

and Little Duke—40—He was successful in capturing a second prize on Black Nobleman.

Mr. Geo Cockburn, of Baltimore, Ont., won the first prize for his German Coach stallion, Ludwig 1452. There were ten others in the class, so the victory was a notable one.

Mr. Adam Beck, of London, exhibited eight head of saddle and driving horses, and was fairly successful in winning premiums, as he deserved to be, Aberdeen being a great favorite.

The Hillhurst Farm Stables, owned by Hon. M. H. Cochrane and his son, Jas. H., had one Hackney stallion, Donnacona—37—202; three mares, Miss Baker 575, Canny Maid—13—576, and Matchless Maid—24—635. This stable captured the second prize for Canny Maid, in a class of ten very superior ones, a roan mare by Matchless of Lonsbury only winning by a hair. Then, Miss Baker also got white ribbon, or fourth place, in a class of nine magnificent mares; this is the same mare that won so often at Toronto this fall, when driven in a dog cart.

Mr. Astor's Typhoon captured the junior stallion championship, Matchless of Lonsbury, owned by Dr. Webb, winning the coveted \$500 championship cup for best Hackney stallion at the show, which now becomes the Doctor's property, Matchless having captured it two years in succession.

The total receipts from sale of boxes before the exhibition were this year \$29,695; gate entrances, approximately, \$36,000; sale of seats in rear of boxes, say \$10,000; stables, \$15,065; entrance fees, say \$20,250, or altogether, approximately, \$111,000. They pay out in prizes, \$30,000. Their expenses must be enormous, as everything is done so efficiently in the way of stabling, and strictly carrying out the programme; bringing judges from England, Canada and the United States, all handsomely paid. After all expenses are paid, the balance is divided with the Madison Square Garden authorities, who, no doubt, reap a large harvest for their very best week. They give premiums in about 120 classes, and give the judges only from fifteen to forty minutes in which to judge from five to twenty entries in each class. The exhibition combines six days and six evenings, care being taken by the directors to bring on the most interesting classes when the building is filled, which is in the afternoons and evenings. The whole thing goes on like clock-work; they sell about 2,000 catalogues of 264 pages each, which almost require a boy to carry for you, but they give you full information as to the exact time in which to see the horses you want to, and the number of the winners are immediately hoisted conspicuously, so you can mark them on your catalogue. It also shows emphatically that to see horses is a sufficient attraction to bring a large crowd of the most fashionable and wealthy people in New York, as well as the horse lovers, without any extraneous circus performances whatever.

There is no reason why we cannot, in Toronto, this coming spring, providing we can secure the new Toronto drill shed, now being asked for, make a commencement in adding driving and riding classes in all their branches to our Provincial Spring Stallion Show, by offering liberal prizes for these branches, which would also interest the Toronto Horsemen in this undertaking.

Truly yours,
HENRY WADE.
New York, Nov. 16, 1894.

The Utility of the Ayrshire as a Dairy Cow.

Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Mr. Elder's article on the dairy cow reminds me of a remark I heard at a Farmers' Institute by a gentleman who said that the paper which did the most good at a meeting was one that the writer did not believe himself, and which no one else would believe, for it would draw out discussion.

I have no doubt but that was Mr. Elder's object, for we are too far advanced in the nineteenth century to believe that a scrub cow is better than a thoroughbred.

First, he says a thoroughbred costs too much, but he doesn't mention prices. If all dairymen were of his opinion, the price of thoroughbred cows would not have increased as they have during the last thirty years. When I commenced breeding Ayrshire cattle, thirty years ago, a good cow could be bought for \$100; now, the same quality of a cow will cost \$200, without any boom or combine, but a steady increase, regulated by supply and demand.

Second, he says "a thoroughbred is more delicate than a grade, and expects to be pampered." I have yet to learn of a single instance where a grade has proven itself to be harder than a thoroughbred Ayrshire.

When I got my first Ayrshires I had as good grade cattle as the average Ontario farmer, and my thoroughbreds and grades ran together. I never saw the grades any harder than the thoroughbreds. But I think it is very poor policy for the dairyman or farmer to test the hardy qualities of a dairy cow. If the dairyman would try how comfortable he can keep his cows, it will pay him a great deal better. Leave the government stations to test their hardiness, as the State of Wisconsin did a few years ago, where they tested the different breeds, the grade included, and the Ayrshire can keep up the flow of milk the best of any when subjected to cold and exposure.

Mr. Elder says "one half the breed goes down the throat." I quite agree with him in that, but a thoroughbred Ayrshire is a great deal easier fed than the grade of his fancy.

He states that, with one exception, the best cow in Ontario had at least two crosses of Shorthorn in her, and valued her very highly on account of her extra size. So that after milking her till she is twelve or fifteen years old, she will dress 600 lbs. of beef. The dairyman who buys a large cow, and keeps her till she is twelve or fifteen years old, has about as much foresight as the dairyman who would buy a twenty-horse-power engine to drive his churn and separator, while a four-horse-power would suit his purpose better; but on account of having the large engine, he would have more old iron to sell when it is worn out.

We have a thoroughbred Ayrshire cow in our herd, Pride of Meadows—686—, who, in the month of June, when fed nothing except grass, gave her own weight of milk, testing an average of 4.8 in sixteen days. I am satisfied there is not a Shorthorn grade in Canada can do that. In a test just concluded at the New Hampshire Agricultural College, the thoroughbred Ayrshires made 100 lbs. of butter with \$1.50 less feed than the Shorthorn grades.

For Mr. Elder's information, I quote the result of a few milk tests which have been conducted in Canada, open to grades as well as thoroughbreds, and, in passing, would ask Mr. Elder where the grades were?

PUBLIC RECORDS IN CANADA.

In the year 1882, W. Weld, editor of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, offered \$100 for the best five cows for general purpose and profit, at the Provincial Exhibition, held at Kingston. The owners were required to give an account of the doings of their cows for the previous year. This account was taken into consideration by the judges in making the awards. The prize was awarded to five Ayrshire cows, owned by Thomas Guy, Oshawa.

In the same year an Ayrshire cow, owned by the same man, took first place at Toronto Industrial.

In 1884, at the Toronto Industrial, the first prize in the milk test was awarded to an Ayrshire cow owned by Mr. Guy.

In the same year, at the Provincial, held in Ottawa, an Ayrshire cow, owned by James Drummond, Montreal, took first for the best cow having calved previous to the first of May; an Ayrshire cow, owned by the same gentleman, took first for the best cow having calved after the first of May, and an Ayrshire cow, owned by James Callender, North Gower, took second.

In 1886, at the Dominion Exhibition, Sherbrooke, Que., three prizes were offered in the milk test, and all three were taken by Ayrshires. First, owned by Thomas Brown; second, owned by James Drummond, and third, by Thomas Ervin, all of Montreal.

In 1887, at the Grand Dominion Jubilee Exhibition, at Ottawa, the sweepstake for the best milk cow of any breed was awarded to an Ayrshire cow from our herd. She is now twenty-one years old and milking well yet.

All the above tests were open to both pure breeds and grades.

Mr. Elder also speaks as if a large per cent. of dairy cows proved non-breeders, or meet with accidents. In thirty years' experience, and we have seventy-five head of thoroughbred Ayrshires, we only had one cow that missed breeding, and have had only one accident—a calf getting his leg broke on the way home from the Toronto Exhibition.

JOSEPH YUILL, Carleton Place.

Our Scottish Letter.

Affairs in this country cannot be said to be in a very flourishing condition. There has been a dry but very protracted harvest; grain is not a first-class sample, but fodder is very abundant, and, although turnips are a shortcrop, as well as potatoes, grass has held out well, and it is long since we had such luxuriant meadows. Wheat is away down to no price at all—16s. to 18s. per quarter, and oats are following suit. Barley of the common variety, in the West of Scotland, is paying fairly well, and some farmers purpose substituting barley for wheat in their rotation next year. Looking at the situation all round, the prospect of the British farmer, at the present time, is not too bright, the one department in which there is a distinct improvement being that of stock raising. In my last communication some details of the cattle trade were given, and since writing, the improvement has been sustained. At a sale of Galloway and Blue-gray cattle, at Knockstocks, near Newton Stewart, excellent prices were realized. General the Hon. Alex. Stewart, of Corsbie, has only been in the cattle-breeding line for about five years, but during that time he has carried off high honors at Birmingham and London, and in the local shows he was invincible. These Blue-gray cattle are very popular with feeders in the North of England and the South of Scotland, and, by the way, it is worth noticing that the South of Scotland is not wholly given over to dairying. There are many farmers in Galloway who still feed largely, and with them the produce of the Cumberland White bull and the Galloway cow is decidedly popular. At the sale under review, a three-year-old Galloway cow, named Sateen II., drew £21 10s., and her Blue-gray calf, by the White bull Snow King, made £12 10s. The Galloway cow Pearl of Mindock 11641, six years old, was sold for £19 15s., and her Blue-gray steer calf for £11 15s. Other Galloway cows were sold for £20, £20 5s., £15, £16 5s., and £20 5s., and their Blue-gray calves for £10, £11 15s., £9 15s., £11 5s., and £10 1s. Another cow, Lucky of Mindock 11615, drew £20, and her steer calf, £8 10s. Steers, aged respectively two and one year old, sold for £34 and £24 10s. A heifer, full sister to the first, made £16 5s., and another of the same age, 18 months, made £18. The bull himself made £30. He is what is called an unpedigreed Shorthorn; that is, a Shorthorn true to type, but lacking the requisite number of crosses to obtain registration in the Herd Book. Such cattle are very common in Cumberland and Westmoreland, and a grand race they are.

One of the features of the past autumn has been the revival in the prices of sheep. It is not quite easy to account for this, because you Canadians are now sending us many more sheep than you ever did. In 1893, it appears you only sent us something like 1,000; up to the end of September this year you had sent us 90,754, so that, with another month of navigation open, 1894 is likely to make the record for this trade. At the same time, the recently published agricultural returns bring out the fact that there are in Great Britain this year 1,418,834 sheep less than there were in 1893; in Ireland, 316,343 less, and in the whole of the United Kingdom, including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, 1,737,006 less. The Canadian importations, large as they seem, fall far short of meeting this deficiency, and hence, perhaps, after all the rapid and sustained rise in the value of sheep is not so much to be wondered at.

Certainly it has been a good job for sheep-breeders, who have not had as good a year for a long time. This has been manifest in two ways. First, in advances in prices all around, for the seconds as well as for the best sorts, and in some of the highest prices ever recorded for all breeds. The three favorite breeds in this part of the world are the Blackface, the Border Leicester and the Cheviot. In a sense these may be summarized as the mountain, the plain, and the green hill breeds. In Forfarshire and Perthshire, and to a less extent in other northern counties, the Shropshire disputes the territory with the Border Leicester, and in Galloway and Dumfriesshire there are still many farmers who claim that the Wensleydale is preferable to the Border Leicester. In spite of isolated cases of this nature, the fact remains that the latter breed is making steady headway, the success of their produce out of Blackface ewes, for hogging purposes, telling largely in their favor. By this is meant that the cross-bred wethers pay well when kept over twelve months, to eat the season's turnip crop or to clean up the spare pasture about a Lowland farm. The greatest advances in prices this year were made in the Blackface breed. The highest price of the year is £110, paid for the shearing ram Ladas, bred by Mr. C. Howatson, of Glenbuck, and winner of second prize at the Highland Society. Another very high price, £95, was made for a second Glenbuck shearing named Bonnie Scotland, whose twin brother was sold for £56. These are, of course, quite exceptional prices. The following refer to average prices for considerable lots of sheep. One of the most popular flocks in Scotland is that of Overshields. The Messrs. Archibald, its proprietors, are looked upon as the ablest judges and best informed experts on all points connected with the breed in this country. For several years past they have sold sixty shearing rams at the Lothian ram sales. This year the average price of the sixty was £13 13s. 3d., and the highest price £62. Another notable flock is that at Low Ploughland, in Avondale. Twenty shearlings out of it were sold on the same day for an average price of £17 18s. The best average of the year was made by the Glenbuck 21, at Lanark, namely, £23 5s. 5d. Kelso, a quaint, stranded sort of old town, is the centre of the Border Leicester world. The Kelso ram sales are a great event in the Scottish calendar. Usually the highest prices are realized for rams bred by Lord Polwarth, at Mertoun, and this year was no exception to the rule. His Lordship sold 32 shearing rams, for which he received the splendid average of £44 1s. 4d., his highest price being £120. Peelwell flock came next with 21 head, realizing an average of £21 11s. 5d. An ordinary average was about £10, or £12 for a lot of 20 or 30. The great Cheviot ram sale is held at another border town, Hawick. The breed, however, is found in greatest numbers in the south-east of Scotland, the north-east of England, and, curious to say, in the extreme north of Scotland, that is in Sutherland. The highest average this year was made by Mr. John Elliot, of Hindhope, whose figure was the very respectable one of £20 5s. Next came Mr. Douglas, of Upper Hindhope, with an average of £14 1s. 6d. The highest price realized for a Cheviot ram this year was £63, the animal being from the flock of Mr. Douglas.

SCOTLAND YET.

Comfort for the Pigs.

BY A. T. GILBERT.

Animal heat in this northern latitude will in a short time be at a premium, and should be held within reasonable bounds in order to profit. Now, it may be that some readers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE have a sty which is not so warm and comfortable as they desire, and are so situated that they cannot make any great alterations. The following addition will be appreciated by the pigs, will take but a short time to construct, and the cost will be but a trifle. It is simply to board off a sleeping apartment in one corner of the pen, the proper size for the number of pigs enclosed. The cover, or roof, should be made somewhat in appearance like a door with hinges, so that it may be thrown back on warm days. The height of this cosy apartment should be about 12 inches from the pigs' backs. The opening, or door, may face the feeding trough. This opening should have a six-inch board across the lower side, to prevent the bedding from working out. Such a sleeping apartment as this, in a cold pen, would be of value to the owner and a great comfort to the pigs, especially if they were little ones.