

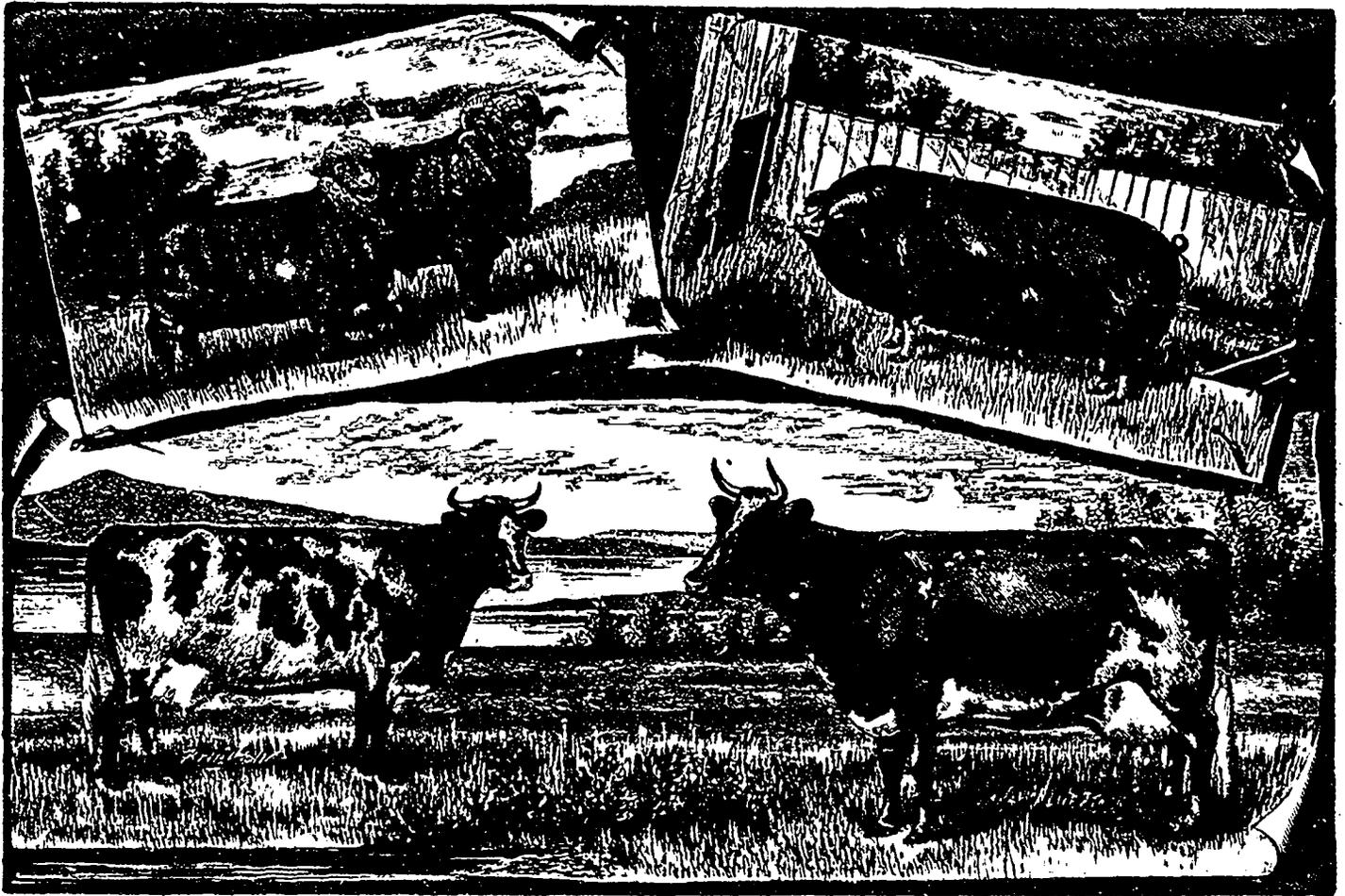
THE CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL

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GROUP OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

The Property of W. M. & J. C. Smith, Fairfield Plains, Ont.

The Live-Stock of Fairfield Plains.

The beautiful sketch by our artist this month represents live-stock on the farm of the Messrs. W. M. & J. C. Smith, Fairfield Plains, Ont, some four miles south of Burford station on the Brantford, Norfolk and Port Burwell railroad. Good stock of various kinds has been bred on this four hundred acre farm of gentle undulations, for many years, and in so quiet and unostentatious a fashion, that the more distant portions of the country would scarcely know about it were it not forced on its attention by the fact that the Messrs. Smith were last year and probably for a number of years previously, the greatest live-stock prize-winners in Canada. Last year the prizes awarded to this firm at leading shows amounted to nearly \$1,500, and during each of the four preceding years to more than \$1,000.

Merino sheep have been a leading feature on the Plains farm for many years; also many kinds of land and water fowls for a quarter of a century, Ayrshire cattle since 1884, and Poland China pigs since 1885.

The Ayrshire cow Empress [599] was a prize-winner when a calf at the leading shows, and has retained this place as a yearling, as a two-year-old, a three-year-old, and an aged cow. At the Provincial, Ottawa, 1887, she won first prize in a ring of 19 cows, a number of whom were imported, and sweepstakes

prize for the best female any age. The heifer Gurta 9th, [840], so accurately brought out in the sketch, was bred by the Messrs. Smith; was first at the Industrial, at Hamilton and at other leading shows, and the Ayrshire herd won first at the Great Central last autumn.

The flock of Merinos at this farm comprise some of the very best in Canada. The shearing ram Zach Chandler, and the ewe Kate Thompson, shown in the sketch, have taken all the prizes thus far that could have been won by them, when exhibited at the principal shows of Ontario.

The Poland China herd is also one of the best, and probably the largest in Ontario. The sow Duchess, a typical Poland China female, was first as best sow any age at Ottawa last fall, and along with her companions won the pen prizes wherever shown.

The fowls bred so numerous and of a fine quality have won many of the highest honors given at our Provincial Exhibitions for a long term of years. Amongst the leading varieties at the present time are the Dorkings, Polands, white and black Cochins, La Fleche, Dominiques, Games, Hamburgs, silver, gold and black; Crevecoeurs; bantams; turkeys any color and white; Bremen, Toulouse and English geese; Cayuga ducks and Guinea fowls. A fuller description will be found on another page.

PROF. J. W. ROBERTSON, of the Ontario Agricultural College, gives us information of exceptional value in this issue in the dairy department.

Holding Exhibitions Simultaneously.

In looking over the dates fixed for holding leading exhibitions in Ontario, our attention has been fixed upon the very large number of them that will be held simultaneously. During the week September 24-29 the following leading exhibitions will be held: The Great Central, Hamilton; The Western, London; The Central Exhibition, Ottawa; The Peterborough Central; The Ontario Central, at Port Perry; The Great Northern, at Collingwood, and the Bay of Quinte at Belleville. If this is the outcome of mutual consultation it is not creditable to such consultation; if it arises from the lack of it, which is far more likely, it is a strong plea for the continuance of the Canadian Association of Fairs and Expositions. It cannot but lessen the extent of the exhibit more or less at every one of those shows. The only good that can come out of it is, that it gives local exhibitors a better chance to win prizes, but they do it at the expense of the associations, for a good attendance cannot be sustained without a good exhibit.