

this way, the educative influence of such gatherings is brought to bear on those whom it is most important to have taking a lively interest of the stock under their care.

Next to the influence of the frequent shows, is that exerted by the Scotch system of hiring stallions for service during the season. When this system began it is almost impossible to tell. Horse fanciers easily find their way by rail to the most remote parts of the country, and a really good stallion is never long unknown. The farmers in a district club together to secure the services of a stallion for a season, and no matter how good a sire he may be, he is never taken more than three seasons into one district. When freed from one district, of course he is open for another, and thus the same horse's stock will often be found in districts far apart. Previous to 1870, stallion shows used to be held, during the month of February, at different centres throughout the country. About that time, however, the Glasgow Agricultural Society proposed to undertake the management of a general stallion hiring fair in February, and the majority of the smaller societies gave up their meeting and came to the fair to select their horses. The only stipulation being that they get the first choice, stallions selected at this show in Glasgow are, as a rule, guaranteed a certain number of mares, usually eighty, and service fees, with an additional sum in the form of a premium ranging from £50 to £100. In addition to these there are usually a number of what are called *Pouching* horses, that is, horses that are travelled by their owners on chance, and they too make good seasons.

Between 1840 and 1850 the railway system opened up the mineral resources of Lanarkshire. As these were developed, towns arose with large populations offering a ready market for dairy produce, then large dairies began to be kept. Farmers further removed from the centres of commerce seized this opportunity, bought up the best mares that could be got, and now you will find Clydesdales of the best strains of blood in almost any part of Scotland, particularly in the south of Scotland. Galloway, comprehending Wigton and Kirkcudbright, thus was eagerly admiring the Clydesdale breed of horses, and having excellent grazing farms with a little milder winter, they have succeeded admirably in developing the capabilities of the Clydesdale horse. (1) It was there the famous horse Victor (892) was bred. A Victor mare is always good. Coming to the present day a Darnley (strain of blood) is considered the best in Scotland. When an old Scotch farmer speaks about a Clydesdale, he means an animal with good feet and legs, clean flat bones, good pasterns, oblique shoulders, intelligent eyes, well formed barrel and nicely rounded quarters.

Greasy heels, come from the other side of the border: Victor, or Darnley, stock are never heard of possessing that fault.

Coming to where we are more particularly interested, would it be considered egotism on our part to say this district is the Lanarkshire of Canada (2)? It is now quite a long time the farmers of this district have had the opportunity of raising the Clyde horse, and they have not been backward in taking advantage, and now we may claim to have the best low set strong limbed class of horses that are offered for sale in any part of America.

As we now have a register in this country where we can enter our stock, I would ask all breeders to take a special interest in this undertaking and we shall undoubtedly reap the benefit. The first volume is out, and is a neat well got up book which must have taken a great deal of hard labour on

the part of those who undertook its publishing. The secretary is Henry Wade, Esq., Toronto. *Con.*

There is no doubt as to the excellence of the Clydesdale breed for all purposes of draught, but the writer of the above article must know very well that the breed has been crossed with the English Shire horse repeatedly, and not very long ago. As for the "greasy heels" coming from the other side of the border, that is an assertion which is easy to make but hard to prove.

Dr. McEachran says—*v. Journal of Agriculture*, vol. 3, p. 179—"It is a well known fact that some of the best Clydesdales in Scotland, to-day, derive many of their good points from the blood of the English draught or Shire mares. It is well known that some of the most noted breeders in Scotland are in the habit of importing Shire-mares and crossing them with the best horses in the country, and in this way produce horses which are in many respects *improvements on what may be considered as pure Clydes.*" The whole of Dr. McEachran's article is worth reading. A. R. J. F.

Bradford's Butter Worker.

The "Alderney" and "Little Albany" are here figured. In the "Alderney" the loose handle A (see drawing) is held to revolve the fluted roller, and the fast handle B is held to give the roller a sliding action to collect the butter into a lump for re-rolling.



When not in use as a butter worker, the fluted roller can be placed underneath the tray out of the way (as shown in the drawing), and the tray used for other purposes, such as making up butter, &c.

Hillhurst, P. Q., 26 Feb. 1887.

A. R. JENNER FUST, ESQ., SOREL, P. Q.

Dear Sir,—I have decided to sell off my Shorthorns by auction in the spring and herewith enclose a copy of the advt. which I should like to have appear, if in time, in the March and April numbers of the *Journal of Agriculture*, and in both *English and French editions*. Will you kindly have it inserted? I shall probably offer a few Hereford and Aberdeen-Angus young bulls and heifers, and some grade heifers of the latter breed.

Yours very truly,

M. H. COCHRANE.

Sale at Hillhurst.

At the Hon. M. H. Cochran's sale on the 28th April, farmers will find a good opportunity of supplying themselves with breeding stock of the grand meat-making breeds. It is quite unnecessary to state that all the Hillhurst animals are the

(1) This sentence is obscure in the M. S. A. R. J. F.

(2) This article was written by the Vice President for the last meeting of the Huntingdon Dairy Association.