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proceed to review what invariably finds the pride of place in the catalogue, to wit, the aged bulls. This section of the red, white and roan was particularly strong this year, and at almost all the leading shows Sir R. P. Cooper's Chiddingstone Malcolm was a competitor. This great bull went through the season with a clean sheet, winning first and champion, Oxfordshire; first and champion, Bath and West; first and champion, Hereford and Worcester; first and champion, Shrop. and West Midland; first and champion, Gloucestershire; first, Peterboro; first, Lincolnshire; first, Royal Lancs; first, Welsh National; and first and champion male at the Royal. This latter and all-important victory was no walk-over, for in the old bull class of 34 entries, Sir Richard's bull met foemen worthy of his steel, in Tarrel Uxor (subsequently champion at the Highland), H. M. the King's Royal Windsor, Messrs. Denny's Violet's Pride, and a host of other good bulls. When the supreme champion was contested it was only after a referee had been called in that Mr. Geo. Harrison's winning two-year-old, Pride of Tees, was disposed of, but there was no question of the marked superiority of Chiddingstone Malcolm, which is a very grand bull, being massive, particularly in front, and most evenly covered with beautiful handling flesh. He walks with a gay carriage, and showed no signs of wear at the end of his arduous show career. He had his faults—what prominent winner has not?—and these were chiefly a somewhat common appearance—not quite the ideal stock-bull type, and a grayish roan color, that might not just please the most critical. This bull was sold at a long figure for export.

Quite a number of good two-year-old bulls were paraded at the leading shows, and the best winner amongst these was H. M. the King's red-roan, Evander, a son of Royal Chieftain and Eliza 21st. This is a very well-grown, blocky bull, particularly neat at his tail-head, and full in his thighs. He was unbeaten as a yearling, and this year won first and champion at the Royal Counties; first and champion, Birkenhead; second, Royal; first, Highland; first, Great Yorkshire. The Royal winner was Mr. Geo. Harrison's Pride of Tees, a good winner last year, and a son of Primrose Pride, from Lady Augusta 2nd, by Robert Bruce. He was a remarkably thick-fleshed bull, and his wonderful substance gained him the day, but he might have pleased better just over the hooks, and his head and color did not altogether escape criticism. His breeder sold him for export at a price reputed to exceed £2,000. Another good two-year-old was Mr. Rothwell's Lord Brilliant, the 1,000-gs. bull at last year's Royal. He was third at that show this year, but won a number of other prizes, including the 50-gs. cup for best bull at the Royal, Lancashire. Many good yearlings were shown, and Mr. Geo. Harrison's herd scored a notable victory at both the Royal and Highland, with Collynie Champion, a grand young bull, of Duthie breeding, which should make a valuable sire. Mr. Miller's Royal Duke ran him close, being a grandly-fleshed bull, but spoilt by a common head. He, however, was successful at the Royal, Lancashire, Cheshire, Welsh National, Birkenhead and Altrincham shows. Another great yearling—at the end of the year possibly the best of his age—was Mr. J. H. Maden's Duke of Hoole, a bull of wondrous size, grand color and even fleshing, being as good above as below. He did fairly well at the summer shows, winning firsts at Peterboro and Derby, but his crowning triumph was when he beat Mr. G. D. Faber's Royal champion Hereford, Rob Roy, in the inter-breed contest for champion at Lord Tredegar's show in the autumn. This win was merited, and Duke of Hoole is sure to stand well up in good company in the future.

On turning to the females, it is not out of place to remark that the pedigree dairy Shorthorn is coming rapidly to the fore; at shows where these animals are catered for, the strength of the classes and the merits of the entries more than justify the attention that has been bestowed on this all-important branch of our dual-purpose breed.

Some good aged cows were shown during the past season, prominent amongst which were Mr. J. H. Maden's Lady Graceful, which had a most successful career as a heifer. This year she was first and reserve champion at the Royal, first and reserve champion at Newport, first Warwickshire, and several other prizes. Lady Graceful is a very neat cow, beautifully moulded, but perhaps a shade on the small side. Although quite a young animal, she has been a pronounced success as a breeder, her yearling daughter, Hoole Graceful, having been most prominent in the show-ring, while her bull calf is a youngster of considerable promise. Lord Calthorpe's old cow, Sweetheart, was successful at several shows, but her day is over, and her success at the Bath and West is probably the last premier award she will capture. This cow, too, has been a most successful breeder, several animals of note claiming her parentage. Mr. Atkinson's well-known Jenny XIX., which has been a consistent winner from a calf, and which scales the remarkable weight for a female of over one ton, has had her share of successes, being first

at the Royal Counties, Shropshire and West Midland and Royal Lancs. shows, taking at the latter exhibition the 50-gs. cup for best female.

Amongst the two-year-olds was found one of those well-nigh faultless animals that one rejoices to see on exhibition; this was the King's superb heifer, Marjorie, a roan daughter of the great breeding bull, Royal Chieftain, and Miriam, by Merry Harbinger. She was unbeaten as a yearling, and this year she won first and champion at the Royal Counties, first and champion at the Royal, first and champion at Birkenhead, first at the Great Yorkshire, first and female champion at the Highland. Marjorie is a beautiful roan,

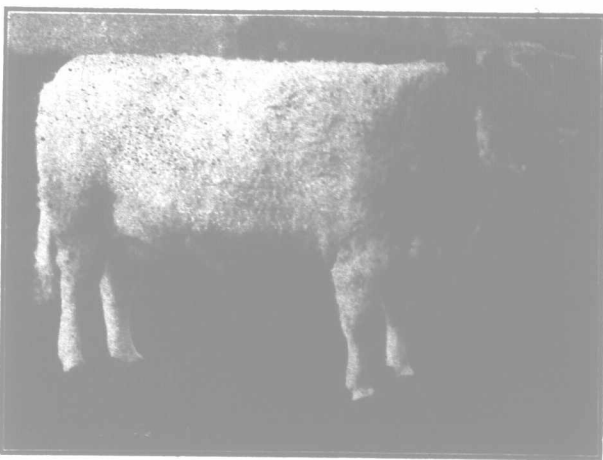


Duke of Hoole.

Yearling Shorthorn bull. Winner of many prizes in England in 1908.

on the shortest of legs, with a splendid top and underline. She is particularly neat at the rumps, meets one well, and has one of those lovely characteristic feminine heads that adds to her general perfection in no small measure.

Messrs. Garne held a trump card amongst the yearlings, Village Belle, of their own breeding, winning at the Royal, Bath and West, Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, but she was defeated at Lord Tredegar's Show at Newport. This is a beautiful heifer of great scale, most evenly fleshed, and showing nice Shorthorn character. She was clearly the outstanding animal of her age during the season.



Lady Graceful.

Shorthorn cow First and reserve champion, Royal Show, England, 1908.

THE FARM.

Poisoning Sparrows.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Having read some plans for the destruction of the English sparrow, I will give our plan, and, I think, the only successful one, as we have tried many. We have had them for years; have shot them, destroyed their nests and eggs, and snared them, and still they increased; and this winter, as a last resource, we tried poisoning them, with good results. We took about a quart and a half of wheat, put a dessert spoon half full of strychnine in it, covered it over with water, and let it soak over night, then drained and let it dry for a few hours, so it would not freeze too quickly, and spread it on two barn floors that were cleaned of all other grain and seeds, and spread chaff through it, so as to avoid suspicion, and in seven days we got seventy-six dead sparrows, besides some our near neighbors saw dead at their buildings. We have got more dead ones since, and have only a few live ones left, and hope to destroy most of them with smaller doses. The chickadee nor any other bird, but pigeons, ever come to our buildings, and it is easy to shut the pigeons out of a barn. A cat was known to eat

them and not be killed. It takes three or four, or more, hours before they die. These sparrows have eaten our garden peas, our strawberries and many other fruits and vegetables in the garden, until threshed. My opinion is that the only sure method of destroying the nuisance is by poisoning in the winter, when poultry and birds of other kinds can be kept out of barns. I hope others will follow suit.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Renfrew Co., Ont.

Better Silage from Hill Corn.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In answer to your request for experience in growing corn in hills vs. drills, I may say we much prefer hills, three and a half feet each way, and a hand-planter is very profitable, covering four to five acres a day on sandy loam.

We select the most level, as well as the richest part of a field, for roots and potatoes, leaving the roughest and poorest ground for corn, which is one point in favor of corn-growing.

Horse-hoeing both ways is a very profitable amusement, even if there are no weeds, and reduces expensive hand-hoeing to a minimum.

The cost in seed is for less than a peck per acre. Then the stalks grow stout and tall, depending largely on the number of times it is scuffled; we have never exceeded ten times. Corn is a sun plant, so that growing it thin gives it the sunshine, in accord with nature, and insures an abundance of well-matured cobs, which is the secret of procuring good ensilage. Note here that corn grown this way stands well, and is not easily broken over by storms.

When silo-filling comes (and that must not be too early at Swain Farm, for slightly-frosted corn is better than immature stuff), we do not worry nor chase around after a corn binder to lay our forest plantation of fodder low. We have never yet put a sickle in the hand of any man who did not cut at the rate of two acres a day, and do a cleaner job than corn binders usually do in drill-sown corn, especially if broken down by storms. I have no doubt but a man would make wages in saving corn stumps alone, besides saving the cost of a machine, which also often breaks off cobs.

I trust your readers will not put me down for a novice or a hobbyist, for I will say that if you grow corn for dry feed, by all means sow thick and harvest with a binder. We have had no experience with a binder in hill corn.

Silo-filling makes a busy day, and is heavy work, but, by having plenty of men, it goes off with a swing, and the corn is saved in the best possible condition, ready for use any time of the year. I will give the number of men employed and time taken to cut six acres of corn, which should fill a round silo 12 by 30: Three men, 2 acres a day, 6 acres; three teams, if the farther side of the field is not more than 50 rods from the corn-blower, and an additional team for each additional forty rods; three men helping load the wagons; one man to feed the cutting-box; two men helping unload if corn is loose, one if corn is bound; one man at the top of silo with a scoop shovel to direct the ensilage around the inside, and he can do the mixing to perfection if he is clever. I do not usually put anyone to tramp until nearing the top, as I claim that the immense weight of the silage will settle itself without it; and, as to keeping, it keeps perfectly without being tramped until the silo is well filled. As to the quantity a silo would hold with tramping from the start, as compared with none, I am open to conviction.

Use a strong driving power—fourteen to twenty horse-power steam engine. One load in 6 minutes, or ten loads an hour, for eight hours, will spoil an early October day, when the dew is heavy. The seventy-third load filled the silo to the top; two days before not an acre was cut.

The silo has a conical board-and-batten roof. The roof cost \$15.50, all ready to nail on, which two men did in one-half a day; and it is a great strength to a stave silo. The staves stand on a nine-foot concrete base, which makes it now thirty-one feet deep. There is no difficulty in fixing the staves plumb with the inside of foundation wall. I rather regretted, when building the wall, that I had not planned on going right up with cement.

The advantages of growing and saving corn, as described, are: Economy of seed, thoroughness of cultivation, economy in harvesting, by handling it wholesale instead of retail, economy of space in storing a succulent food, freedom from vermin, silage always at its best, which all stock relish, especially when April comes, when roots are done and dry stalks are no longer palatable. The silage is just as good in July and August as ever, if care and judgment are used in putting it away.

JAS. A. WERRY.

Durham Co., Ont.

You can farm without "The Farmer's Advocate," but you will farm a great deal better with it.