

munity has already been shown, but the extent of these claims has not been defined. The forest of the vision here is so thick with underwood that I frankly confess I can scarcely see the light on the further side. Agriculture in Canada is unquestionably the great mustard tree, and the fowls that repose on its branches should be encouraged to do so, but how far they should be compelled to eat of its fruit is an open question. The lawyer of the city might not wish his son to spend time in the study of agriculture, while the member of the school board might choose differently in the case of his son. But the obscurity that hangs over this part of our subject will be dispelled before the advancing light of the expression of public opinion, which will ultimately make known the desire of majorities, as to how far the landmark that marks the limit of the introduction of this text book shall extend. In the meantime let us have the work at the earliest possible moment, and may it be a worthy forerunner of a magnificent Canadian agricultural literature that is yet to be.

(Completed.)

The Wisdom of Using Pure-bred Sires

Although instances innumerable present themselves attesting to the wisdom of using pure-bred sires, yet we seldom have the pleasure of placing before our readers such a clear case of benefit as the following: Mr. John Easterbrook, of Aldershot, Ontario, has a grade Jersey, four years old, that calved the middle of March, 1886. This animal, although then not two years old, has milked continuously from the time she first calved up to the fore part of August, 1888. During this interval she has nourished two calves; the last one she dropped September 1st, 1888, after being dry three weeks. But this is not all. The quality of her milk for butter-making is vouched for by the fact that when the rest of the herd went dry this one animal kept a family of ten in butter during two months up to the middle of June. This cow had a common cow for her dam, so common that she was inclined to go dry three months before calving; but herein lies the cause of such wonderful results, she was sired by a pure-bred Jersey bull, Thalmar, owned by Mr. Valancey E. Fuller. Could the most fertile brain invent a tale more illustrative of the oft-repeated maxim that "the bull is half the herd." We venture to say that there are hundreds of animals in Canada to-day that could give equally as good results either for beef or milk, if only improved by the use of pure-bred sires. Heading the herd with an animal worthy to do so, and then following this up with continuous and careful selection of dams, will in time produce a marked effect on the returns of the milk pail or butcher's block.

Western Fair at London.

Despite unfavorable weather the time-honored reputation of the Western Fair Association to devise an exhibition and carry it to a successful issue once more asserts itself. We do not allude to the so-called "special attractions," but to the more instructive and beneficial departments, consisting of the exhibits of live stock and agricultural produce.

CATTLE.

In this department the competition was especially strong. Representative herds of all breeds (with the exception of the Devons) were on exhibition.

Shorthorns.—The hue and cry, still echoing in the distance, raised by some, that the Shorthorns have reached their greatest development and cannot even maintain their former prestige, does not apply to Canada, and it only needs a gathering similar to that at London to refute such statements. Bow Park Farm, of Brantford (T. Nelson & Sons, John Hope, manager), exhibited a herd of splendid animals. Mr. Russell, of Exeter, also had a number of well-bred animals, including a choice yearling and a promising bull calf. Five head were shown by Mr. J. Morgan & Sons, of Kenwood. These gentlemen show a

heifer of many good qualities, possessing depth and breadth, alongside of a bull calf of great evenness and symmetry.

Mr. C. M. Simmons, Ivan P.O., had a number of animals headed by his splendid show bull of grand proportions. We particularly noticed among the others a two-year-old of excellent stamp. Other exhibitors possessing animals equally deserving of notice and criticism, were the Smith Bros., of Exeter and Innerkip; H. Thompson, St. Marys; E. Gaunt & Sons, of St. Helens; H. J. Davis, Woodstock, and Shore Bros., of Westminster.

Herefords.—The "white faces" with their mossy and protective coats, were, on the whole, of excellent quality.

Mr. F. A. Fleming, of Weston, Ont., had on exhibition eleven head of vigorous and sturdy looking animals. Mr. M. H. Cochrane, of Hillhurst, P. Q., shows six head, including their stock bull Cassio. This animal is at present in fine show trim. His most marked excellencies are his fine handling qualities and depth and breadth of loin.

Aberdeen Angus.—The many qualities of the "black skins" were brought out clearly by the splendid exhibits of Messrs. Hay & Paton, of Kinnoull Park, New Lowell, Ont., and M. H. Cochrane, of Hillhurst, Compton Co., Que. The first mentioned firm had present fourteen animals. These were headed by the peerless Chivalry, whose prize-winning record should cause those who own him to feel justly elated over their possession. A herd of eleven head is also shown by Mr. M. H. Cochrane, of Hillhurst, including his stock bull Lord Hillhurst. Symmetry is a marked feature of the whole group.

Galloways.—We have heard it averred that as strength of bone and thickness of skin are noticeable features of the Scotch breed, breeding for quality would amount to naught. If those that accept this could have glanced along the row of fine animals owned by Mr. Thos. McCrae and Mr. Kough, of Owen Sound, they would see that tact and skill is as valuable to the Galloway breeder as to the Shorthorn devotee. Formerly Mr. McCrae was almost alone in his glory, but now he has a worthy competitor in Mr. Kough, who had eleven head of good animals on exhibition.

Ayrshires.—The Ayrshires were out in goodly numbers. Mr. Thos. Guy, of Oshawa, showed a herd of fourteen head. The Kain Bros, Byron, Ont., exhibited twelve head; Mr. M. Ballantyne, of St. Marys, five head, and Mr. Geo. Hill, four head.

Jerseys.—About thirty head of these animals were shown. The principal exhibitors were Mr. J. Turner, of Lakehurst Farm, Oakville; S. Smoke, Canning, Ont., and J. Leys, M. P. P., of Pickering. Mr. Cochrane, of Hillhurst, also showed a bull of this breed.

Holsteins.—The Wyton Breeders' Association had a fine lot of this breed, and the stock bull was a worthy competitor of that of Mr. J. Leys, of Pickering, Ont. The latter gentleman had about fifteen head, including his stock bull Adanac.

HORSES.

In this department bad management was plainly discernable. For instance, after hunting up the owner of a certain stall and seeing part of his animals, you are informed that he has several others on different parts of the ground. Go with him you must if you desire to see all the exhibits. Thus you spend most of the day walking across from one side of the ground to the other, accomplishing little though working hard. On this account we cannot report this department as the merits of the exhibits deserve. The final turnout on the second last day enabled us to get a partial glimpse of the quality of the horses shown and from this we think the exhibit was certainly a credit to those taking part in it.

Mr. W. H. Millman, of Woodstock, Ont., had a splendid group of horses numbering eight head. Among these was a 4-year-old Yorkshire coach horse, Sir Aduan. He possesses a grand barrel and fine knee action, though some, perhaps, would like him to be more rangy. An English Cob pony, 3 years old, was also shown. He is exceedingly well put together and of good bone. Two teams of Shires, one 3 years old and the other 5 years old, were included. The younger team were of good bone and substance, and as much can be said of the other team. Pride of Galla, a 4-year-old Clyde, was also an animal of fine bone and free and elastic action. Considering that these animals were all, with the exception of the Coach horse, imported during the month of Septem-

ber, they speak volumes for their caretaker and for their own constitutions.

Mr. P. Farrel, of Woodstock, exhibited a fine team of draught horses. They were well muscled, splendidly shouldered and weighty. This gentleman also had another team of 3-year-olds of fair quality and well built, and a 1-year-old trotting stallion out of Book-maker, of good promise.

Longfield & McLaughlin showed a 7-year-old Shire stallion of many good points. He was well coupled and quartered and stood about 16½ hands.

G. F. Gurnett, of Oakwood, Ingersol, showed a light mare and also a 3-year stallion. The latter animal was of splendid bone, free and easy action and of first class breeding.

W. Vanpatter, of Aylmer, Ont., had a thoroughbred horse, Lapidus King, on exhibition. He was well coupled, rangy and full of spirit.

A 3-year-old Canadian bred Coach horse was shown by A. Hughes, of Kenwood, also a young 3-year-old filly. The latter had a magnificent shoulder, but lacked bone compared with the former.

We regret that we cannot do justice to this department, and we feel that until better facilities for getting information are provided, this feature of our exhibitions will ever be deficient in this respect.

SHEEP.

Although not of equal merit with some of the other departments, yet the sheep were on the whole good.

Cotswolds.—Messrs. Laidlaw & Jackson, of Westminster, had a flock of 29 head. In this flock was a ram, 3 years old, that was said to weigh 500 lbs. Thirteen head were also shown by J. Park, of East Oxford. Mr. McArthur, of Lobo, was also an exhibitor.

Lincolns.—The chief Lincoln men were Wm. Oliver, of St. Marys; Wm. Walker, of London township; A. Hislop, of Westminster, and H. Snell & Sons, of Clinton. From the foregoing names the conclusion may be justly drawn that the showing was good.

Leicesters.—These were out in good force. Messrs. Gaunt & Sons swelled the list with 13 head, while Messrs. Snell & Sons, of Clinton, Wm. Somers, St. Marys, and Wm. Fleming, of Westminster, materially aided in making the turnout of this breed very creditable to all concerned.

Oxfords.—Mr. Peter Arkell, of Teeswater, was the principal exhibitor. Mr. E. Grant was the only one who competed with him.

Shrops.—As usual the Shrops showed up well. Mr. W. H. Beattie, of Wilton Grove, had a flock of 25 head. Messrs. D. G. Hamner & Sons, of Mount Vernon, showed a number, of good form and fleece. Other exhibitors were Mr. Wright, of Westminster; Snell & Sons, of Clinton, and J. Charlton, of London.

South Downs.—Although his flock was divided, Mr. Jackson, of Abingdon, showed a number of the usual good quality. Eleven head were also shown by Mr. A. Telfer, of Paris. J. Barker, of Simcoe, also helped to better the Southdown record.

Merinos.—Mr. R. Baillie, of Union, had a flock of 20 head of these fleece raisers. Mr. B. also had a pair of fat wethers, which, by the way, succeeded in carrying off 1st prize in this class, open to all breeds. Mr. G. Deo also had a number of these animals, he being Mr. Baillie's sole competitor.

SWINE.

The swine exhibit, both in numbers and quality, was certainly a credit to those taking part in the display. Mr. Geo. Green, of Fairview, had a fine showing of Berks, 20 head in all. Improved Chesters were shown by E. D. George, of Putnam, Ont. J. Featherstone, of Credit P. O., breeder of Essex, Large York and Suffolks, also had a number of these animals on exhibition. As a guarantee of the merit of the exhibits, it is only necessary to mention the following breeders who took part: Simmons & Quarie, Ivan P. O.; H. J. Davis, Woodstock; Kains Bros., Byron; J. Auckland, Delaware; Geo. Hill, Ivan P. O., and Ed. Kendrew, Pond Mills.

Great Central at Hamilton.

If attendance be deemed a criterion of success, then the Great Central may justly claim that honor. We noted, however, that in the live stock department there was a noticeable deficit of exhibitors except in the line of horses. Animals were not lacking in merit