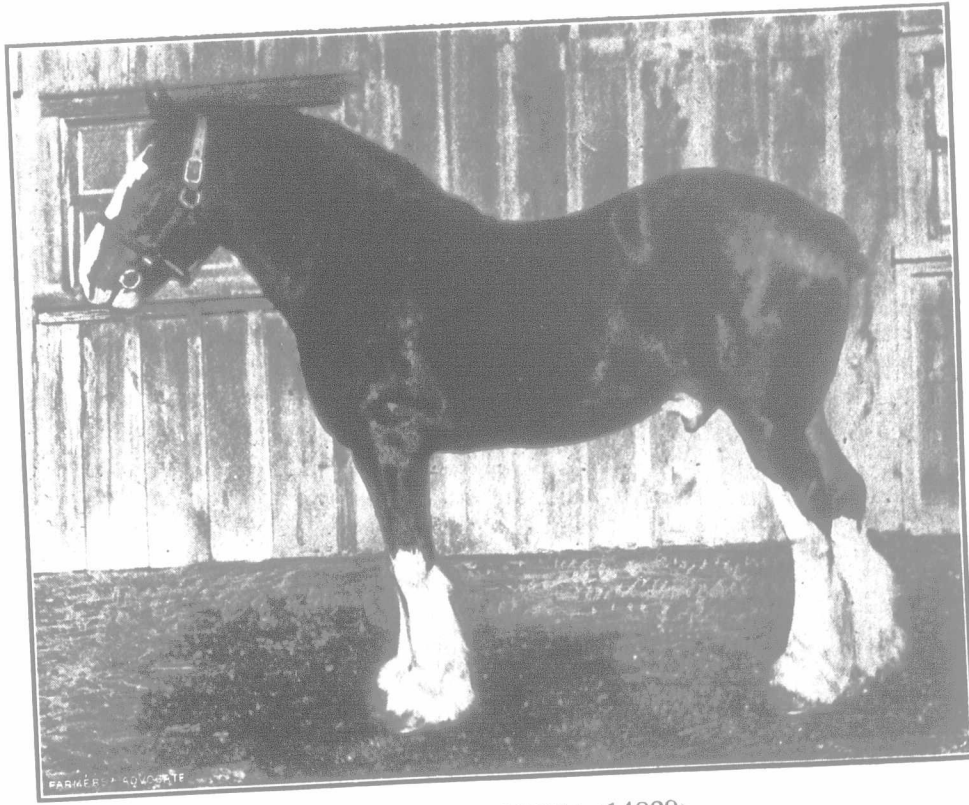
Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I would draw attention to the flat or dray top for sleighs, and the many uses to which it may be put. To make the same, I will describe the one I have in use.

The sleigh in use on my farm has false bunks, about 6 in. x 6 in. x 5 ft., with a pointed iron pin set in a bunk a couple of inches from each end, and projecting up 1½ inches. Five planks, 12 feet long, by 12 x 12 inches, with the 2 x 4 inches across on the top at each end, and bolted to planks, makes the top. This top is placed with front end over point of runners. Bore hole in plank for king bolt to go down through, which keeps the top in place in front. Spike a 2 x 4-inch under platform at rear of hind bunk. The outside plank will rest on pins in end of bunk, which will keep the rear in place. Next, bore two 2-inch holes at each end, three feet apart, at equal distances from center, and just inside 2 x 4-in. cross-piece at ends. Bolt a block 2 inches thick, and with a hole through it, corresponding to that in plank, over each of these four holes, and the sleigh top is ready for its several uses:

First, by placing stakes in holes just mentioned, you have a wood-rack for teaming wood.

Second, as a top for teaming ice on.



Sailor King [11701] (14829).

Clydesdale stallion; brown; foaled 1907. First in three-year-old class, Ontario Winter Fair, 1910. Imported and exhibited by Graham-Renfrew Co., Bedford Park, Ont. Sold to W. I. Elder, Brandon, Manitoba.

world, 109 head of Bates-bred animals selling for an average of \$3,504, three cows bringing, respectively, \$40,600, \$35,000, and \$30,600. This herd got together in five years, paid yearly over 10 per cent. interest on the whole outlay, and a profit of \$220,000 when dispersed. After leaving New York Mills, Mr. Gibson both exported and imported Shorthorn cattle, and at public auction,