

es and breakings out. Irregularity in the times of feeding, resulting in the pigs getting greedily hungry, and, when their food comes, gorging themselves, sometimes brings on stoppage.

The plan of keeping a small heap of charcoal and ashes in a corner of the sty or yard is most advisable, and should always be followed.

The Four Great Beef Breeds.

IV.

SHORTHORNS.

This class of cattle was formerly known as the Durham breed, from the county in England in which it originated. The term Shorthorn was probably adopted to distinguish them from the Longhorn breed which prevailed in the same country early in the eighteenth century, and which is still preserved in its purity in England, although in very limited numbers and confined to few districts, while the Shorthorn has proved its right to the title "Cosmopolitan," having thriven and become popular in many countries and in all quarters of the world, owing largely to its dual-purpose character, the cows in its earlier history being generally good milkers as well as beef producers. The precise origin of the breed, as in the case of nearly all the other British breeds of cattle, is involved in much obscurity. It is but just to say here that for much of the information given in this article we are indebted to Sanders' excellent history of Shorthorn cattle, from which we freely quote.

The Romans, Saxons, Danes and Normans who conquered England, in turn brought cattle with them that were crossed on the native herds, and this, in part, accounts for the variety of these, while the modifying influences of climate, shelter and treatment doubtless had much to do with the origin of breeds. Thus it was that in the rich pastures of Durham and Yorkshire, and especially in the Valley of the River Tees, a comparatively large type of cattle existed several centuries ago—the ancestors of the modern Shorthorn. For a long time there were two independent strains of ancestry, the Teeswater and the Holderness, which were later blended through the indiscriminate crossing of their descendants. It is claimed that a Shorthorn type of cattle existed on the Yorkshire estates of Earls and Dukes of Northumberland in the sixteenth century. Between the years 1730 and 1780 many eminent breeders gave attention to the improvement of their cattle. Some of the bulls with English Herdbook numbers, appearing in the pedigrees of Shorthorns were born in the eighteenth century, the Studley Bull (620), for instance, one of the first great sires of the breed, having been calved in 1737. At this date it was not customary to preserve the name, or even a description of the cows from which sires in service were descended, the pedigree being traced through the bull line exclusively, and many of the most noted foundation sires were known by the names

of their breeder or owner, and so recorded, as, for example, James Brown's Red Bull (97), and William's Bull (51).

One of these foundation bulls was Hubback, a yellow-red, with some white, bred by John Hunter, a bricklayer who kept one choice little cow, a good milker, and handsome, which ran in the lanes of the town of Hurworth, and was sold to George Snowden's Bull also in Hurworth, the produce

being the bull Hubback, sold to a Mr. Fawcett living not far from Darlington. Charles Colling, one of the principal early improvers of the breed, going into Darlington market weekly, noticed some excellent veal calves, and upon enquiry, learned that they were the progeny of a bull belonging to Mr. Fawcett, of Haughton Hill. This bull, then known as Fawcett's Bull, afterwards called Hubback, was at the time serving cows at a shilling each. Chas. Colling, on seeing the bull, was not particularly impressed with him, but later, his brother, Robert Colling, and his neighbor, Mr. Waistell, thought better of him, and bought him in April, 1873, for ten guineas (about \$50), when he was about seven years old, and used him in their herds one season. In the meantime, Chas. Colling, having changed his opinion of the merits of the bull, offered his owners eight guineas for him, and they sold him. Chas. Colling kept the bull two years, using them freely, and sold him in 1785, at ten years old, to a Mr. Hubback, who used him till he was fourteen years old. The bull had no name when Colling sold him, and he was then called Hubback's Bull. He was a small bull for a Shorthorn of that time, and his dam was small, but of fine symmetry, with a nice touch, and fine, long, mossy hair, all of which choice qualities Hubback took from her. As size was a meritorious point in Shorthorns at that time, it is probable the Collings discarded him for that lack more than any other. Yet, his reputation among the breeders was greater than that of any other bull of his time. It is said that his stock had

of his theory and practice, and in the following year bought in Darlington market a cow which he named Duchess that was the foundation dam of the noted family of that name that in the middle of last century became so popular that, at the dispersion of the Campbell herd, at New York Mills, in 1873, a cow was sold for \$40,600, two others for \$30,000 and \$35,000, respectively, and the whole herd of 109 head for an average of \$3,504. The original Duchess cow was described as a "massive, short-legged animal, of a beautiful yellow-red color, her breast near the ground, her back wide, and her handling quality superior."

In 1786 Chas. Colling purchased from Mr. Maynard, of Fryholme, for 28 guineas, the cow called Favourite, a roan, possessing the long horns of the old Teeswater type, and coming from a well-established tribe. The name of this cow was after changed by Mr. Colling to Lady Maynard, and she became the ancestress of several families and of bulls that practically created the improved Shorthorns. Robert Colling had, in the meantime, laid the foundation of a superior herd of Shorthorns, and is credited with judgment quite equal, if not superior, to that of his brother Charles, as evidenced in the purchase of Hubback, and there is no gainsaying the far-reaching influence of the blood of this bull in the improvement of the breed, some even crediting him with being the real fountain head of the breed. Thos. Bates, one of the most distinguished of those who followed the Collings, went so far as to say: "It was the opinion of good judges in my early days that had it not been for Hubback and his descendants, the old, valuable breed of Shorthorns would have been entirely lost, and that where Hubback's blood was wanting there was no real merit." We have dwelt upon the history and record of this bull, as we shall upon that of other noted sires of later date, because of the great importance which experience and observation has proved should be given to character in a bull, and especially to the handling quality of his skin and hair.

(To be continued.)

The Hog Question.

Allow me a little space in your paper regarding the present hog question. In a late issue of the "Farmer's Advocate," I noticed, when the Tariff Commission met in London, a deputation of farmers waited on that Commission, asking them to remove the duty off American hogs coming into Canada. I also noticed that Dr. Smale representing the Davies Packing Co., at Guelph, advocated the same thing. I can understand why the packing-houses would want the present duty removed, but why a deputation of farmers should talk such nonsense I fail to see. We all know that our bacon has a better reputation in the English market than the American product, which, owing to corn being their chief food, is soft. So, if our packing concerns cure the meat from these hogs and place it on the British market as Canadian, it will doubtless injure, in time, the sale of our bacon. Now, if the duty is removed and the bonding system continued, it should be branded American and sold as such. Dr. Smale said that sometimes they could not get enough hogs to keep their plants running. Let them pay a uniform price for hogs, so that farmers will know when they raise a bunch of hogs they will get a price that will pay them. The present condition of affairs are much like dealing in "stocks"—you never know when the market is going to be up or down. Those who have followed the trend of the British market the past few months know it has varied but very little, while the Toronto market has been up and down every three or four weeks. Wherever does the fault lie? It must be with the Canadian packers. Let packers pay a price that will enable the drovers to pay 6c. (or something near it) at country points the year round, and the packers will get all the hogs they can handle. I, for one, think it is high time something was done with the bonding system, as during the past seven months 50,000 live hogs have been bonded into Canada and killed here, on which the Government received 75 cents per hog of revenue (?). Oh, no; they received not one dollar. The present state of the hog business is not fair to the farmers of this country, and if we (the farmers) got half a show we would produce all the hogs our packers could handle.

GEO. DOWNEY.

Cardwell Co., Ont.

[Editor's Note.—The Tariff Commission were not asked for a removal of the duty on hogs, but were told that removing the duty on American pork would not affect the Canadian farmer prejudicially. We doubt the practicability of making a uniform year-round price for hogs. That would result in the market being flooded with hogs at the season when they could be most cheaply produced—summer or autumn—and the packer would not carry on business under such conditions.]



Alestair (78217.)

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1900; bred by Lord Lovat, Beaufort, Scotland; weight, 2,500 pounds.



Madeline.

Shorthorn heifer; age, 2 years 11 months; weight, 1,840 pounds; bred by and property of His Majesty the King, the Royal Farm, Windsor. Winner of the breed championship and reserve for the grand championship at Smithfield Fat-stock Show, 1905.

capacious chests, thick, mossy coats, mellow skins, with a great deal of fine flesh spread evenly all over the carcass, and his handling was superior to that of any other bull of his day, a quality which counts for very much in a sire to-day, as it evidently did in Hubback's time.

Charles Colling, who had heard of Bakewell and his wonderful success in the improvement of the breeds of Leicester sheep and Longhorn cattle, by in-and-in or close breeding, visited Dishley—the home of Robert Bakewell—made a careful study

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