

have now quite a number possessing pure blood. To judge of the latter quality in a Cotswold, regard must be had to the before mentioned characteristics, and the respectability of the breeder or importer.

THE AMERICAN SHORT-HORN HERD BOOK.—We are indebted to Lewis F. Allen, of Buffalo, for a copy of the fourth volume of his "Herd Book," which we have noticed on former occasions, and the value of which is so well known to short-horn breeders as to require no additional comment from us. The volume is got up in the same style as the preceding ones, and contains nearly three thousand original pedigrees, with some good portraits of animals. The pedigrees of the bulls in this volume reach the 3622d—the third volume closing with the 2468th. The pedigrees of the cows and heifers are yet more numerous. Mr. Allen well deserves the thanks and support of short-horn breeders on this continent, for his enterprise in originating and continuing this work. There may be errors, which are very difficult to avoid in a work of this sort, especially at the commencement, when the pedigrees have to be rescued from an immense mass of confused and often conflicting documents; but breeders on this side of the Atlantic, are placed by Mr. Allen in a very different position to that in which they would be without this publication, when they would have no public medium through which to establish permanent pedigrees for their stock, except that of recording them in the English Herd Book, which would obviously be of much less general convenience, and would be considerably more expensive. This volume is, we believe, sold at Five Dollars, and is forwarded upon order, by Mr. Allen, from Buffalo.

BACK NUMBERS.—We are in want of the first six back numbers of the present year, especially Nos. 3 and 4, and will pay two cents each for them, on delivery at the office. Of course, we cannot pay by post

for single copies, as the postage would amount to three times as much as the sum, but parties having copies in good condition which they do not intend to preserve, would oblige by handing them to the Secretary of their society, to be forwarded by him in a parcel to this office, when we would remit the amount for them, or give credit for them on future orders.

We regret having been obliged, since 1st April, to send off orders without supplying the back numbers. We will supply the numbers wanting still, if we can get them in; otherwise we will return the proportionate amount of the subscription paid, or supply additional copies of the present year, to make up for the amount, at the reduced rate of subscription from 1st April, or we will give credit for the amount overpaid on next year's account.

After this date, we cannot supply any new orders for the back Nos. previous to that of 1st April. From 1st April to the end of the year, the subscription price is for single copies 37½ cents. Nine copies for three dollars.

OUR SUBSCRIPTION PREMIUMS.—We have been unable to make up our list of prizes for the present number. It will, if possible, appear in our next.

PRIZE REPORTS.—The reports from Societies being very numerous, as well as voluminous, require a considerable amount of time and work for their examination and comparison. The awards of prizes will be duly announced after they have been decided upon.

LEAP YEAR.—A Scotch statute of 1,228 reads as follows:—"It is statut and ordaint that during the reime of her maist blissit Majestie, ilk forth year, known as leap year, ilk maiden layde of baith high and low estait, shall hae liberty to bespeak ye man she likes; albyit, if he refuses to take hir to be his wif, he shall be mulcted in ye sum of ane poundis (£1) or less as his estait moi be, except and awis if he can mak it appear that he is bethrothed to ane woman, that he then shall be free."