



Some notable visitors at the Duthie-Marr sale. Reading from the right they are: Deane Willis, Mr. Casario of South America, Lord Aberdeen, John Marr, Wm. Duthie and Mr. Phillips.

A Shorthorn Sale in Scotland

(Specially written for THE FARMING WORLD by an eye-witness)

The annual sale of the Duthie-Marr Shorthorns is now one of the great events of the year in the Shorthorn world. It sets the pace for all that follow in the same week in Scotland. This year it was looked forward to with great expectancy. Tuesday, 9th October, was the date fixed, and Uppermill, Mr. Marr's home, the place appointed. Early in the morning the visitors began to arrive, while scores had previously seen them where they were reared. At ten o'clock the crowd was too numerous for comfort in examining the quality of the different offerings. They came from all quarters, from the far south of England, from all parts of Scotland, from Ireland, as well as representatives from New Zealand, South America, United States and Canada. They came by train and trap and motor. Lord Aberdeen mingled among his tenants (Messrs. Duthie and Marr both being in that position) as one of the onlookers, and watched the proceedings with evident interest. The day was threatening, but the rain held off until night came on, and everything was cleaned up. The vast majority were evidently ready to purchase if a favorable opportunity offered, and many plans were laid as

the calves were critically inspected. How many definite selections were made before the sale started no one will ever know, but the serious countenances, the earnest conversation, the quiet marking of the catalogue, all indicated that the choice had been made in many cases, but "Alas, the best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft aglee." When the sale proceeded, how many found that one more plucky than they had also chosen the same beast, and had driven them off the purchase altogether; for few expected so high an average. So it happened when the purchaser could not get his first choice, he then began to crowd out one else even as he had been crowded. The auctioneer, Mr. Fraser, of Perth, behaved splendidly; always kind and courteous, yet keen and alert in the extreme, he held the crowd without a break to the last. He does not lecture, he does not scold—he sells. And if the bidding stops

HE SELLS QUICK.

There was no lagging at any point, yet every one had a fair chance. Lunch commenced at 11 and the sale promptly at 12.30. The animals were sold as they were numbered in the

catalogue, and they were numbered according to their ages. The four oldest calves belonged to Mr. Duthie and were about a year old. They accordingly came in first, and were disposed of before any of Mr. Marr's were exposed. The first calf to enter the ring was among Mr. Duthie's best, as the record shows. He was well grown, in splendid condition, a good color, and with no serious fault. The only slight weakness was his head and neck, which lacked neatness and gave him a slightly sluggish appearance; but his even flesh, coupled with ruggedness and masculinity, fixed him in the eyes of the best judges as

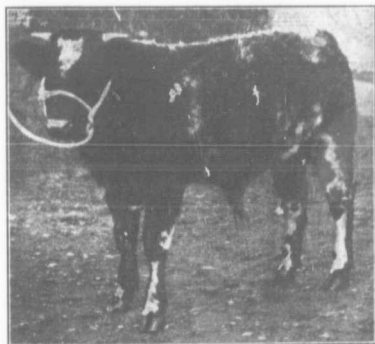
A SIRE WORTH HAVING,

and so the pace was set. Starting modestly, he was at a few nods of the purchasers at 100gs. When in less time than I write 200 was reached and still the pace kept up; on at a gallop and the 300 mark was passed at a jump, but always the same man had the even money. 200, 350, 400, 500, 600, always tightening his grip, saying to the crowd in effect: He is mine now; can't you see I shall buy him? From 600 gs. on the interest was intense and when 700 was reached it was thought the fight was over, but no, not at all. At the auctioneer's call on it went again, until 800 was announced, and a shout and thrill went around the large audience. Still some buyer refused to give him up, trying another ten gs., but Mr. Deane Willis immediately covered the advance, and at 830 gs. takes the bull to Bapton. The next in the ring was white, and a real good calf, strong smooth and robust, and without serious fault except his color, which did not suit some, but evidently is needed by the purchaser.

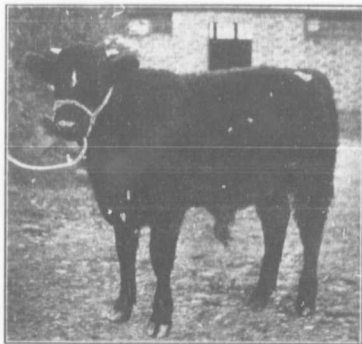
THE BIDDING WAS LIVELY

on this bull up to 200 gs. and then fell off, and at 230 gs. he was knocked down to George Campbell for Mr. Cargill, of Canada. Both of these bulls, as the two following, were by "Pride of Avon," bred by Mr. Jolliffe in England.

No. 3, "Crown Imperial," a roan, found numerous buyers, and the bidding was brisk up to 200 gs., at which price he was knocked down to Mr. Hutchinson. Then came one of the choicest breeding in the catalogue, "Viscount Violet," of the same family and breeding as Mr. Deane Willis' bull, the sire of both champions at the Royal of this year. His dam



Gold Mint—The highest priced bull at the Duthie-Marr sale. Price 850 gs. (£4,250).



Collynie Monarch—Sold at Duthie-Marr sale to Mr. Rothschild for 800 gs. (£4,000).