

### Some Hackney Reminiscences

It seems to me I have loved a good horse ever since I knew enough to know what a horse was, and, of all breeds of horses, the Hackney has always been my favorite.

The first stallion that made a deep and lasting impression on me was Beal's Sir Charles (768), a remarkable horse in his day, and one that has left his mark on most of the celebrated Hackney sires of the present time through his son Denmark (177), and grandsons, Connaught (1453) and Danegelt (174); and great-grandsons, Rosador (4964) and Garton Duke of Connaught (3009). I well remember one of my father's cousins riding for years consecutively a daughter and a son of old Sir Charles, both strawberry roans, of exceptionally high quality and phenomenal action. Many is the time I have watched the old gentleman from behind the hedge of our feeding pasture, which adjoined his farm, "nagging" one or other of these beautiful horses, and it seems to me I have never since seen better goers or a better rider of a high-stepper. He never would allow anyone else to ride either one, nor would he ever allow his riding horse to be put in harness. He sold both for very high prices, and one (the gelding) was afterwards resold to the Duke of Cambridge, and used by him when Commander-in-Chief of the British Army. How I became so fond of old Sir Charles was through visiting my mother's cousin who lived near to Richard Beal, and was at that time much interested in his sister, and nothing delighted me, as a boy, so much as to go over to "Galley Gap" with him and get a look at the old horse, and sometimes have the privilege of seeing him go. I was then so firmly convinced that Sir Charles was an extraordinary horse that I would beg my father to allow me to take his riding mare (a Hackney, by Tom Thumb (830), and the fastest trotting mare within twenty miles of our home) to be bred to old Sir Charles. I can distinctly call to mind his quizzical expression when he asked me what I knew of such things.

My own opinion is, and always has been, that to old Sir Charles is due as much credit for his impressiveness as a sire as has been accorded to his son Denmark. Of course, there is no denying the fact that Denmark was a wonderful horse, nor that his son Danegelt was a great sire, but to my mind Sir Charles never got the credit he deserved. Most of the best Hackneys of to-day carry the Sir Charles blood, notably, on this side, Mr. Stevens' Fandango, whose mother was by Sir Charles. That such impressive blood "breeds on," there is not a shadow of a doubt, and his sons and grandsons have added lustre to his name. When Sir Walter Gilbey paid the highest price ever paid for a Hackney, when he bought his grandson, Danegelt, then in the sere and yellow leaf, he showed his excellent judgment in securing this Denmark or Sir Charles blood, as he has proven time and again by his progeny in the best show rings in England and on the Continent; and through that purchase alone he stands to-day as one of the foremost Hackney breeders—if not the foremost one—in England. Another gentleman, who has ever been an ardent advocate of the Denmark blood, is Mr. Burdett-Coutts, who has always been a champion of the breed, and who lately had the satisfaction of seeing that a goodly proportion of the winners at Olympia, had originally come from the Brookfield Stud. To these two public-spirited men all lovers of the Hackney owe a tribute of respect and thanks. Many of the early importations (especially of mares) to this country came from Brookfield. It was late in the 70's when Mr. Prescott Lawrence, of Newport, R. I., brought over Fashion, No. 7, a great prizewinner on both sides of the Atlantic, and still perpetuated in his son, Tiger Lillie 566, now owned by Mr. Reginald Vanderbilt. Soon after, Mr. A. J. Cassatt, of Philadelphia, brought out Little Wonder, and later on, Cadet.—In the 80's, Senator Fairfax imported Matchless of Londesboro' 18, and Mr. Perkins' Bonfire 43, afterwards owned by the late lamented John A. Logan. Later came F. C. Stevens, of Attica, N. Y., with Langton Performer and Clifton II. Then we had E. D. Jordan, of Boston. Each of these brought over some extra good animals of both sexes. To the West, the first to import Hackneys in any numbers were the Trumans, Burgess and Sterickers, of Illinois, and Galbraiths, of Wisconsin. The Grahams, of Claremont, Ont., and Hon. Robt. Beith, of Bowmanville, Ont., stand out on your side as early champions of the breed, both having owned remarkable animals. The former brings back to mind Royal Standard and Roseberry, whilst the latter is closely associated with Robin Adair II.

and Gribthorpe Playmate, both New York champions. Some of the best have gone back to the country which best appreciates a good horse, notably Bonfire, Royal Standard, and Matchless of Londesboro'. We possibly expect more than is reasonable, and don't always get it; still, let us consider the best show-ring records on both sides of the line, and review results for the last 15 years, and we must admit that the half-blood and purebred Hackneys stand out in bold relief as the principal winners against superior numbers of other breeds. Where can you point to any animal that equals the doughty Blucher, and on this side what have we had that equals the mighty Forest King or the superb Hildred? Others there are that have made enviable records, and will continue to do so, for, notwithstanding the efforts that have continually been made to belittle the Hackney, he stands out alone as the peer of any other breed on earth.

Essex Co., N. J.

R. P. STERICKER.

## STOCK

Discussions on Live-Stock subjects welcomed.

### The Economic Importance of Animal Tuberculosis

Statistics of the United States Federal meat inspection for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, covering 53,973,337 animals, or more than one-half of all those slaughtered for food in the country, show the following percentages of tuberculosis:—Adult cattle, 0.961; calves, 0.026; hogs, 2.049; sheep and goats, 0. The proportion of tuberculosis is probably higher in animals slaughtered without inspection.

\* \* \*

Reports of tuberculin tests made in the fifteen years from 1893 to 1908 by Federal, State, and other officers with tuberculin prepared by the Bureau of Animal Industry, have been carefully analyzed and tabulated. Out of 400,000 cattle tested (mostly dairy cattle) there were 37,000 reactions, or 9.25 per cent.

\* \* \*

From these two classes of statistics it is concluded that on an average about ten per cent of the milch cows, one per cent of other cattle, and two per cent of the hogs in the United States are affected with tuberculosis, the average percentage for all the cattle being estimated at 3.5.

\* \* \*

The accuracy of the tuberculin test has been confirmed in a remarkable way by post-mortem examinations. Out of 23,869 reacting cattle slaughtered, lesions of tuberculosis were found in 23,585, a percentage of 98.81. Properly prepared tuberculin applied by a competent person is therefore shown to be a wonderfully reliable agent for diagnosing tuberculosis. In cases

where the test appears to give unsatisfactory results, this is usually due to the use of a poor quality of tuberculin, or to ignorance or carelessness in applying it.

\* \* \*

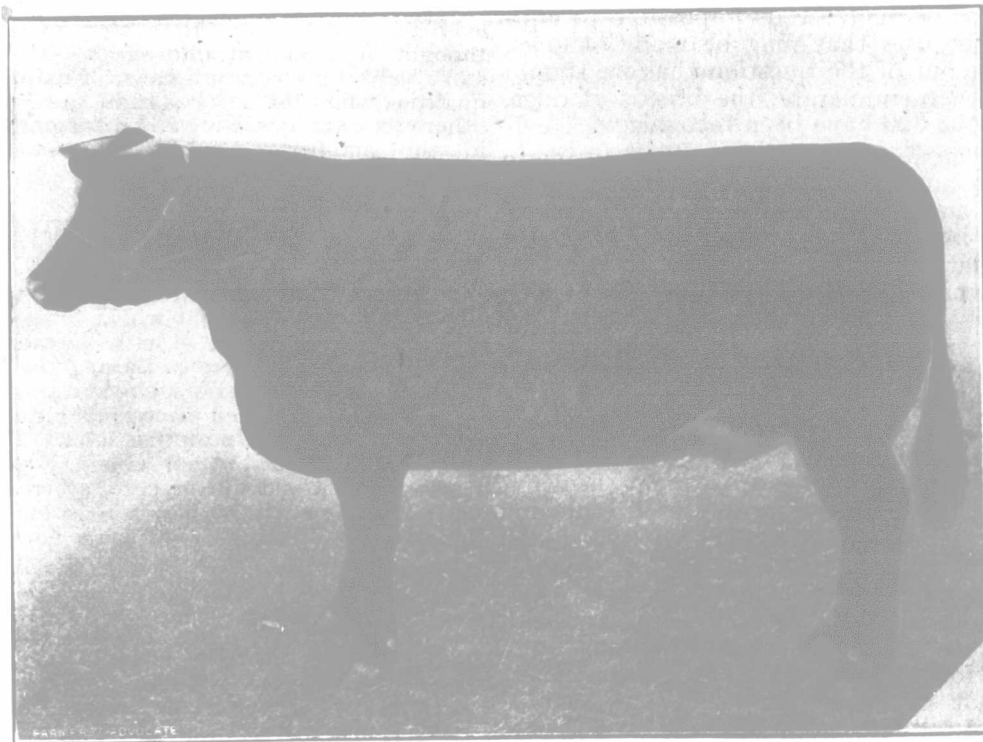
The economic loss on account of tuberculosis in food-producing animals is heavy. The loss on animals in which tuberculosis is found in the U.S. meat inspection is estimated at \$2,382,433 annually, and if the same conditions were applied to animals slaughtered without inspection, the annual loss on all animals slaughtered for food in the United States would be increased to \$4,102,433. The stock of animals on hand is also depreciated in value because of tuberculosis. Assuming that living tuberculosis milch cows are annually depreciated to the extent of one-tenth of what the loss would be if they were slaughtered, other cattle one-third, and hogs one-half, the total annual depreciation amounts to \$8,046,219. The annual loss from decrease in milk production is estimated at \$1,150,000, and there is also some loss from impairment of breeding qualities, etc. Taking all these items into account, the aggregate annual loss because of tuberculosis among farm animals in the United States is estimated at not less than \$14,000,000.—DR. A. D. MELVIN, Chief U.S. Bureau Animal Husbandry.

### Cattle Likely to be Scarce in U. S.

The *Chicago Live-stock World*, in commenting upon the live-stock situation, says that cattle have been rushing into market in excessive numbers, due mainly to the shortage of pasture and the scarcity of water. It has been a good many years since the drought was so prolonged and so far-reaching. It seems to cover nearly the whole country. In the east, everything is burnt up, and water has to be hauled to supply stock. In the central west it is nearly as bad in many localities, for there has been no rain of any consequence in six or eight weeks. This condition has been responsible for the big liquidation of cattle, which is pretty certain to continue as long as the weather is dry. It is generally conceded that the supply of cattle in the country is not large, and the marketing of so many light and immature cattle now will surely mean a distinct shortage of desirable steers later on. At the five principal western markets for the year thus far, receipts show a falling off of 700,000 head, compared with last year, and it is believed that this decrease will reach the million point before the year is out. The high price of corn promises to modify the feeding business, so there is not much prospect of getting many fat, well-finished cattle for some time. As long as the rangers are coming freely, which will be for two months yet, there will be plenty of cattle for immediate use, but with the advent of cold weather it is freely predicted by the leading trades here that choice heavy corn-fed cattle will be lamentably scarce.

### The Dog and His Uses

The dog bears the great distinction of being the first animal ever domesticated by man. In fact, there are wild tribes which have no other domesticated animal. The family to which the dog belongs contains many wild genera and species, and crosses are known between some of these and the domestic dog. Thus, on good



MINA PRINCESS.

Two-year-old Shorthorn heifer. First prize, senior champion and reserve grand champion female, Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, 1908. Owned and exhibited by J. A. Watt, Salem, Ont.