

ative. He had a free hand to secure the best that could be found, and although at a later stage he used bulls of his own breeding to perfect his herd, he lived long enough to see the absolute necessity of going elsewhere if he was to maintain the standard quality of his animals.

At one time an agitation started among the breeders of Shropshire sheep in America to restrict the number of flocks by charging a higher fee for registering imported animals. The feeling of some was that we had a sufficient number of animals in America upon which the breed could safely rest, and that the breeders who were in possession of the field ought to be permitted to hold it; and that a ten-dollar registration fee would probably prevent much importation. At that time I argued strongly against it. I thought then, and I have not changed my opinion, that nothing worse could have happened so far as the breed in America is concerned than to have adopted such a course. I should prefer to encourage every man to enter upon the breeding of these sheep; the more the better. It is only here and there that anyone can be found who will make any headway towards general improvement of the breed; but the percentage of those who do will be greater in proportion to the number found in the business.

The object of our register associations is to perfect the breeds represented so far as we can in America; and while it is true that the time will come when every pure-bred animal cannot be sold for breeding purposes and some must go to the butcher instead, that condition of things ought not to be suggested as an argument against the open door. It will prove a blessing to every breed when it comes. Study if you will the course pursued by any of the founders of the most noted herds or flocks, and you will find perfection was reached by persistent selec-

tion. Certain animals could not be removed from the herd at any price. It is so to-day in the herds of such men as Duthie and Marr. Ask the price of certain animals and the answer comes promptly "Not for sale." The man who is aiming to make money rather than a herd or flock will sell anything, but the time will come when everything will not sell except to the butcher and when that day arrives the old adage will apply as to stock breeding that "there is always room at the top of the ladder while the bottom is crowded." The best shepherd or herdsman will win, and he ought to win, and the best man will have under these circumstances the best chance. Will anyone suggest that Mr. Andrew E. Mansell could have held such a sale in England this season if there had been no open door in stock-breeding? His best customers came from across the sea. Will any one tell me that they were not advantaged by being permitted to do so? Restriction in that case would have injured all round—the buyer as well as the seller. The foundations of flocks have now been started in many countries as the result of the distribution of that one superior flock; and this will only increase the demand for that which is best in Shropshire sheep everywhere.

I think I am right in saying that all the foremost breeders in Canada realize that it is necessary, at least at regular seasons, for them to go to the original breeding ground of Short-horns in order to replenish their herds with fresh blood if they are to maintain the standard of excellence they now hold. At first sight it might seem that we have all the foundation stock necessary, but experience has proved that our position is much strengthened by repeated drafts from herds in Great Britain. The reason of this I apprehend is not merely because of the skill displayed by those engaged in the business in that country; it

must be have some view is to consider horses, cattle, originated been considering their of time. world has much in the territory. It would engaged in to understand measures closing the country with

It is possible certain position natural whence freedom taken to the States known. The circumstances cattle are; are different past observation advantage with interchange to the opinion that possible for to secure for their restrictive Great Britain. ing accommodation for them would not an injury

It is to whether Russia great Short-horn together received superior animals of Great Britain. United States cows standing attention to some of pleasure the further. It is certain help the business