

## STOCK.

## The Views of England's Great Shorthorn Authority.

I have read with much interest Mr. Stratton's letter in your paper of June 16th, and am entirely in accord with his views. The Shorthorn breed were raised in this country more than one hundred years ago. A herdbook was established nearly 80 years ago, and has been the means of keeping our breed pure. The principles adopted first by Messrs. Coates, and then by Mr. Strafford, and for the last thirty years by the Society of Breeders, ought to be good enough to govern the regulations for registration in those countries which import our pure-bred animals for breeding purposes. I remember the fads that were raised over thirty years ago in U. S. A. about purity of pedigree, and the faddists condemned Lord Ducie's Usurer, who was used with much success on the Duchesses; and there are others equally fanatic to condemn the Scotch blood that has been introduced of late years, and, in a degree, beneficially, among our English-bred Shorthorns. So long as we can breed good cattle that all the world will come to us for, to improve their own breeds, so long they ought to abide by those regulations our forefathers laid down, and which have been so beneficial, not alone to Shorthorn breeders, but to breeders of all other varieties of our domesticated animals.

Our Shorthorn Transactions are, in their way, as useful to breeders as the Herdbook, for they show the breeding of those animals that win prizes at our Royal and National shows, as well as at the county meetings; whilst the prices realized by bona-fide auctions are also carefully and faithfully published. Moreover, the records of the Smithfield and Birmingham shows give the weights which the prize specimens attain.

Many animals with pedigrees of five and six crosses of blood win prizes at our Royal and local shows, and Mr. Bates himself used the Cleveland Lad bulls with only three crosses of registered sires most successfully.

Do not, therefore, go upon the extension of a pedigree to a certain period, but take these animals ELIGIBLE FOR OUR HERDBOOK AS A BASIS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR YOURS.

JOHN THORNTON.

## Some Noted Shorthorns Barred from Canadian Herds.

John Thornton, the best posted man on Shorthorns in the world to-day, well known as the leading live-stock auctioneer of pure-bred stock in Great Britain, forwards us the following list, which comprises a few celebrated prize Shorthorns which are ineligible to come into Canadian herds by reason of the Dominion Herdbook regulations, which were imposed to meet the wishes of United States buyers of Shorthorn cattle. Any reasonable person will admit that "it is time for a change":

Gusta 4th, Vol. 29, p. 737—First prize R. A. S. E., 1884.

Jewel 2nd, Vol. 43, p. 337—First prize R. A. S. E., 1896; first prize R. A. S. E., 1897; first prize R. A. S. E., 1898.

Ingram's Style 72712—First prize R. A. S. E., 1898.

Daisy 4th, Vol. 44, p. 318—First prize R. A. S. E., 1898; second prize R. A. S. E., 1899; second prize R. A. S. E., 1900.

Aldsworth Jewel, Vol. 48, p. 527—First Bath and West of England, 1900.

Hawthorne Gem 3rd (not yet entered), dam Hawthorne Gem 2nd, Vol. 44, p. 296—First B. & W. of E., 1901; second R. A. S. E., 1903.

Hawthorne Flower (not yet entered)—First B. & W. of E., 1904; second R. A. S. E., 1904.

Crocus, Vol. 48, p. 638—First R. A. S. E., 1903.

Chewton Victor 6th 80686—Second R. A. S. E., 1904, and many other prizes.

## Western Angus Breeders Meet.

At the call of the Live-stock Commissioner the breeders of Polled Angus cattle in the West met in Mr. G. H. Greig's tent on the Winnipeg Exhibition Grounds and discussed the question of a Canadian herdbook for the breed, question of representation on the board to be constituted, and the status of some of the cattle now enrolled at Toronto, but which are not recognized by the American Angus Book (under the control of a close corporation), as some of the same do not trace to the first eight volumes of the Old Country book. J. D. McGregor, Brandon; S. Martin, Rounthwaite; F. Collyer, Welwyn. Assa; Hon. W. Clifford, Austin; Jno. Turner, Carroll, and others, participated. J. D. McGregor, who owns the largest herd of pure-bred Angus cattle in Canada, was in favor of the establishment of records, but such must be of the highest standard, and voiced the feeling of the meeting by saying: "Our records should be such as to be absolutely above suspicion." The Live-stock Com-

missioner outlined a plan to avoid any one section, clique or Province getting sole control of the association. No proxies would be allowed, but a delegate from a distant Province at the annual meeting would cast as many votes as there were members in his Province. Those at the meeting from the Province in which the meeting was held would only cast their individual votes.

Mr. Hodson stated that "the National Live-stock Association and annual meetings of the big breeders' associations should move around, not be always held in Ottawa or Toronto, but at Winnipeg, Calgary, in the Maritime Provinces and B. C." Such would undoubtedly stimulate the interest shown, and be beneficial by bringing those from afar off more closely in touch with one another. He expressed himself as being in favor of an affiliation with the British Herdbook, and thought that arrangements might be made with the States Angus Association. At the present time, the fellows south of the boundary are looking for a market here, and it is utter nonsense to let them unload inferior-bred stuff upon an unsuspecting public, something which has been done quite largely in the past, according to the statements made in the meeting.

## Our Scottish Letter.

The Highland and Agricultural Society has to-day (22nd July) closed at Perth one of the most successful shows held by it during its long history of more than 100 years. As a matter of fact, this is the 120th anniversary of the society on its present basis. The Fair City, as we call Perth, is the agricultural center of Scotland, and the attendance at this show has in every respect been unique. Among our visitors have been prominent stock-owners from all parts of the world, and not least, the Hon. John Dryden and Mrs. Dryden, who do not need to be introduced to readers of these letters. We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Dryden to Scotland, recognizing in them the true type of Cana-

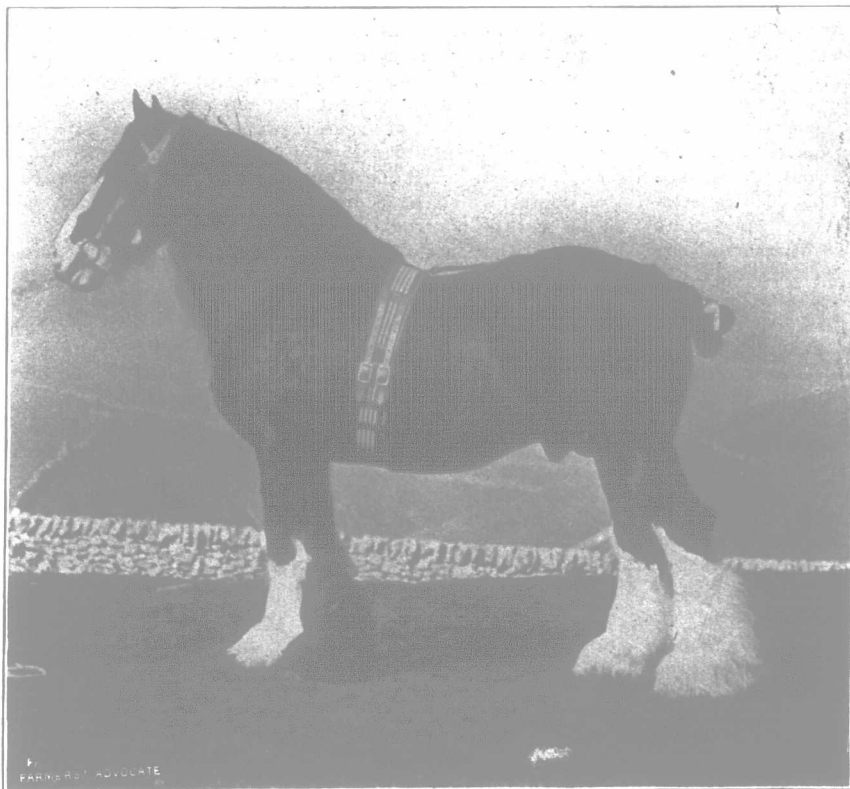
Peterkin, Dunglass, Dingwall, a bull of immense substance and scale, and particularly level in flesh. Mr. Robert Taylor, Pitliver, Carnoustie, was second in both classes, with March On (97357), and Vice Consul (84970), respectively, both admirable specimens, and bred in the north of Scotland. Yearling bulls of the Shorthorn breed are this season of quite outstanding merit. Mr. Duncan Stewart, Milhill, Crieff, was first with Royal Eclipse, bred by the late Mr. W. S. Marr, at Uppermill, and got by that great sire, Bapton Favorite, out of a Roan Lady cow. The Aberdeen winner of the previous week, Mr. A. T. Gordon's Sterling Coin, from Combescausway, Inch, was second. In some respects he excels the winner, and Irishmen are naturally proud of him, for he was bred near Dundalk, in County Louth.

The female Shorthorns were worth going a long way to see. The champion, Mr. H. S. Leon's Roseleaf, from Bletchley Park, Bucks, is a lovely two-year-old heifer. She was got by that great sire, Silver Mint 79968, and on the dam's side traces to a Scots foundation, in the Gordon Castle herd at Fochabers. The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, who owns that herd, was himself second with Duchess 44th, a model heifer, by that most successful sire, Village Archer 71789. This bull was bred by Mr. Duthie, and got by Scottish Archer. He has fairly lifted the Gordon Castle herd, and the success achieved by him in doing this is a striking demonstration of the truth, that the sire is more than half the herd. These two heifers were, respectively, first and reserve as the best females, both of them being preferred by the judges to the King's red cow, Sylph, which won at the Royal. The yearling heifer class was also led by a Royal exhibit, Madeline, which stood third at the Royal. She was got by that grand old sire, Silver Plate, which did such admirable service at Inverquhomery. His Majesty thus sent three Shorthorns, and won three first prizes.

The King has a good herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle at his Aberdeenshire farm, of Abergeldie Mains; but although exhibits are often sent from it to the national shows, they have not hitherto succeeded in capturing

the same high honors as come to the Shorthorns, Herefords and Devons from Windsor. This year he showed one or two black Polled animals, which secured mention. In the Aberdeen-Angus section, as well as in the Shorthorn section, the best animals came from south of the borders. The champion of the breed, Pundit of Preston 17156, was bred in Bucks, and is owned by Messrs. Charles Perkins and partners, Birtley, Co. Durham. He is a neat, level bull, true to the black polled type, and a week ago was first and breed champion at the Northumberland Show at Alnwick. The Aberdeen champion of last week had to lower his colors to him. This is Mr. George Cran's Teshurun 19257, a Ballindalloch-bred bull, and no duffer. The third and fourth were also bred at Ballindalloch. The Royal champion, Knight of Danesfield 20738, bred and owned by Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks, was first in the two-year-old class. He is a bull of greater scale than Pundit. The second one in this class is owned and was bred in Ireland. This shows how the breeding of the blacks is extending, and the class of stock that is being bred in England and Ireland. Ballindalloch himself led the yearling class, Mr. Arch. Whyte, Inverquhar, Kirriemuir, coming a very strong second. The champion cow came (of all places, as some might think) from Ayrshire, but you find the black polled beasts everywhere nowadays. This animal is Quines 29954, a rare good sort, which won the championship at the Angus show a year ago. Mr. James Kennedy, of Doonholm, Ayr, who owns this cow, is building up a splendid herd in the West.

An outstanding feature in connection with the Galloways was the success of two full sisters from the herd of Sir Robert Jardine, of Castlemilk, Bart. They are known as Alice III. of Castlemilk 16867, and Alice II. of Castlemilk 16352, and were respectively first and second in the cow in milk class. The first-named is the younger of the two, being three years old. She was champion of the breed, beating all the bulls, as well as all the cows and heifers. The sisters are very like each other, and a pair of females of like quality is not seen every day. Perhaps the most peculiar thing about the Galloway exhibits at the Highland is the relative poverty of the bulls in numbers, as well as quality, when compared with the females. This is probably due to the fact that a Galloway bull is just as well to be kept in hard condition and constantly employed. The reverse feature is seen in the Highlanders, the bulls of which type usually excel the females at the National Show. This year we had a



Bay Victor Chief.

Shire stallion in his fifteenth year. One of the greatest English sires of the breed.

dians, the centers of a wholesome home life, and their own share of that calm strength which insures future stability to the great Dominion. Mr. and Mrs. Dryden have been fortunate in seeing one of the best displays of Scottish live stock gathered together at our great national round-up. The future of British agriculture is bound up with prosperity in the live-stock world. His Majesty exhibited several superb Shorthorns; the supreme honors in this section going to his great bull Ronald (79775), one of the smoothest bulls of the breed I have ever seen. He has had a wonderfully successful show career in Great Britain and Ireland, and winds up by being sold at a phenomenal price to a gentleman from Chili. The style and gaiety of this bull is not less marked than his wonderful fleshiness, depth and scale. He seems to have a certain proportion of old Bates blood in the foundation of his breeding, the superstructure being mainly Scottish or Cruickshank. The other exhibit from the Royal farms at Windsor was the red cow Sylph. She is now rising four years old, and is a daughter of the 800 gs. bull, Royal Duke, which went to the Argentine. She too has had a wonderful career of victory, but is scarcely as smooth an animal as the bull. It was quite good business to bring two such animals from Windsor to Perth, and take all there was to take in prize money, with the supreme champion honor. Mr. Matthew Marshall, Stranraer, had first in the two-year-old class, with that great bull, Roan Conqueror, bred by Messrs.