

The opinions and extracts brought to light in Mr. MacNeillage's articles cannot be gainsaid, and it is to be hoped judges in our show yards will lay them to heart.

The well-known firm of Messrs. P. & W. Crawford is being dissolved, and all their horses are to be sold by public auction on Thursday, 21st February. This will be one of the greatest Clydesdale sales ever held, and the horses are of a very high order of merit.

SCOTLAND YET.

#### Chatty Stock Letter from the States.

(FROM OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT.)

Prices for nearly all kinds of stock, except hogs, have moved up lately as a result of moderate receipts. The following table shows the top range of prices for various kinds of live stock at Chicago at the present time, with comparisons for the two preceding years:

	1893.	1894.	1895.
<b>CATTLE.</b>			
1500 lbs. up.....	\$5 60	\$5 20	\$6 15
1350 @ 1500.....	5 60	4 85	6 05
1200 @ 1350.....	5 20	4 65	5 50
1050 @ 1200.....	4 75	4 10	5 15
900 @ 1050.....	4 50	3 80	4 50
Stockers.....	3 75	3 70	4 35
Fat cows.....	4 30	3 50	4 00
Canners.....	2 20	2 40	2 60
Bulls.....	4 50	4 00	4 00
Calves.....	5 50	6 25	7 00
Texas steers.....	4 40	4 10	6 00
Texas cows.....	3 50	2 35	4 30
<b>HOGS.</b>			
Mixed.....	\$4 35	\$5 50	\$8 50
Heavy.....	4 50	5 50	8 65
Light.....	4 20	5 40	8 35
Pigs.....	4 00	5 35	7 70
<b>SHEEP.</b>			
Native.....	\$1 35	\$4 25	\$5 50
Western.....	4 10	3 90	5 25
Texas.....	3 30	2 50	5 00
Mexican.....	4 00	3 60	5 25
Lambs.....	5 00	4 75	6 45

Compared with a fortnight ago, best cattle are 10 cents higher, hogs about the same; sheep 25 to 35 cents higher, and lambs 65 cents higher.

William Ogilvie, Madison, Wis., sold 343 head of 104-lb. Shropshire lambs to Armour, at \$5.25.

A commission firm sold in Chicago during January, 1894, 12,840 hogs which averaged 270 lbs. at an average price of \$5.43. The past January they sold 19,214 head, which averaged only 220 lbs. in weight, and \$4.25 in price. These hogs, or over 10 per cent. of them, were from Iowa.

The very cold and stormy weather has lately delayed stock trains and prevented much stock from being started to market. For that reason the hog market at this writing is 25 cents higher than it would otherwise be. The low point was reached the first week in February, when a packer bought a drove of over 4,000 hogs at an average cost of \$1.00 per 100 lbs. That was on sudden spins in receipts one day when the provision market took a bad downward tumble.

J. Greenbaum and the Canadian exporter, Mr. A. J. Thompson, were buying cattle here for export. They paid \$4.75 to \$5.25 for the bulk of their good cattle. Mr. Greenbaum also sent on a large lot of sheep.

Chicago live stock exporters have lately been operating very cautiously.

There seems to be quite a demand in France for bulls and stags. A man, recently back from Paris, said that the bulls in a large consignment sold for nearly as much as the steers. The winter losses for exporters have been quite large. Boats that carry stock exposed on deck should not do business in winter.

Meal-fed Texas cattle, averaging 950 to 1,280 lbs., sold at \$3.50 to \$4.10. Some of the Chicago packers, who have paid their old cattle and hog buyers as high as \$6,000 to \$15,000 per year, have been rearranging the forces on a corner basis. However, they recognize the fact that a cheap man who is buying stock daily to the value of \$25,000 to \$50,000 can very quickly lose many times the amount of a cheap or even a dear salary. Receipts of Texas cattle for the month of January were 17,400 head, nearly all of which were fed. Receipts for January, 1894, were 21,700, and in January, 1893, 6,590. Prices for Texas cattle during this month averaged pretty good, and quite up to the average of a year ago. The quality was generally good and shippers were well satisfied with the results. The dullness of the general trade situation is the only cause for the weakness of the demand for fat cattle.

Hog feeders are now counting on liberal supplies of hogs during the year. George Jackson, from Omaha, says Western Iowa has plenty of good heavy hogs, while Nebraska is bare of heavy with more pigs and underweights on hand than a year ago.

The average weight of hogs at Omaha last month was 191 lbs., against 250 lbs. in January last year. This, in face of an increase of 11,000 in numbers, shows the effect of the drought in Nebraska.

Hogs received at Kansas City last month averaged 216 lbs., the lightest since last October, 10 lbs. lighter than January, 1894, exactly the same as January, 1893, and 11 lbs. lighter than January, 1892. Most of the sheep now coming are medium in quality, and choice ones are scarce.

J. G. Moore, of Little York, Ill., marketed forty-seven hogs which averaged 108 lbs., and sold for \$4.10.

Receipts of horses last month, 1895, the largest receipts for any month in about a year, the second largest since April, 1893, and the largest January receipts since 1890.

#### Canadian Breeders' Associations Hold Their Annual Meetings.

##### CLYDESDALE HORSE ASSOCIATION.

The ninth annual meeting of the Clydesdale Association, on February 6th, in Toronto, was well attended by representative breeders. President Robert Davies, in his address, said the principal matter for consideration, apart from regular business, was the Spring Horse Show. It was proposed to join with the Hunt Club, thus making it a great society event. That organization proposed bearing two-thirds of the expense, and taking two-thirds of the receipts. On motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Graham, it was recommended that the dates be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 11th, 12th and 13th.

Secretary-Treasurer Wade reported 147 registrations in 1894. In the opinion of many, a demand would shortly commence for this class of heavy horses for commercial purposes, many already going to Scotland and England for dray work. Our heavy geldings are well adapted for that market; also for breeding purposes the best of both sexes will still be required; but it will be necessary, through the changed condition of the trade, to produce a little more size and weight than was looked for a few years ago. Volume 8 of the stud book is now in the hands of the printers, and will soon be ready for distribution. The date for publishing Volume 9 will altogether depend on the Clydesdale breeders; if they do not record their colts readily, it will be some time before there are enough for a volume. The Agriculture and Arts Association have already done their share towards meeting the stringency of the times, by lowering the price for registration to \$1 for members, and \$2 for non-members; so, if breeders will stretch a nerve, there will soon be enough for Volume 9. It is a great mistake to drop everything at once that does not pay at the immediate moment, without studying the law of averages in such cases. An account was given of the principal Canadian show events of last year: \$250 was voted to the Spring Stallion Show, \$25 each to the Toronto Industrial, the Hochelaga Spring Show, and the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibitions. At the last annual meeting the standard that had been changed for 1891 was received, and for the coming year it will be as formerly: that a Canadian Clydesdale for exhibition purposes shall not have an imported mare in its pedigree. The financial statement showed receipts \$422.88, and a balance of \$26.77 due treasurer.

Mr. D. McCrae discussed the finances of the Association, intimating that the stud books might be got out at less expense to the members. At the suggestion of Mr. Smith, the new Board will look into the matter.

A motion by Mr. Shaw-Woods, of London, to create a "peerage" among imported Clydesdales, was referred to Messrs. Miller and Graham to report at next meeting.

Mr. Wade read the correspondence (which has already appeared in the ADVOCATE) showing the failure of the negotiations with the U. S. authorities for the recognition of Canadian records, which he thought was a hardship. Canadian Clydesdales might well be considered as a breed originating in this country.

Mr. Miller said the only remaining ground to base further efforts upon was that of fairness in reciprocal relations between governments. He thought the Ottawa Government had done all that they could. The American Clydesdale Association denied that they had ever made any move inducing the U. S. Government to discriminate against Canada in this matter, but he did not think they would pass a resolution looking towards a removal of the grievance, because it would be cutting off their registration fees.

Mr. McCrae said, according to common report, the American Association was responsible.

Mr. Miller called attention to the important fact that the American Clydesdale Association, of which he was a member, had devoted some \$850 to encourage an exhibit of draught geldings and mares at the next American Fat Stock Show, Chicago. The geldings might be either pure-bred or grade Clydesdales, but the mares must be grades. At the meeting he said a very high compliment had been paid to Canada as a breeding ground. There would be classes for mares, geldings, teams in harness, and single geldings or mares, five prizes in each, going as high as \$200. It was important that Canadians should take special steps to make as good a showing as possible in that competition, because it would be of great advantage to our draught horse interests. At no distant date there was bound to come a great shortage and high prices. Good figures might now be obtained for horses eligible to be fitted for the exhibit to which he referred. Such horses might go over in bond and be returned duty refunded.

Officers were elected as follows:—President, Robt. Davies, Toronto. Vice-Presidents—For Ontario, Robt. Beith, Bowmanville; Quebec, Robt. Ness, Howick; Nova Scotia, Col. Blair, Nappan; New Brunswick, A. S. Murray, Fredericton; Prince Edward Island, Hon. Jas. Clow, Murray Harbor; Manitoba, J. E. Smith, Brandon; Alberta Territory, John E. Turner, Calgary; J. M. McFarlane, Saskatoon. Directors—D. Sorby, Guelph; John Davidson, Ashburn; Geo. Cockburn, Baltimore; Thos. McMillan, Constance; R. Graham, Claremont; J. Vipond, Brooklyn; R. Miller, Brougham. Delegate to Central Institute, D. McCrae; to Toronto Industrial, John Davidson and Wm. Smith; to Western Fair, London, E. G. Charlton. Auditor, D. McCrae.

##### SHIRE HORSE BREEDERS.

The seventh annual meeting of the Canadian Shire Horse Association was held in the Agriculture and Arts Building, Toronto, on Tuesday, February 6th.

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Henry Wade, showed that stallions registered now numbered 260; mares, 102; and the number exhibited at the shows was steadily increasing. He predicted that if breeders would now raise all the heavy Shire colts they could, before mature there would be a steady demand, which he added both in England and Canada—now called for a more perfect type. He also looked for a healthy trade in "commercial lots," both of geldings and fillies.

It was decided to offer \$20 as the second prize in the Shire horse sweepstakes at the Spring Horse Show in Toronto. The first prize is to be paid from the Prince of Wales' fund.

Mr. J. Warrilow, of Owen Sound, was appointed an additional judge in Shire horse competitions. The following officers for the current year were elected: John Gardhouse, Highland, President; H. N. Crossley, 91 Woodlawn avenue, Toronto, Vice-President. The Vice-Presidents for the other Provinces are: Manitoba, Henry Munn, Brandon; Quebec, J. V. Papineau, Barnston; Prince Edward Island, George Tweedy, Charlottetown; and Northwest Territories, Dr. C. J. L. Bush, Grenfell. Directors: James H. Smith, Highland; Geo. Garbutt, Thistletown; John Duncan, River view; Valentine Ficht, Oriel; Wm. Mullin, Hillsburg; J. G. Wardlaw, Downsview; and Robert Mackness, Tullamore. Auditor, Mr. D. Warren Green, Toronto. George Garbutt, representative to Central Farmers' Institute; H. N. Crossley, Toronto Industrial Exhibition; Valentine Ficht, Western Fair Committee; and John Gardhouse, Spring Horse Show.

##### A JOINT HORSE SHOW.

At a joint meeting of the Agriculture and Arts Association and the Toronto Hunt Club arrangements were completed looking towards a great Horse Show about the middle of April, in Toronto. The Country and Hunt Club will have charge of the saddle, hunting, jumping and carriage classes, while the Agriculture and Arts Association will control the heavy, draught and Arabian premiums will be offered, and a grand prize for the best horse of the Province will be won. The Governor-General and Lady Aberdeen, and the Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. McMillan, are expected to attend the party.

#### DOMINION SHORTHORN BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The ninth annual meeting of the above organization was held in Toronto on Feb. 8th, Richard Gibson, President, in the chair. The report of the Executive Committee, presented by Secretary Wade, showed that 3,047 registrations were paid for in 1894; 3,144 certificates, and 493 transfers; only two certificates and two registrations were rejected. Vol. X. is completed and will contain all the pedigrees recorded up to 1894; Vol. XI., containing all the pedigrees recorded in 1894, has been closed and will be printed at once. Including Vol. XI., pedigrees on record number 47,066; total paid members in 1894, 384. The financial statement showed total receipts of \$6,753.53, of which the principal items were \$1,272 yearly subscribers' fees, and registration fees, \$3,357.75. The principal items of expenditure were \$1,167.60; for Vol. IX. herd book and salaries, \$2,320.00; the total being \$4,624.34, leaving a cash balance on hand of \$2,129.19. Insurance to the extent of \$3,000 has been placed upon unbound volumes of the herd book at Hunter, Rose & Co.'s, and \$2,500 on bound volumes stored at Agricultural Hall. The editor has completed in Vol. X. the histories of Shorthorn importations up to date. Adopted.

President Gibson delivered his annual address as follows:—

"It is with feelings of pleasure that I again welcome you to our annual meeting. It is a source of gratification that our finances are in as healthy condition as they are, considering the general depreciation of values; and while announcing the continued prosperity of our Association, it is owing to the fact that our breeders still cling to the old ship. While all other cattle organizations with which I am acquainted show a great falling off in membership and registrations, ours fails but little, comparatively, in those respects,—an indication, I take it, that there is a practical utility about the breed that none of the others of the beef breeds possess. We all know that when the high tide of prosperity flows over our land, none command the admiration or are so worthy of being made idols of. So, when the low-water mark is reached and all the glamour and fashion removed, there is a something left of real everyday value that will ever keep them to the front.

"I have sometimes pondered whether these dark days are not of value to teach us the true worth of our favorite when all the gloss and glare, the artificial environments with which the breed is periodically afflicted—I say, when these are removed, does not their real worth for practical everyday farm stock appear most conclusively? One thing has been practically demonstrated,—that just as long as cattle are bred in Canada, Shorthorns will be the favorites.

"But, here let me sound a word of caution. Because you are not realizing as big prices as formerly, don't think you can save in the manger, as Uncle Billy Smith used to say the corn-crib cross was the best outcross he ever used. Recollect, no breed pays better for feed and careful raising, and none so badly for neglect.

"Again, be particularly careful in selecting bulls from strong constitutioned families; in breeding up to a certain point has worked wonders, but where it has been injudiciously carried out it has wrought much mischief.

"Don't pin your faith upon any one family or strain, to the exclusion of others; recollect they all spring from the same source, and the judicious blending of the various families will produce the best results as a whole. Remember, 'a good Shorthorn is a good Shorthorn, no matter how come.'"

"Because you are not well laid in with the strain that is now fashionable, don't feel discouraged; in the next deal you may hold the trumps. We all know what a fickle dame fashion is, and how quickly she changes. Remember those former idols, Bates and Booth, Mason, Knightley and Stephenson, all had their day; each by their turn have been fallen down to and worshiped; and while to some they have proved a veritable golden calf, to the majority only a damage and a curse.

"Breed for the animal and not so much for the pedigree. Strive to make them good in the show-yard and not on paper. Never was there a time when one can exercise his best judgment and show his skill as a breeder as at the present. Now no man's hand need be tied by fashion, and it is the healthiest sign of the breed and its future usefulness I've seen for some time.

"Another suggestion: Notice how the dairy interest is developing throughout Ontario and Quebec. The Shorthorn breeders ought to have a slice of that trade, for without doubt the dairy habit may be cultivated to such an extent that they need fear no rivals in that line. If you doubt my assertion, go with me to the London fair, and I will show you a dozen, say, twenty Shorthorns to one of any other breed. Mind you, there is no fancy here; they are not kept for the romance of the thing, or that the battles of Bates and Booth may be fought over again, but on a strict pounds, shillings and pence basis, and this is the experience of as shrewd and business-like lot of men as are interested in any industry. In this direction seems to me to be a field open for great possibilities.

"With these few remarks it now becomes my duty to place in your hands that gift which for four years you have unanimously tendered to me. For your confidence I thank you, and I can truthfully say that whatever I have attempted has been with the single view of what would benefit the breed at large. My own personal interests have been entirely subordinated for the general good. As your President, I have identified myself with no clique or particular strain, and I have no doubt your future Presidents will always sink their individuality for the welfare of the whole. It would be unseemly for me to note the changes that have been carried out since I have been your President. They have been important. Everything now is working smoothly, and is in good order, and with your efficient Executive Committee everything is being done to cut down unnecessary expense and steer the old ship through the troubled waters. I have but one regret, and that is that we have not been able to reduce expenses sufficiently to cover cost of publication out of fees. I take the ground that registration fees should cover cost of registration, that we have no right to go outside of that fund for the purpose. Were that the case we would then have the membership fees to devote to the interest of the breed, in giving prizes, or for whatever purpose you might decide upon.

"To the Directors I wish to return thanks for the kind assistance at all times rendered.

"To the Secretary, for his always genial help, and the cordiality with which he has carried out the necessary changes.

"And to the members, one and all, I wish to express my thanks for their good will, and I take this opportunity of wishing them a very prosperous year. May 1895 be the milestone on our life's journey which marks the era of a return to better and more prosperous times."

The official correspondence of the non-recognition of Canadian records by the U. S. authorities was read and discussed, various suggestions being made, such as urging international courtesy, approaching the American Live Stock Association (at whose request the U. S. Government action was taken, showing the possible effects of such a course, for instance, upon South American trade, renewing pressure through the Government by means of an active Canadian Cattle Breeders' Association; but the whole matter was finally referred to the retiring and incoming Presidents and Secretary to prepare suitable representations for the Ottawa authorities.

The question of seeking the privilege of shipping Canadian steers through the U. S. in bond to the seaboard was discussed, but no action was taken.

Mr. Robert Miller presented a paper on the subject, "Are Shorthorns as good as they used to be?" to which he gave a decidedly affirmative answer. Mr. Miller was heartily thanked for his paper, though there was some divergence of views expressed in discussion. In support of the affirmative position it was held that ideals and knowledge had advanced slightly faster than the march of improvement, so that there was no weight in steers of the same age as formerly.

The following were elected officers for 1895:—Pres., Arthur Johnston, Greenwood. Vice-Pres.—Jas. Russell, Richmond Hill; Hon. D. Ferguson, M.P.E., Charlottetown, P.E.I.; J. H.