

the "professional showman" to the exclusion of the smaller breeder, yet it adds greatly to the competitive interest and to the educative features of the shows. Thus anyone attending the Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Kansas City and other fairs last fall saw a very large percentage of the winners at the International Exposition of Chicago.

No class of stock now-a-days receives greater attention than the beef cattle, and of these the Shorthorns, Herefords and Aberdeen Angus are undoubtedly the most popular. This latter breed, by the bye, is rapidly winning its way to the front, for from its ranks have come, time and time again, the champions of the block, and this year, at Chicago, the "doddie" men had the satisfaction of not only winning sweepstakes for individual steer, but also first for their carload lot of steers. Still the Shorthorns and Herefords are as yet the reigning popular breeds.

In the past decade no breed has made such rapid strides in America as the Herefords. The time was when they fell an easy mark to arrows aimed at their light hind quarters and lack of scale, but these arrows now fall harmless when fired at such herds as those of Messrs. Sotham, Gudgeon & Simpson, Clark, Van Natta, Graves, and many others. In fact the Shorthorn breeders had better look out for their laurels or they will be outstripped by the rival breeders of the "white faces." The Hereford breeders have never been so hampered as the Shorthorn breeders by the demands of pedigree, and, for this reason, there has been a more rigid selection of breeding stock, individual merit rather than family lineage being the criterion. On the other hand, family breeding has, in cases far too many, sapped the fountain of Shorthorn excellency, and it is the most popular families that have suffered most. In realms other than moral the old adage holds good—"popularity is a dangerous thing."

There are some animals that everyone wants to see who attends any of the above mentioned fairs, and perhaps those which incite the greatest admiration are found in the age Hereford bull ring. There is the mighty Dale. He weighs 2100 or more pounds and yet every pound in his body cost \$3.50, the price being paid by the man who bred him and who had sold him only to buy him back again, Clem Graves, of Bunker Hill, Ind.