

THE WESTERN FAIR.

A FULL REPORT OF THE EXHIBITS IN THE LIVE STOCK DEPARTMENT.

London, the "Forest City" of western Canada, had an exceedingly creditable show for their twenty fifth anniversary. The change from 1873, when this series was begun, shows a great advance in many lines. They are not in the same class with Toronto, but in some things they compare favorably with that show, which is the envy of fair managers all over the United States. The grounds are good, and not too large—have a fine sandy bottom which dries quickly after rain, and is heavy enough not to fly readily into dust when over dried. In the grounds are many groves of beautiful pine trees. These give pleasure to the eye and shade from the sun. London is the centre of a great agricultural circle. The thousands of visitors were largely drawn from the farming population, and the number of visitors who thronged about the cattle stalls and the sheep pens was a very much more critical crowd than could be found at Toronto. They were there to see things they knew a great deal about, and were so much the more benefited. Any Canadian crowd will admire good horses, and take note of their appearance; it is the few outside of farmers' families who can do as much for the other animals shown. London was more than Toronto a farmers' show.

The next noticeable thing about the stock exhibit was the quality. The best from the contests at Toronto had come here, and only the best. A few carloads had gone to Quebec, but the great bulk of the winners at Toronto were seen at London, and the newcomers in many instances more than held their own place and defeated the Toronto winners. This was specially the case in the exhibit of Clyde horses, which was very much superior to that at Toronto.

HEAVY HORSES.

There was a capital show of Clydes, not large, but very select. D. & O. Sorby, of Guelph, had some bred in the purple of Clydesdale aristocracy. The mare that won a good place in her class is out of Lily McGregor and sired by Prince Patrick, the two medal winners at the World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893, adjudged there the two best animals of the breed on the ground. This filly, Prince Alexandria, with her mate, Sonsie Lass, made a pair that are hard to beat. The same exhibitors had out Grandeur, winner of first, and Lord Charming, placed third, Mr. Davies' Toronto winner being placed second. In three-year-old stallions, James Henderson, Belton, Ont., got first and second, and Mr. Robert Davies got third for Border Reiver, the winning horse at the Toronto Spring Show. Mr. Henderson has a fine solid pair of colts. The first prize was given to Goldfinder 2nd, sire Goldfinder, dam by Eastfield Style. This is a big gray horse, with good body and splendid legs and feet, with well-set pasterns, heavy body and short back. His fore legs are of good flat bone, not over-much feather, and he has hardly the breadth in front of the second horse, Prosperous (10397), by Mains of Arries, dam by Crichtmore Darnley. He was winner of a third in England last year

and is closely akin to Prince Eureka, the unbeaten of last year in Scotland. Prosperous is a bay, with a few scattering white hairs, and is a thick horse, well coupled, good bone, with four white feet. He promises to be big, but is not so sweet as his rival at the ground. In two-year olds the Toronto winner had to give place to a good strong colt, a big bay, with good bone and fine feather, shown by Innes & Horton, Clinton. Yearlings, the Toronto winner of R. Davies', Prince of the Glen [2300], was first, and the same exhibitor got first for foals of 1898. In brood mares D. & O. Sorby had first and third, and R. Davies second. In the fillies Messrs. Sorby had a beautiful lot, and took all the prizes, as well as the diploma for the best mare, any age.

In heavy-draught horses London was stronger than Toronto. These have all to be Canada bred. R. Alexander, Forest, was first for stallion, w. A. West, Woodstock, second. In the two year-old class John Essery, Exeter, had a good strong colt, and got first. Thos. McMichael, Seaforth, was second with a chunky colt, neat but not big, bare of feather, but of good bone. The same exhibitor showed a Shire—a plain colt, not over-large of his age.

There was a fine show of brood mares in this class—some real good ones and with a capital lot of young things at foot. H. H. Sims, Thamesford, won first, D. I. Loubitt, of Annettsville, second, and George Dale, Clinton, third. The last one is a little broad mare very good behind. Wm. Rae, of Downie, had a pair of blacks—half bred Clydes. They won first as agricultural team and were much admired. The Dominion Draught Horse Breeders' Society gave a special prize for mares registered with them and which did not trace back on the dam's side to imported stock. The first in this class went to Innes & Horton, Clinton, and second to W. H. Kay, Fairquhar. For general purpose horses there were only team prizes, and the award was given to a fine pair of bays, weighing 2,700 pounds, and showing Cleveland bay breeding. They were shown by the Warden of Kent, Malcolm Campbell, Esq., of Ridgetown.

LIGHT HORSES.

Thoroughbreds were few. O'Neil & Co., London, won with a chestnut of the racing type, with W. G. Thompson, Paris, second. John Dymont, Orkney, showed a few nice fillies from his breeding stud of racers. There were a fair show of ponies. First went to a neat blood-like pair owned by John Walker, London. They were sired by the Arab stallion, Tom-Tit, out of a Shetland mare—are sisters, very much alike, and make a neat little team. Second went to a span of heavier chestnuts bred from an Indian dam and by a Shetland sire, owned by John Sandick, Ingersoll. London, in years gone away into the past, had a great reputation for saddle horses and high standing carriage teams. The exhibit of saddle horses, while not large, was very good. That well-known horseman, Adam Beck, while absent himself, sent in a few of his best horses. He had first and second in the saddle class, and for hunters he sent in half-a-dozen that took the jump almost without a touch. They were creditable, but too few for the show that might be made by London. For high-steppers H. E. O'Neil had first and Wm. Collins second for two well brought out horses. In the younger classes Thos. McComb, Masonville, had a first prize.

There were a good many entries in the classes for carriage horses, and everybody was not well satisfied with the awards. All the way through there was more or less of a grumble. Some said it was not fair to bracket coach and carriage together—they were different types. John Longfield, Crampton, got first for stallion and also the diploma. This against a strong field shown of German coach, Yorkshires, and big standard-bred fellows hard to beat. The younger classes were rather thin in entries, but there was a fine lot of brood mares. W. H. Guest, Ballymote, was first in this class with a fine high stand-

ing, roomy mare. The winning carriage team were bright bays—fine fat fellows—just a trifle overdone in feeding. It gave them a lazy, slouchy look, but the high one especially was a fine type, though heavy. R. Farrell, Woodstock, was the owner of this team. The carriage teams when all out made a fine display. The parade feature is not as yet much adopted in London. The English shows are bringing this to the front, and parade all the stock prize winners and others. Roadsters had a big turn out in several classes. There is no class for standard-bred, they had all to take their chances with the roadsters. O. A. Coates, Bothwell, had the winning stallion; C. P. Geary, St. Thomas, second, and Jas. McCartney, Thamesford, third. Pair of roadsters fell to J. C. Deitrich, Galt, the well-known breeder, for his pair by Axland; J. W. Norton, second, and A. A. Leslie, Aylmer, third. For the best single roadster, G. A. Routledge, Lambeth, had the winner. There was a lot of fine brood mares and foals shown. H. McClurg, Falkirk, won with a bay by Wild Boy, thoroughbred, and out of a trotting bred mare. She is blood-like, with fine clean legs. Second went to O. A. Coates, Bothwell, a dark brown standard-bred, somewhat different in type, but a sweet mare of good size. Geo. F. Routledge had a remarkably "bonnie wee thing" by Alpha Bell, which was unplaced, while a big, coarse-jointed, lumbering garted fellow got a place much to the surprise of horsemen. Hackneys were few, but for quality one has only to name Jubilee Chief as one of them to know that there was one good one. The old Chicago winner is still in fine form. D. & O. Sorby had a splendid brood mare, and a fine two-year-old colt—a great mover. The races, trotting and running, had many entries, and were well contested. The public seem yet to enjoy a good agricultural horse trot.

CATTLE.

Cattle were the pick of Toronto in most of the classes—a few local animals were out that were not at Toronto, but they did not manage to capture much of the money. Shorthorns had Capt. T. E. Robson, Ilderton, who was near home, and Messrs. Watt, of Salem, who again ran him closely for many of the prizes. Watt's herd is the sweetest and most uniform in females, but his bull is behind the form of Moneyfuffel Lad. There were few changes in the awards. In Galloways, John Sibbald had gone from Toronto to Quebec, leaving Messrs. McCrae, of Guelph; Shaw, of Brantford and Lloyd-Jones, of Burford, to compete. Shaw had first for his old bull, McCartney; Lloyd-Jones first for yearling bull, and all the rest of the firsts went to McCrae, of Guelph. The Galloways were out in good form and an exhibit of tanned robes was much admired. They were soft and good for winter robes, superior to the old buffalo skins. Polled Angus had Walter Hall, Washington, and W. Stewart & Son, Lucasville, the former having the best of the battle, while Hiram Jones, White Oak, and W. H. Fisher, Benmiller, showed a bull each. Mr. Hall won in the fat class against all comers, and the black haired men were so delighted, it was said, that they got elated on grapes. Anyway, they made a great talk over their victory which was well deserved by Mr. Hall. Herefords were same as at Toronto, H. D. Smith, of Compton, leading, with F. W. Stone estate second; but in calves the order was reversed. Here came also H. O'Neil, of Southgate, who won two third prizes, beating H. D. Smith's bull calf. In Guernseys, W. Butler & Sons, Dereham Centre, had it all their own way. Holsteins had two competitors who divided up the awards, C. W. Clemons, St. George, and A. G. Rice, Currie's Crossing. There were not many changes in this class. The Jerseys were out in force and a good deal of attention given to the judging. The cattle in all the classes were shown on a fine green under spreading white pine trees which made a pleasant shade. Great interest was taken in all the cattle classes, but more especially the Jerseys. There were a good many changed awards in this class. Mr. Davies, of Toronto, won with his cow, a beautiful creature, light red dappled