

Mr. Laurie was the breeder of a grand horse which Mr. Gardner imported into Prince Edward Island a few years ago. He has also from time to time bred other horses not unknown to fame.

The second, and on the whole the most striking feature of the month has been the Shorthorn sales in the North. The name of Mr. Duthie, of Collynie, is now almost as well known as that of the Cruickshanks, and sometimes the Aberdeen Shorthorn is called the Duthie cow or bull and sometimes the Cruickshank or Sittyton. Another celebrated breeder in the North is Mr. W. S. Marr, of Upper Mill, and he and Mr. Duthie held a joint sale in the beginning of this month of their bull calves. There was not very much difference in the breeding of the two lots, but Mr. Duthie's were rather better brought out. He sold twenty-one bull calves at an average price of £50 15s. each. Mr. Marr sold twenty-two bull calves at £25 14s. 6d. each. The Earl of Roseberry was a first-rate buyer of Mr. Duthie's stock. He gave the highest price at the sale, viz., 155 guineas for the dark roan calf Dictator. A local buyer, Mr. Gray, Balgove, Old Meldrum, gave 48 guineas for the red calf Page of Honor—the highest priced one in the Upper Mill lot. The best general Shorthorn sale of the season was held at Stoneytown on the following day. This farm is situated a few miles from Keith, on the Highland Railway. Mr. MacWilliam, the proprietor of the herd, finding that it had outgrown the accommodation at his disposal, resolved to sell it altogether rather than a draft. He sold fifty head of all ages, the average price of the lot being £37 0s. 5d. His seventeen cows drew £53 15s. 1d.; his two-year-old heifers, £33 3s. 6d.; his yearling heifers, £36 10s. 6d.; and his heifer calves, £31 0s. 4d. A yearling bull was sold for £39 5s., and eight bull calves made £23 2s. These, of course, are the average prices. All through this was a most cheering sale, and everyone seemed to be delighted with his purchases. It was wholly of Aberdeen or Sittyton blood, and it is a remarkable tribute to the Cruickshank Shorthorns that they have sold best of all the types this season.

Our third section of events is connected with quite a different department of farming. The dairy farmers in the south-west hold high carnival at Kilmarnock in the third week of October. A cheese show held there is the great event of the dairy farmer's year. For several years past there has been keen rivalry between the Galloway and the Ayrshire cheesemakers. Formerly the Galloway men had it all their own way; then the Ayrshire men, with commendable enterprise, sent off to Canada and secured the services of a qualified instructor in cheesemaking. The results were soon seen, for Ayrshire gave Galloway a severe thrashing. The Kilmarnock Dairy School was started, Mr. Drummond, another Canadian, being appointed its head, and there can be no doubt that he has done more than any other man to improve the brand and raise the standard of the cheese made in Ayrshire. For several years the supremacy of the county which gave birth to the dairy breed of cattle was maintained; but the Galloway men were not to be done, and a year or two ago they formed an association of their own, securing as their itinerant instructor Mr. McFadyen, an Ayrshire man who was Mr. Drummond's assistant. This year the results have been seen in the extraordinary success of Mr. McFadyen's pupils, and the almost wholesale rout of the Ayrshire makers. The credit belongs not to Galloway at large, but to Kirkcudbright. The best makers have been the Messrs. Macadam, father and son, who hold comparatively small dairies in the neighborhood of Castle Douglas. This family has long been distinguished in the cheesemaking world, and old Mr. Macadam was one of the first to adopt the improved methods of cheesemaking introduced from Canada. We were at considerable pains to learn from cheese dealers their opinions as to the relative merits of Canadian and Scottish-made cheese. What they told us was, that the best Scottish cheese is far in advance of the best Canadian imported into this country, but the second brand of Scottish cheese cannot compete with the best Canadian. What the cause of this may be it is not for me to say at present. I am not sure but that the Canadian cheese suffers in transit across the ocean. One thing, however, you have every reason to be proud of is the fact that you were able to learn the Scottish farmers how to improve their cheese brand.

The hiring of Clydesdale horses for the season of 1891 continues apace, and altogether up to this time over twenty have had their stallions allotted to them. Terms, as a whole, are keeping well up, and whoever has cause to grumble, there is no reason for this being done on the part of Clydesdale breeders. At the Londonderry autumn sale, a week ago, eight Clydesdale brood mares made an average of £81 5s. 7d. each; six Clydesdale two-year-old fillies, £54 1s. 6d. each; and yearling fillies, £39 18s. Fools sold best, the fillies drawing £12 10s. 6d. each, and the colts £32 11s. The farming interests, as a whole, in this country are in a fairly good state at present. There is as usual a good deal of grumbling, but taking all in all, while undoubtedly many have lost heavily, the general outlook is rather better than it was a year ago. Breeders of all classes of stock have certainly little cause for complaint, but the prices that have been paid for stores, whether of cattle or sheep, cause one to fear that the feeders of these are leaving themselves a very small margin for profit.

SCOTLAND YET.

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Ideas Culled from Sheep Breeders' Annual Report, 1893.

(Continued from page 457.)

When the fields are covered with snow, they should be well seen to and fed, so as to keep them in good health and vigor. For the first few months of winter, plenty of turnips cut or pulped, nice, well-cured pea straw, with a feed of clover hay now and again, will be found amply sufficient, with salt and pure water at all times within reach. Towards lambing time, a little grain should be added—oats fed whole are best—and the turnips should be reduced or the lambs may come weakly and some may be lost through this cause. We should watch the flock, and render any help if needed in lambing. And some of the lambs may require a little assistance to their first feed, especially if a young ewe is the mother; but the least one works with them, if not really needed, is better. The ewes as they lamb should be put in a pen by themselves, where they can be fed better; a little bran added to their oats will help the flow of milk greatly, and the lambs will run less risk of getting hurt. They should be turned out to grass as soon as possible after lambing, as nothing starts off the lambs so well, and it is important that there should be no stunting of their growth at this, or indeed at any time. The oats and bran should be fed until the grass is abundant.

Most of the writers have a word to say on the CARE OF LAMBS AT AND AFTER BIRTH.

"When early lambs are expected the pen should be made warmer than it is necessary to have it before this period, so that we may not lose an unnecessary number from chilling. Especially is this latter danger increased in the case of some of the favorite breeds whose lambs come so frequently weak. (The Downs may be favorably mentioned as producing strong, vigorous lambs even under adverse circumstances.) But we should be prepared, as even under the best of management lambs will occasionally come weak and limberlegged, to furnish help to such, as the loss of a few such lambs may turn a prospective profit into a decided loss. Never give up a lamb until it is dead. Hold the ewe firmly but gently, and support the weak lambs in their endeavors to procure their natural food for a few times. A teaspoonful or two of warm diluted whiskey will frequently reanimate an apparently helpless lamb. In such cases, and with those ewes which we often find refusing to own their progeny, we should isolate ewe and lamb for a few days and use every available effort to remedy matters. In case of a ewe losing her lamb it may be wise to take one of the twins from a less thrifty ewe, and by isolation and preserving care she may adopt it. But do not adopt the plan of separating ewes and overfeeding immediately after lambing, as we so often find the case.

They may now be fed on all the good clover hay they will eat up clean. The turnip ration may be considerably increased, and the grain ration may be doubled until the ewes go out to grass, when it may be stopped.

During the winter months the sheep should have a field in which to exercise, except in case of storms; this will do away to a considerable extent with the frequent complaint of weak lambs.

The lambs should be induced to eat as soon as possible. Clover, roots and oats should be placed

out of reach of the ewes, and from which the lambs will soon eat freely. This grain ration should be supplied to them all through the summer, and we will find no more profitable way of disposing of our grain than feeding it to the growing lambs.

During these months, unlike other stock, sheep require little care, except an occasional change of pasture, renewal of salt in the trough and of oats for the lambs, and care that they have access to water. It is wise also to take the precaution of seeing that they have shade during the extremely hot weather.

"At the age of three weeks the lambs should have their tails docked and be castrated. This is very important—important at all times, but more especially if the lambs are to be fed through the fall and winter months. There is nothing looks so untidy as a long-tailed lamb, and, if they are to be fed on rape, it is an absolute necessity to have them docked. And the same of castrating. It is nothing less than carelessness to let them run uncut, and the farmer who neglects this should be made feel it through his pocket."

"When the lambs are about a month old they should be induced to eat a little grain. A small enclosure should be penned off at one end of the sheep-house, leaving an opening through which the lambs could run in and out at will. In this pen a trough should be placed having a little bran or ground oats in, and the lambs will soon learn to nibble at it, and although they will not eat very much, they will pay their owner handsomely for what they do consume.

This is the time a shepherd should be very attentive, as each loss detracts from the aggregate profit. Get them out on a little pasture as early as possible, and continue to feed oats and bran and a little oil-cake, if you want to make good lambs.

Now, as washing time has come, I prefer to wash the ewes and lambs, as it cleans their skin from the dirt and dandruff accumulated through the long winter, although some farmers think it cruel. Take care not to clip them until the yolk or grease is well up in the wool again, which will depend upon the temperature. Three days after you clip the ewes the ticks will be all upon the lambs, which, if dipped, will completely destroy them if well done. There are many good preparations for dipping. Sometimes you will find a sheep very lame; examine the feet, and you will invariably find a wedge of dirt between the sections of the foot, or the hoof so overgrown as to cause the trouble.

Towards the end of August they should be weaned and put on nice second-crop clover.

In the treatment of lambs after weaning, Jas. Bowman says: "Let them on as good succulent pasture as possible, and also try and keep them at a good distance from the ewes, so they may not hear each other bleat, and give them a little grain once a day: oats, two parts; peas, one part, is a good mixture. They will keep growing straight along in this way, and about first of October should be turned into rape, with a good run on grass also, and grain still continued. They will only take very little, perhaps one-half pound per day, until cold weather comes on, when they will take more. We are strongly of the opinion that grain fed to lambs that are pasturing on rape and grass pays. In proof of this, last year one hundred and thirty-five lambs fed in this way, from twentieth of October until December second, gained twenty-two hundred and seventy-five pounds; they ate about \$35 worth of grain. And this year the best three ewes and best three wethers under one year at Provincial Fat Stock Show were taken out of a flock receiving this treatment on the twenty-fifth of November, and show was held on fourteenth and fifteenth of December. This year a flock of one hundred and sixty-two, from October fourteenth to January tenth, gained four thousand and twelve pounds. From about tenth of December they were fed mostly in pens, getting about three-fourths of a pound of grain per day, what turnips they would eat up clean, and hay; also pea straw to pick through. If prices are good when rape and outside feed is done, we would advise to sell them. But if prices are low and there is a good prospect of getting one-half cent per pound advance in price by holding them a month, if properly attended to in the way referred to above, they will pay. The pens need to be kept dry and plenty of fresh air allowed into them. Also salt to get to at will, both in fields and in pens.

Ewe lambs intended for breeding may run along with other lambs in rape."

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

Henry Arkell, Teeswater, writes: "If the farmer would give even as much attention to his sheep as he does to the ordinary rotation of his field crops, and as carefully select his sires as he does his seed grain, I am safe in saying he would be able to keep four times as many sheep on his farm as he does now, with a corresponding profit, without diminishing the amount of other stock on the farm. For instance, when summer comes, instead of turning his sheep on the highways, as many do, or into the pasture fields and have his wife complaining that 'those sheep are eating all the grass from the cows,' I would suggest that he sow the land intended for turnips with fall rye, and by the middle of May he will have the very best feed ever found for ewes and lambs; and after his rye is finished, which should be before it comes out in head, or in time to put in his turnips, a patch of oats and tares should be ready, which may be grown on the summer-fallow, if he does summer-