

GOSSIP.

JACOB'S CATTLE.

A correspondent, who, evidently, has travelled, writes to the Illinois Farmer: "Although Jacob may not have understood the dairy business in all of its various phases, yet we must admit he could 'skin them alive' as a great scientist, or in an actual contest in scientific breeding. When travelling among the Judean mountains and in the back regions of Hebron, I came across a very beautiful and finely-formed small breed of black cattle, known as 'Jacob's Cattle,' that had a peculiar and narrow ribbon-like white stripe commencing near the nostril and extending up along and in a regular manner through the face and between the horns and back over the neck and along the spinal column to near the root of the tail, and another mark running at right angle to this just back of the shoulders, and each stripe looking like a white ribbon stretched over the black body in the manner spoken of. They were among the most beautiful and finest-formed little specimens of the bovine kind that I have ever seen. They were known and designated as 'Jacob's Cattle,' and I am inclined to the belief that these cattle are the results of Jacob's skill as a breeder, and as the result of his knowledge of prenatal influences."

ELM PARK ANGUS CATTLE AND SUFFOLK SHEEP.

No words of introduction or praise is needed to set forth the high-class character of the Elm Park herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, the property of James Bowman, of Guelph, Ont. Their unrivalled career and sweeping success at the leading Canadian shows, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for years, stamp them as a herd without a peer in the Dominion, and the herd never was as strong numerically, or in quality, as now, numbering about eighty, all told, and very many of them winners of all grades of prizes, championships and grand championships. Surely no better selection can be found for a herd foundation, or for strengthening an existing herd. A coming sire has lately been purchased in the young bull, "Glenmere Proud Lad," first-prize bull calf at the International Show in a class of eighteen. There are three other International winners in the herd, and some of the choicest young bulls ever bred in the herd, all of which are for sale. And for herd-headers there are nine from 8 to 24 months of age, among them being winners from Toronto through to Calgary, high-class in quality, and fleshed to the heels.

The flock of Suffolk sheep are about eighty strong, all either imported or bred from imported stock. Knowledge of the superior qualities of the Suffolk sheep is all too limited in Canada. One of the largest, of all the short-wooled sheep, they are most rapid growers and early-maturers; yearling rams range in weight from 250 to 350 lbs. Ewes, in breeding condition, from 150 to 200 lbs.; lambs, at nine months, from 140 to 200 lbs., while dressed carcasses range from 62.80 to 66.44 per cent. of the live weight. The champion wether lamb at the Smithfield Show in 1908, weighed alive, 164 lbs., and dressed 103 lbs. Originally, they were a cross of the Horned Norfolk ewes, with improved Southdown rams, and have all the superior meat qualities of the Southdown, with the big size of the Norfolks. There is no better breed to cross with a common flock, and none that will show so much improvement. For sale are six yearling rams and six ram lambs, and about 25 ewe lambs.

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