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## GOSSIP.

In writing to advertisers, mention the "Farmer's Advocate."

Messrs. J. & S. Treadwell's annual sale of Oxford Downs came off August 2nd, and made an average of £13 15s. 8d., the highest price being made by No. 5, which brought 66 guineas, and fell to the bid of Mr. J. C. Eady. No. 1 ram, which won the gold medal at Edinburgh, brought only 20 guineas. No. 10 brought 30 guineas, and No. 15, 41 guineas.

## AYRSHIRES AT THE HIGHLAND SHOW.

From the *Scottish Farmer* we quote the following review of the Ayrshires at the Highland Society's Show at Edinburgh last month:—"The Prince of Wales medal for the best animal of the breed goes to Messrs. R. & J. McAlister, Mid-Asog. Their winning animal is the first prize cow in milk—Sweet Briar—bred by Mr. McLean, of Asog. In the bull class Mr. James Howie, Hillhouse, repeated his previous victories, and was placed first with his well-known Koh-i-Noor (3678), champion at the shows in the West of Scotland this year. The second place was taken by Mr. Robert Osborne, Wynholm, with Gigantic Stunner (3872), which was first at Kelso last year, where he beat Mr. Howie's bull. The third prize went to Mr. George Gilmour, Sutherland, for the splendid bull, Rare Style. This old bull was looking uncommonly well, and his appearance is, perhaps, the feature of this class. Koh-i-Noor was awarded the silver medal as the best bull in the show, but, of course, was beaten by the cow for the championship. In the class of two-year-old bulls, Mr. Andrew Mitchell, Barcheskie, took first with Marquis—a white-and-brown bull, bred at Southwick, and got by the champion First Choice. Mr. Robert Young, Knockrioch, was second with Bend 'Or—a bull bred by Mr. Howie, Hillhouse, and which was bought from him last year, when he was first at Ayr and second at Glasgow. He has not grown big, but otherwise he is a nice bull, of excellent quality. Mr. Robert Montgomery was third with Blucher, which has been second at most of the shows both last year and this. He was second at the Highland last year, and is a bull of great substance, got by the well-known champion Sensation. In a small but good class of yearling stirks the judges rather overturned previous decisions. The first prize they gave to Mr. James Howie's white bull, Strongbow, with very little brown, bred by Mrs. Smith, Laurieston, and got by White Cockade. This bull was bought at the Dundonald Show this year, where he was first. He has not been shown at any of the larger shows, but he stood second at Galston. The second prize went to Mr. Thomas Barr, Monkland, for General, got by Mischief-Maker. He was first at Galston, but not shown at any other previous larger event. Mr. R. Osborne, Wynholm, was third, with Still Another, got by Cock-a-Bendie, and fourth with Expectation. This bull is got by the well-known sire, Sultan (3071). In the cow in milk class, calved before 1896, Messrs. R. & J. McAlister, Asog, took first prize with their cow, Sweet Briar. This cow has not been shown before. She was brought out in capital bloom, has a long vessel, very good in front, and excellent teats squarely planted, although she may be a little deficient in her hind vessel. The third prize went to the same owners for their champion cow, Maid of Bute, which stood second in the Ayr Derby last year. Her teats are rather small, and not too well planted, but she is a cow of splendid substance. These cows were divided by Mr. James Neil's Hover-a-Blink XII., bred at Burnhead, and got by the noted Duncan Gray. She has a fashionable type of vessel, but rather deep. She is a good, short-legged cow, but carried scarcely enough milk for show purposes. The fourth prize went to Mr. James Dunlop, of Gree Farm, for his noted little cow, Cherry II., which he exhibited so successfully last year. She is beginning to show a little short of vessel. In the class for three-year-old cows in milk, Messrs. McAlister were again first, this time with Lady Asog (12283), a white-and-brown cow, got by Yellow Chief, which was third at Glasgow as a cow in milk this year. She is a cow of great style, with good body and plenty of substance. Her vessel is not quite so close at both ends as desirable. Mr. Wm. Reid, Titwood, was second with Mattie of Titwood, a good-bodied cow, showing considerable style, nice level vessel, and good teats, fairly well hung. Mr. Alex. Cross, of Knockdon, was third with Miss Orr, got by Look Again. Three-year-old cows in milk were led by Mr. Robert Wilson with his fine cow, Heiress (11277), bred at Auchentorlie, winner of the first prize at Paisley this year. This is a cow with good teats and plenty of style. Mr. James Neil, Barleith, was second with a cow bred at Burnhouses, a little cow, with a good vessel. Messrs. R. & J. McAlister had third and fifth prizes with Whitelegs and Miranda respectively. The former is rather fat, and the latter is a useful cow, by Private of Knockdon. In the class of two-year-old heifers, which was the best in the show as a class, Mr. Andrew Mitchell was an easy winner with Lily, a beautiful heifer, bred by Mr. McKinley, Hillhouse. She has been first everywhere this year. There was no doubt about her title to first place. Mr. Robert Wardrop was second with Sonny, which won third prizes at Ayr and Glasgow. Mr. Robt. Montgomery was third and fourth with his two heifers, Viola and Pansy, whose relative positions have always been a matter of considerable discussion amongst experts. Both are heifers of great substance, Pansy having, perhaps, on the whole, more than Viola. Both were got by the champion bull, Sensation. Mr. Robert Osborne, Wynholm, was fifth with Nancy; and Mr. Mitchell got sixth with White. This is a real good heifer, bred by Mr. Barr, Monkland, and got by White Cockade. In the yearling heifer class, Mr. Andrew Mitchell was first with his beautiful heifer Mary, bred by Mr. James Howie, first everywhere this year. She was got by Traveller's Heir. Mr. Ferguson, Auchentorlie, which only stood fifth at Ayr, but which is rapidly coming forward, and is like making a very good two-year-old. Mr. Robert Wardrop was third with Lady Primrose—a nice little heifer, perhaps a trifle short in her hind quarters, but showing good quality and style. Mr. Thomas Barr was fourth with Dorothy—a blocky, white heifer, which was followed by Sir Mark Stewart's Betty, which some regarded as second best heifer in the class. She will probably take a different place when next they meet.

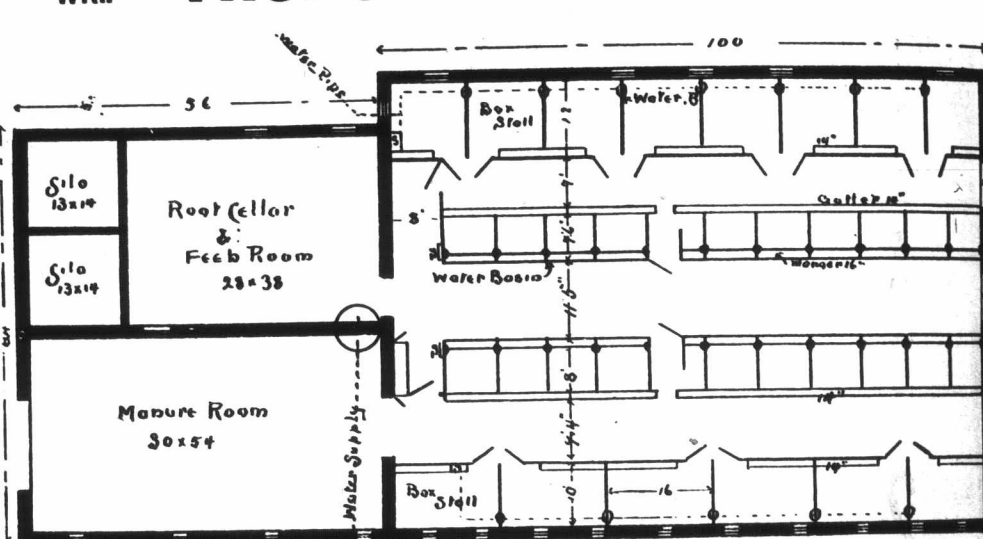
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