

The Madison Garden Stock Show.

BY RICHARD GIBSON.

"The Live Stock Society of America" held their second annual show at Madison Square Gardens, Nov. 23rd to 28th. This is not a local show, but has for its officers men selected for their skill and efficiency as breeders and exhibitors of the various classes of live stock from all over the United States; men of ability and progress. To name a few: the President is Hon. W. H. Gentry, Mo.; Vice-President, R. B. Ogilvy, Madison, Wis.; Secretary, G. Howard Davison, N. Y.; Treasurer, Mortimer Levering, Ind.

Notwithstanding the efforts put forth, the show was not a success financially or for the purposes intended. The officials did their duty. The exhibitors responded in greater numbers and with a better display of cattle than last year. Still the attendance was very disappointing. The Americans are evidently not admirers of farm stock, they care more for what they wear than what they eat.

A BONNET SHOW WOULD DRAW a crowd where sirloins and steaks would be passed by. A woman's bicycle race would be an immense attraction while sheep and lambs would be voted vulgar. It does seem strange that the people don't care sufficient about the food they consume to patronize an exhibit of the very finest productions of America's most skillful breeders and feeders. We

are more interested. However, omitting the classes and coming to fat cattle championships by ages. The two-year-olds were represented by the Angus Rusty, the winning yearling of last year; T. Clark's Jessamine, the sweepstakes winner all over the States this fall; the Shorthorn, Gay Lavander, shown so successfully by Robbins throughout the West; the Devon steer, Hanna, a good one from Illinois; and the capital grade shown by Van Natta. This was a wonderful, thick, meaty fellow. Pierce's Angus won, and seldom has a better butcher's steer been seen: firm, yet elastic, his touch was enchanting; thick, and well covered, his frame was symmetrical, no waste, and for his weight, but little offal. Yearlings—Van Natta's Hereford; the Shorthorn heifer, Sultana; Aberdeen-Angus steer, Black Jim; and grade Angus heifer. This was an easy win for the Hereford, and seldom has such a yearling been seen, weighing over 1,500 lbs.; smooth, well covered all over; a thicker fleshed yearling I never touched, and after a hard fight with the two-year-old Angus, he was eventually pronounced champion of all ages and breeds. In calves, T. Clark easily won with another Hereford; a Shorthorn was reserved.

Sheep.—Shropshires not only hold the place of honor in the catalogue, but also by virtue of their numbers and quality, and won outright the prize for best graded flock of any breed, being, however, well followed by Southdowns. In the breeding classes,

to R. Miller's firsts and seconds at the U.S. fall fairs. In lambs it was an easy win for Davison, with the Mills lamb, who has won an unbroken record, finishing the season by winning sweepstakes for best female.

Southdowns rank next, both in quality and interest taken. The competition was not strong, as F. W. Barrett and the Pagham Harbor Co., of England, were the only competitors, except W. Rockefeller, who was not in it. It is needless to follow the classes, as the only two exhibitors divided. Barrett made a wonderful showing, and it was perhaps as well our Canadian flocks were at home. Barrett's flock was in the pink of condition, and reflects great credit upon its owner for the way in which he brought it out.

Hampshires were a good lot and this sort seems to be gaining many friends. The principal exhibitors were Hiller and Milton, from Michigan, and Goble, New Jersey. In aged rams, Milton first, Hiller second, Goble third; they were all imported, and second ran first very close. In one-year-old, Milton first with a capital sheep; Goble second and Hiller third. Lambs—Hiller first, Milton second and third. Ewes—Milton, Hiller, Goble. Shearling—Milton, Milton, Goble. Ewe lambs—Milton, Hiller, Milton.

Cotswolds were only represented by one flock, that of Messrs. Harding & Sons. They made a great show, and had put up a flock that might well frighten other competitors; it is unnecessary to



HORSES AT WATER ON G. E. ROBINSON'S "ELBOW PARK RANCH," CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

are compelled to admit such is a fact after the experience of Chicago and New York. They do things differently in England, and last week the Agricultural Hall, London, was filled to overflowing, while our little town of Guelph had probably as large a paid attendance as at New York.

But to the show of cattle, the Herefords must hold pride of place, and with Thos. Clark, Geo. Redhand and W. S. Van Natta out in full war-paint those who have followed the shows this last fall will realize what a grand show the Whitefaces made. Clark came out best, Redhand second.

In Shorthorns, J. G. Robbins won right through, with Kent and Watson capturing the seconds, except in cows and calves.

Aberdeen-Angus.—S. R. Pierce, Ill., and Goodwin & Judy, Ind., put up a great show. The females were indeed a wonderful lot; but how queer it does seem to a Shorthorn breeder to see such magnificent females with a lord of the harem so commonplace. It is a fact that real symmetrical Angus bulls are seldom seen.

Jerseys and other dairy breeds made a good show. In the former Norton, for Miller & Sibley, gathered in nearly all firsts. As he was leading around his bull a Wall street man, to show his knowledge of stock, said, "That is a polled Angus, see the pole—hence the name."

I can only casually mention the fat cattle, as space will not permit to treat them as they deserve, but must hasten to the sheep, where Canadians

Davison represented the American breeders, while J. Campbell did the honors for Canada; Dr. Davison's old competitor all through the West this fall, R. Miller, having given up the contest. While Canada made a good fight, the battle may be pronounced a draw in favor of the Yankee, as he won flock prize and sweepstakes for ram and for ewe. Throughout the West R. Miller captured in many a stubborn contest, and under many judges, not only flock but also female sweepstakes. Besides the above exhibitors were S. H. Todd, Ohio, and W. Bayard Cutting, N. Y. Aged ram—Davison first, with his imported Coxon ram, "all along the line" a winner this fall, and also sweepstakes in ram classes; he is about perfect forward of hips, thence he fails; Campbell second; Davison third. Shearlings—Campbell first, with his Mansell ram, the Canadian winner this fall. He beat Davison's first prize winner in the West all along, except at Milwaukee, where Miller won with a Mills. This was an interesting fight and fairly won. Ram lambs—J. Campbell first and third; the first was a beautiful lamb, and the third the imported William. Ewes—Davison first, with the champion sweepstakes yearling of last year. She has improved since at Indianapolis and Springfield, and Dan Taylor deserves credit for bringing her out so well and fresh; Campbell second and third. In shearlings the Canadian representative was an easy first, with a homebred one beating Dr. Davison's Royal winner (second prize pen), which has been winning thirds

particularize.

Dorsets were confined to two exhibitors, and one pulled the wool over the other one's eyes to the extent of only leaving him one first.

Fat Sheep.—It was in the fat classes, however, where there was the most competition. In the Shropshire class for one-year-old wether there were fifteen entries, and R. Gibson's Quantity was selected for pride of place, while Dr. Davison was second and J. Campbell's imported wether third. In registered Shropshire wether lambs (fifteen entries) R. Gibson's Gay Monarch first and his Guiding Star second, Davison third, Todd fourth. The Belvoir flock here repeated the wins of last year, and the first prize wether was the second prize lamb. In pens of three lambs, R. Gibson first, Beattie second, and Davison third.

Southdowns.—Pagham Harbor Co., England, sent over a sensational wether. He was in prize pen at Smithfield last year, and has grown into a wonderfully even, neat, symmetrical shearling, with just the firmest back and thickest legs ever seen at an American fat stock show. He deservedly won championship. But to whom does the honor belong? Is it not an acknowledgement of weakness for an old breeder to publish to the world: "I am importing my show mutton sheep!" It certainly reflects greater credit upon Canadian exhibitors who breed and feed their own. The championship was won last year by Mr. Beattie, and it would have come to Canada again this year had the American flockmas-