

The Vacancy in the Board of the Agriculture and Arts Association.

In our last issue we called attention to the name of Richard Gibson, Delaware, Ont., as one of the candidates for the seat on the Agricultural and Arts Board, No. 11 Division. With many other of our stock men and leading farmers, he has a full belief in the future usefulness of this old institution. Not only is he in the very front ranks of our leading agriculturists himself, but he is thoroughly conversant with their requirements. Our cousins across the lines, knowing his ability, have continually placed him on their executive committees. As will be seen in another column, he has just been selected, with two other prominent men, to form an association for a great national show in the United States.

For several years he has been the only representative from this continent of the Shorthorn Breeders' Society of Great Britain and Ireland. He is especially fitted for the vacant position, because of his intimate knowledge of the modes of conducting the large English and American shows. Having had many years experience in both countries.

Our Subscription Picture for 1890

In our last issue we announced that we would this year give a beautiful new picture as a subscription prize. In it will be illustrated nine famous draught stallions, each of which have won notable prizes at important shows. Their names are as follows:—Sir Maurice (4721), now five years old, imported and owned by R. Beith & Co., Bowmanville, sire Lord Erskine (1744), dam Topsy (509), etc. This is a horse of excellent breeding. He gained second prize at Inverurie when a foal; second at Dalbeattie, and fourth at the H. & A. S. when a yearling; second at Glasgow when a two-year-old; was in the show lot of five at the Glasgow Stallion Show when a three-year-old; and in 1889 was fourth at the same show. Since being imported Sir Maurice won the following prizes:—At the Provincial Exhibition, held in London, first prize for the best Clydesdale stallion of any age; and the Prince of Wales' prize for the best heavy draft horse of any age or breed. At the Industrial Exhibition, held in Toronto, he won the first prize in his class, and the silver medal for the best Clydesdale stallion of any age. At the South Ontario Agricultural Society's show he was awarded first prize for the best aged stallion; and also won first prize at the West Durham Agricultural Society's show.

Sir Walter, vol. xii., now three years old. Imported and owned by the above. Sire, Bold Maghie (4259), dam Jean of Boreland, etc., etc. This well-balanced, short-legged, strong-boned colt has first rate feet and legs, deep ribs, good quarters and thighs, and a very good back. He gained fourth prize at Dalbeattie when a yearling, and fourth at Dumfries Union Show as a two-year-old last year, and this spring he was in the short leet at the Glasgow Stallion Show, where he was awarded the Buchan District Premium. Sir Walter won first prize at the Provincial Exhibition, held in London, September, 1889; first prize at the Industrial Exhibition, held in Toronto, in September, 1889; and first prize at the Ontario and Durham Exhibition, held in Whitby.

Eastfield Chief (6715) is now two years old, also imported and owned by Messrs. Beith & Co.,

sired by Prince Lawrence, dam Belle of Lochroan (6624.) This year he won third at Glasgow summer show, first at Edinburgh, and since being imported he has won first at both London and Toronto, as well as other minor show.

Bold Boy (4257), The Granite, vol. xii., and Homeward Bound, vol. xii., are the property of Messrs Sorby Bros., Guelph, Ont., and were fully described in our December Number, page 377, where the Clydesdales belonging to those gentlemen were fully reviewed.

The English Shire horses are represented by Mr. James Guardhouse's noble horse, King of the Castle (3171), sire Honest Tom (3143), dam Smart, by Honest Tom (3143). This is a horse of capital Shire character, is of nice quality and has plenty of substance. He was the winner of the following prizes:—In 1885, 1st at Provincial Exhibition, held at London, for the best three-year-old stallion, and gold medal for best Shire stallion, any age; in 1886, 2nd at Brampton, Co. Peel, in a ring of thirteen; 2nd at Weston, Co. York, in a ring of six; in 1887, 1st at Clairville, Toronto Gore; 1st at Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, for best imported draught stallion, with five of his progeny, any age or sex; 1st at Woodbridge, Co. York, for the best heavy draught stallion, any age or breed; in 1888, 1st at Clairville, Toronto Gore; 2nd at Brampton, Co. Peel, in a ring of sixteen; 1st at the Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, for the best Shire stallion and five of his progeny, any age or sex; also, 1st for stallion, four years old and upwards, and silver medal for best Shire stallion, any age; in 1889, 1st at Clairville, Toronto Gore; 1st at Brampton, Co. Peel; 1st at Buffalo-International Exhibition, for best Shire stallion, with four of his get, one year old or over; 1st at Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, for the best Shire stallion, four years old or over, and silver medal for the best Shire horse, any age. At the county shows Clydes and Shires have competed together.

Leake Cramp (vol. xi., E. S. S. B.), color, brown, three white feet; foaled, 1886. Bred by Mr. Geo. Hassall, Shelford Manor, Notts. Imported by and the property of Messrs. Ormsby and Chapman, the Grange Farm, Springfield-on-the-Credit, Ont. Winner of 1st for the best three-year-old English Shire stallion, Industrial Fair, Toronto, 1889; 1st, for the best three-year-old imported heavy draught stallion, Great Central Fair, Hamilton, 1889. Sire, Gelding Lion (3667); he by King Tom (1270). Dam, Leak Nance, by Nottingham (2636). Leak Cramp traces his pedigree to the best horses ever bred in Derbyshire and Leicestershire.

Leake Walker (vol. xi., E. S. S. B.), color, bay, three white feet; foaled, 1887. Bred by Mr. James Roberts, High House, Heath, Chesterfield, England. Imported by and the property of Messrs. Ormsby and Chapman, the Grange Farm, Springfield-on-the-Credit, Ont., winner of 1st for the best two-year-old English Shire stallion, Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, 1889; 1st, for the best two-year-old imported heavy draught stallion, Great Central Fair, Hamilton, 1889. Sire, Walker (4148); he by William the Conqueror (2343). Dam, Fan, by Don Carlos (2416). Few colts can show a line of breeding tracing to more prize winners than Leake Walker.

We are sorry we cannot give our readers more of the pedigree of these horses, but space forbids. The engraving will be 17 x 30 inches, and will be a grand and expensive picture. We have had this work done to foster a love of good stock among our subscribers. We will give a copy of this picture to every old subscriber who sends us his own subscription, accompanied by the name of one new subscriber, before February 1st, 1890. New subscribers may also obtain it by sending us an additional yearly subscriber. We hope to send out twenty thousand copies of this illustration within the next three months.

The Duty on Corn.

Several years ago the ADVOCATE invited correspondence, that public opinion might be obtained as to the advisability of conferring with the government in order to procure for the farmers and feeders free corn. At that time, from the tone of the different letters received, there did not appear to be much use of pressing the matter further, as very little interest was taken in the subject. From the feeders' standpoint there can be but one conclusion: if we are to produce cheap beef, cheap dairy products, or any other line that goes to build up our stock interests, free corn is a necessity. For, with it will also come cheap offal from our mills. The day has gone by when grain-growing on the high-priced lands is to be the most important branch of our farm industry. New countries are being opened up with which we cannot compete, but in stock breeding, feeding and dairying, the case is far different. In these lines we are afraid of no competitors. With a clean bill of health on our stock, therefore, free access to all British markets, no monstrous slaughter-house combine, to dictate prices, a name second to none for Canadian cheese, we only ask a free course and no favor. Our lands also demand different management. A vast number of our farms are depleted of their natural fertility; therefore, light crops and poor samples are the prevailing features in grain growing.

The shrinking in values of beef cattle from the extravagant prices of 1883 and 1884, discouraged many of our best feeders, and although our export trade has steadily increased, we have not sent out enough of thick beef cattle. The latter end of the past shipping season has seen a very large number of our best stock steers imported to Britain, and, along with them, a large quantity of American corn, which, going in free of duty and in such bulk, is actually being sold at Liverpool within a fraction of what Canadian feeders can buy it.

Under the present tariff very little corn is brought into Ontario, and is selling too high to be used for feed purposes, viz.: 95c. per hundred; with the duty removed, it could be shipped here this season in large quantities at from 62c. to 65c. This would directly stimulate our stock and dairy interests. Not only would more cattle be fed and exported, but our best stock cattle would be fed here, thereby bringing double the sum per head, and our farmers would have the benefit of the feed consumed.

At the last session of Parliament the government removed the tariff from corn for distillery purposes. This is directly opposed to the interests of farmers and feeders, as free American corn to distillers means no sale of Canadian grain for that purpose. Distillery cattle, also, are Canadian farmer feeders' worst competitors, as they have the same privileges as our other export cattle in landing at British ports; and they certainly do not tend to elevate the quality of our cattle. They are well fattened, but the system of feeding produces a large percentage of cancerous disease and other troubles incident to the kind of feed used.

In a question of this kind, all that is required is a union of ideas and concerted action. Then, any measure that is for our general benefit can be carried. We again invite those interested to consider the question, and let us know their views upon it. This is a question the "Institutes" could profitably discuss.