

put-up bay, with a deal of substance, and breedy appearance. J. B. Martin's Ranalagh, a typical saddle horse, was placed third. The remaining entries were a trifle over-fine. The remainder of the prizes were about equally divided between Adam Beck, London, and W. A. Sage, Nilestown. The exhibits were not numerous, but good. Mr. Beck won the female sweepstakes award.

#### CARRIAGE HORSES.

Judge—J. I. Hedley, St. Mary's. During these times of what is termed depression in the horse trade, there are some types which bring even fancy prices, one of which is the carriage horse, when of the proper type—which constitutes size, quality, soundness, and high, snappy action. All except the last-named quality were exemplified in nearly every section present; but high action was not pronounced in many individuals. In aged stallions just two were out. Last year's winner, David Carroll's Improved Mambrino Hatcher, carried off the first and sweepstakes awards. He is a strong, trotting-bred horse with a deal of character. His opponent was a strong, useful sort of horse, shown by Neil & Elliot, Lucan. The younger stallion sections had each one or more very good colts, which is more than can be said of last year's corresponding sections. Mare sections, too, were well-contested. Burt Kennedy, of Ilderton, showed as fine a mature mare as we have seen for some time. She is of beautiful conformation, and had great action. Other good ones were shown by T. Hardy Shore, Glanworth; H. G. Boag, Queensville; J. G. Raymond, Strathroy; and S. G. Brown, Beachville. The large carriage pairs—16 hands and over—were just two in number, but they were of the fashionable sort.—A. Beck, London, and Theo. Kalfleish, Tavistock, being the exhibitors, winning in the mentioned order. Pairs between 15½ and under 16 hands were out three strong. The best pair, a span of bays owned by John Holderness, were quite of the Hackney type—neat, showy, and able to display great action. This pair (Cherry Ripe and Wild Foam) were winners in Toronto. The second prize went to a handsome pair of well-mated blacks, shown by J. A. Hill, Strathroy. The remaining team, shown by Wesley Kent, Youngs-ville, were well-matched chestnuts. In single carriage horses, 15½ hands and over, four of various styles came out. The two best were exceedingly cobby in conformation and action. So near were they alike in quality it took Mr. D. Charlton, who judged the harnessed sections, a long time to decide between them. The first, however, was ultimately placed upon Mr. L. Meredith's exhibit, which, perhaps, had a bit more substance than Mr. Beck's mare. The third award went to a rangy black shown by A. C. Kerr, London.

#### ROADSTERS.

Judge—Dr. Blackwell, Glencoe. This class is always well-filled, and there are always a number of good animals shown—and generally quite a lot of "weeds." It seems difficult to get well-bred roadster horses large enough, the effect of which was shown in several of the sections. The stallions, four years and upwards, were quite a nice string of seven. The London horse, Five Points, exhibited by H. Simon, handled himself in quite a taking manner. He is a nice bay, quite fine, and still has fair size. He was placed first in his section, and afterwards won the sweepstakes award. The second prize horse, shown by G. W. Lang, St. Thomas, is a sweet, square-going black. On account of his being a trifle undersized, it is just a question whether the third prize horse, Bon Ton, shown by R. Hueston, London, should not have been placed ahead of him. Bon Ton is a golden-chestnut of Kentucky breeding. He stands 16½ hands high, and is well-proportioned. His sire, Tontine, is by the noted Belmont, the getter of a good many horses in the 230 list. A. O'Neil, Birr, showed the only three-year-old in this class. He is a good colt, however, that would have appeared well in company. Two-year-olds were three strong, of uneven size. A. McKillop & Son had a fine rangy Standard-bred bay colt, well into 16 hands now. Heshows great speed tendencies, and is well put up. Unless he matures pretty young, he can easily go into the carriage class in coming years. His position in first place was not long questioned. The second prize colt, shown by Alvin Loughhead, Forest, needs more size to make him valuable. He is, however, a very sweet, well-finished fellow. He was placed between two much more rangy than himself. The third winner, a thin colt, was shown by Geo. Neely, Dorchester Station. In the yearling section, A. B. Cowieson won easily with his Toronto winner. He is a very fine, breedy colt. His only opponent was a very nice colt shown by Geo. Neely, Dorchester Station. Foals were out three strong. A. B. Cowieson's daughter of the Thoroughbred Lee Christie need not be afraid to go into any company, as she is a little model. Next to her came a pretty sorrel, the get of Strathbridge, shown by Neil & Elliot, Lucan. The third foal, by J. I. Case, is a rangy brown, shown by Donald Stewart, Ivan. In brood mares the dams of the three foals won in the same order. The one, two and three-year-old gelding or filly sections were fairly well contested, and among them were a number of good animals. The best female in the class was found in M. J. Campbell's two-year-old entry. She is a particularly sweet filly, with great promise of speed.

#### HACKNEYS.

There is very little to report in Hackneys, as the prize list offered very little inducement to breeders

to bring out their stock. The stallion entries were confined to A. G. Bowker's (of Woodstock) two horses, the Shah and Cockie's Nelson. The former, a fine black, the third prize winner in Toronto, was placed first here. The mare prizes, first and second, went to a couple of nice mares from Toronto, shown by John Holland.

#### COACH HORSES.

This class, of which there was only one section provided for—that of stallion any age—had some fine horses of very desirable type. The first prize was won by a large upstanding German Coach, exhibited by A. B. Holbert, Woodstock. This breed possesses many of the desirable qualifications called for in the Carriage and Coach market. While they are large enough, they possess a lot of breedy quality, and their action is much like that of the Hackney. A. & G. Rice, Currie's Crossing, and J. R. Johnston, Springfield, each showed a good horse in this section, and won in the order named. Messrs. Rice's Adam, a fine German Coach, won first in several large shows this autumn.

#### CATTLE

were not as strong, on the whole, as we have seen them other years, although the quality was good in most of the classes.

#### SHORTHORNS.

In this class the principal exhibitors were:—Messrs. Smith, Hay; Nicholson, Sylvan; Fairbairn, Thedford; Gaunt, St. Helens; Douglas, Strathroy; Russell, Exeter; Dickie, Hyde Park; and Thompson, St. Mary's.

Thos. Russell won the herd prize, with the yearling bull, Young Sultan, out of his famous dairy cow, Matilda 8th, at its head; he also won first in aged cows, and sweepstakes with Bracelet 7th. First in aged bulls went to E. Gaunt & Sons for Earl of Moray, a capital pattern, short-legged, and with a wealth of flesh; just the kind to get steers fit for the English (or any other) market. Many good judges expected this bull would get the coveted sweepstakes, but the judge thought differently, and it went to Messrs. Smith's two-year-old, by Blake, out of a cow of the famous Village Blossom family, winner of second in the class at Toronto, a nice smooth bull, that, if he keeps on right, should be heard from again. Messrs. Nicholson here came in first with four calves by the Nonpareil bull, Norseman, taking in all six prizes with eight head. Geo. Dickie & Son's first prize yearling bull is also worthy of notice; he is of a useful sort, and was shown in fine condition.

#### HEREFORDS.

The F. W. Stone Estate had a walkover; they showed fifteen head, which were brought out in capital shape for breeding animals. Their aged cow, Cherry 25th, is worthy of notice in any company; she traces back on both sides to the famous Lord Wilton blood, and the first prize yearling heifer out of her shows her value as a breeding cow, but the pick of the females, to our mind, is the two-year-old Sweetheart 28th, of the Lord Berwick strain. This is a grand topped heifer, and, if fairly done by, should be well in front another year.

#### GALLOWAYS.

Messrs. A. M. & R. Shaw showed the herd they had in Toronto—a nice level lot, all home-bred, except the stock bull. There were no other exhibitors.

#### POLLED ANGUS

were represented by fourteen head; Walter Hall, Washington, showing eleven head, and taking both sweepstakes and the herd prize. His aged bull, Lucretius (bred by Hay & Patton), is an even, well-fleshed bull, and a good handler, while his first prize two-year-old heifer is a capital good sort, by Dr. Craik's well-known bull, Emlyn. This heifer took the sweepstakes for the best female. T. Maxwell, Sarnia, showed three head, and won first on bull calf, and second on aged cow and on heifer calf.

#### DAIRY BREEDS.

##### AYRSHIRES.

In this class Messrs. J. McCormack and Kains Bros. showed the herds they had in Toronto, and won most of the prize money; the herd prize and both sweepstakes on male and female going to the Rockton herd, Sir Laughlin taking the first in his class and sweepstakes; while Messrs. Kains, who showed fourteen head of very useful cattle, headed by the Traveller bull, Castle Douglas, were awarded three first and three second prizes. Their yearling bull, Needpath Hero, and their first prize two year-old heifer, being specially worthy of notice. Nichol Bros., of Plattsville, were out with seven head, and won three prizes, their bull, Roving Robin, coming in third in the aged class. This is a good pattern of a dairy bull (a son of Morton's imp. Royal Chief), although a little lacking in size. M. Ballantyne was again to the front this year with his calves, winning first on a group of four, as well as first on bull calves, and first and second on heifers. The bull calf is a very promising specimen, showing plenty of Ayrshire character, and the heifers are a nice pair. Mr. Ballantyne showed eight head, and won six prizes; the other exhibitors being Messrs. J. James and I. Holland, and Col. Peters.

##### HOLSTEINS.

In this class Messrs. Rice and Hallman divided the money, the first named taking the herd prize, and the latter both sweepstakes on male and female and the group of calves, the sweepstakes on

females going to the yearling heifer that was second in Toronto. As these herds have been described already, we need not notice them any further.

#### JERSEYS.

Here Messrs. J. H. Smith & Son were again to the front with the same lot they had in Toronto, and were lucky enough to win both herds and both sweepstakes. Their cattle have already been described, so we need not repeat. Of the other exhibitors, Messrs. Humpidge & Laidlaw, who showed fourteen head from their extensive herd, were very successful, taking twelve prizes. Their two-year-old bull, Prince Frank, bred by Miller & Sibley, is a good specimen of the breed, and should hold his own anywhere; he is a lengthy fellow, with a good skin, and carries a beautiful head and horns, while his produce among the calves show his value as a stock getter; first and second on bulls, and first on heifers, going to calves got by him. In two-year-old heifers, first and second also went to this herd for a beautiful pair sired by Canada's John Bull, although we rather fancied a heifer that was not placed better than the second prize winner. Wm. Bacon, of Orillia, came in third here with Kaiser Fritz, and also won first and second on his yearling bulls, scoring three prizes with four head—a good record. Another first and a third went to Jno. O'Brien, of London West, who showed ten head, while R. Edmunds, of the same place, brought out fourteen head of useful dairy cattle not fitted at all, and won third on his aged cow; his bull, Col. Burnaby of St. Lambert, being ruled out, as Mr. Edmunds unfortunately had not his registered certificate with him. The other exhibitors were R. B. Smith and C. Trebilcock, who showed three and four head respectively.

#### GUERNSEYS

had a class to themselves for the first time this year. The herd prize went to J. James, who showed five head of very nice cattle, and won first on his two-year-old bull, bred at the O. A. C., and first on aged cow, three-year and one-year-old heifers; the aged cow, Lady Suke 2nd, also taking the sweepstakes; this cow is of a capital sort, and should breed some fine dairy stock. First in the aged bull class and sweepstakes went to I. Holland for May's Roseberry, and second on his two-year-old bull; the rest of the prizes going to W. H. & C. H. McNish, who showed eleven head, the best of their herd having gone to Montreal.

#### SHEEP.

London show formerly was the sheep breeders' paradise. He not only here met the strongest competition (consequently his wins counted for something), but all over the Province it was recognized as the show of all shows at which sales could be made; purchasers generally holding off until that time, knowing that a better choice—that is, a larger number of good sheep from which to select—could be found at London than elsewhere, and that the breeders, having tried their strength, were prepared to do business. Oft in the early eighties have exhibitors returned home without an unsold sheep that was for sale. This year the contrast is so great that a few thoughts may interest our readers as to some of the reasons for the falling away of entries, and purchasers going elsewhere.

After Toronto, the best flocks—that is, the successful winners there—went their way east to Montreal and Ottawa. Why is this? Are the Frenchmen recognizing the value of good stock better than our Ontario farmers? We throw not. But for some reason our Fair has lost grace amongst the stockmen; they complain of discourteous treatment, of neglect of their wishes and interests; that sheep, swine and cattle continue to be mixed up in an incongruous jumble; for instance: the best flock of Lincolns this year could only be found amongst the cattle. How would a buyer know where to look for them, when we only stumbled upon them by accident? Then, sheep and swine are indiscriminately mixed. A gay young Berk. may be casting eyes at a coy Shropshire, or a bold Cotswold maiden flirting desperately with a shy young Yorkshireman. We say, without fear of contradiction, such a muddling and mixing of cattle, sheep and swine can be found on no other show ground on this Continent. It is certainly unique in that respect.

Cutting down the prize list, of course, has had an influence, but we do not ascribe to that the falling away as much as others do. Still, it has had an effect. If the foregoing points have been well taken, then to no one reason can we ascribe the loss of prestige. We are not going to assert as a fact that the conclusions arrived at are correct, but from complaints made, we assume that the following have a bearing upon the matter:—1. Mixing up indiscriminately, cattle, sheep and swine. 2. Reducing the prize list. 3. And entering into competition with Montreal. The latter, on the surface, may not appear to have any weight, and that the Montreal show would no more affect the attendance at London than it would if held in the moon. That is true as far as the local crowd is concerned, but when you divide up the stock exhibit you divide up that interest, and the buyer will go where there are the best. This leads to the thought: Cannot a circuit be arranged, whereby a show could be held in London without clashing with the others? It would be necessary to change the date, coming in ahead of Toronto or following Ottawa. To us, the latter would be preferable, as we usually have good weather during the early part of October.