

Our Prize Essays.

In this issue we renew our former method of offering cash prizes for essays. Read carefully the subjects announced on the first page of this issue. We hope to receive essays from every section of the Dominion. Farmers everywhere are invited to respond.

The American Fat Stock Show.

The Fat Stock Show recently held at Chicago, Ill., as regards the fat cattle classes, was not up to that of its predecessors, either in the number of the exhibits or in the representation of the different breeds shown. Shorthorns fell short of former years, while Polled-Angus, Galloways and Sussex were conspicuous by their absence. Devons made but a meagre show. Herefords were the only sort well represented.

This year the single-judge system was adopted, Mr. John Imboden, Decatur, Ill., judging in the section, while Mr. David McKay, Ft. Wayne, Ind., was appointed to place the sweepstakes and herd prizes.

SHORTHORNS.

STEER OR SPAYED COW THREE AND UNDER FOUR YEARS.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
J. C. Frazier.....	Jerry.....	1347	1845	1.37
J. H. Potts & Son.....	Prince.....	1235	1805	1.40
M. E. Jones & Bro.....	Col. Mills.....	1302	2095	1.54
C. S. Barclay.....	Modoc.....	1404	1710	1.22
W. H. Renick.....	Nonsuch.....	1275	2090	1.64
W. H. Renick.....	Sharon's Beauty.....	1282	2020	1.57

In the above section the fight was between W. H. Renick's Nonsuch and M. E. Jones' Col. Mills. The former is of Kentucky breeding, being out of a young Harriett cow, by a Landen Duke bull, and is a beautifully finished steer, very even from end to end, excelling in crops, loin, and finish behind the hips, and is thick on his ribs. The latter is sired by Harmony, of Scotch breeding, and does great credit to his feeder. Both the above are of much the same type and were very close competitors. The third went to Frazier's Jerry, a much smaller and inferior steer.

STEER OR SPAYED HEIFER TWO AND UNDER THREE YEARS.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
J. H. Potts & Son.....	Clarence.....	860	1650	1.52
J. H. Potts & Son.....	Baron Booth.....	957	1470	1.54
M. E. Jones & Bro.....	Confidence.....	918	1590	1.73
M. E. Jones & Bro.....	Thornton.....	991	1830	1.85
W. I. Boyce.....	Mauvaisterre.....	1054	1390	1.32
C. S. Barclay.....	New Gold.....	955	1620	1.69
Jas. M. Turner.....	Prince.....	785	1450	1.89
Jas. M. Turner.....	Victor.....	782	1640	2.15
Jas. M. Turner.....	Rufus.....	743	1345	1.81
N. P. Clarke.....	Lad of Meadow.....	1078	2115	1.96
W. H. Renick.....	Big Four.....	1065	1980	1.86
Wm. Moffat & Bro.....	Gay Lad.....	1062	1640	1.50
Wm. Moffat & Bro.....	Favorite.....	851	1660	1.95

There was no difficulty in placing the Jones entry (Confidence) first in this class, as he was well-nigh as perfect a beef animal as is to be seen. His back is thickly laid with flesh of the best texture, as far as could be judged by handling on foot. He is perfectly level and beautifully finished. This time the judge sent the second ribbon to a beast of nearly opposite type—a large well-fed steer, Lad of Meadow Lawn 6th, bred by N. P. Clarke. This entry was plain and bare on top, although he had made quite a large weight for age. The third was won by Barclay's New Gold, a neat light roan steer, very good in front, but decidedly lacking in the hindquarters.

STEER OR SPAYED HEIFER ONE AND UNDER TWO YEARS.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
J. H. Potts & Son.....	Captain.....	694	1320	1.90
J. H. Potts & Son.....	Snowflake.....	704	1385	1.96
M. E. Jones & Bro.....	Phil Armour.....	713	1490	2.05
W. A. Harris.....	Davy.....	720	1585	2.20
W. I. Boyce.....	Billy.....	716	1365	1.91
C. S. Barclay.....	Clipper.....	613	1025	1.67
C. S. Barclay.....	Airdrie.....	567	1080	1.90
C. S. Barclay.....	Little Joker.....	416	855	2.05
Jas. M. Turner.....	Robin Hood.....	704	1380	1.82
Jas. M. Turner.....	Whittaker.....	624	1255	2.01
N. P. Clarke.....	Amelia's Hillhurst.....	631	1435	2.27
W. H. Renick.....	Jack the Ripper.....	714	1470	2.06
Wm. Moffat & Bro.....	Bonnie Blue.....	425	1080	2.51
Wm. Moffat & Bro.....	Protection.....	702	1295	1.84

N. P. Clarke's Hillhurst, by the prize-winning Oscar, was the successful steer in this ring, being a neat, stylish beast, good both forward and on top, but weak at the twist. Col. Harris' Davy won the second ribbon. This is said to be the heaviest yearling to date, but just a little overdone, and although very full in his beef points, is uneven through overfeeding. Captain, the Potts entry, that won as a calf last year, still shows the same faults, being flat on the rib, but is well fed.

STEER OR SPAYED HEIFER UNDER ONE YEAR.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
J. H. Potts & Son.....	Aberdeen.....	355	760	2.14
M. E. Jones & Bro.....	Nut Cracker.....	343	980	2.86
C. S. Barclay.....	Dandy.....	293	655	2.49
Jas. M. Turner.....	Romulus.....	355	1175	3.11
Jas. M. Turner.....	Bruno.....	338	915	2.71
W. H. Renick.....	Christmas Gift.....	322	780	2.42
Wm. Moffat & Bro.....	McKinley.....	230	575	2.50

The calf class had nothing to specially commend it, the ring being rather weak.

HEREFORDS

had the best of the show in point of numbers, and large numbers of steers showed up in every ring. Breeders of this sort are displaying good judgment in using the knife freely.

STEER OR SPAYED COW THREE AND UNDER FOUR YEARS.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
Thos. Clark.....	Peerless Wilton.....	1316	1715	1.39
Gudgell & Simpson.....	Bellman.....	1193	1945	1.63
C. M. Culbertson.....	Bowdoin 11th.....	1128	1915	1.70
J. R. Price & Son.....	Duncan 30960.....	1417	1850	1.30
Adams Earl.....	Earlington 8th.....	1290	1770	1.37
W. S. VanNatta.....	Duffer.....	1325	1630	1.23
W. S. VanNatta.....	Bendigo 30924.....	1349	1715	1.37
W. S. VanNatta.....	Anxiety B. 33598.....	1332	1690	1.43
G. W. Henry.....	Fancy Prince.....	1338	1960	1.46

A right good steer was Bowdoin 11th, that of Culbertson's, on which the first prize ribbon was placed, he being both evenly and thickly fleshed, followed by the particularly thick steer Earlington. Though decidedly plain in some of his points, Bellman, shown by Gudgell & Simpson, also a thick, useful steer, to which the expert sent third premium.

STEER OR SPAYED HEIFER TWO AND UNDER THREE YEARS.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
Thos. Clark.....	Peerless Wilton.....	1069	1745	1.63
Gudgell & Simpson.....	8th.....	963	1630	1.66
C. M. Culbertson.....	Hindoo.....	1023	1760	1.72
J. R. Price & Son.....	Coupon 34890.....	1163	1660	1.55
J. R. Price & Son.....	Brightlight.....	829	1420	1.71
Adams Earl.....	Merry Boy.....	1075	1910	1.78
W. S. VanNatta.....	Bill Fowler.....	1080	1770	1.61
W. S. VanNatta.....	Warren.....	911	1290	1.52
H. E. Yeomans.....	Protection.....	1031	1775	1.93
H. E. Yeomans.....	Sensation.....	939	1530	1.58

This was considered the strongest ring, taken as a whole, in the show, of any breed, and Hindoo, belonging to the Culbertson string, was easily awarded first, being a very meaty, thick steer, well covered in most of the essential points. Earl's Merry Boy, a thick set steer, with good sprung rib, but plain behind, was second. The Price steer, Coupon, was awarded third place—a remarkably handsome, even steer, nicely developed, but not over fat.

STEER OR SPAYED HEIFER ONE AND UNDER TWO YEARS.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
Thos. Clark.....	Abel.....	719	1515	2.11
Gudgell & Simpson.....	Wiseman.....	700	1260	1.80
Gudgell & Simpson.....	Silurian.....	668	1310	1.87
C. M. Culbertson.....	Pathmaster.....	666	1225	1.76
Makin Bros.....	Spot.....	633	1155	1.91
Makin Bros.....	Jonathan.....	390	965	2.54
John Bush.....	Butler.....	711	1235	1.74
J. R. Price & Son.....	Howard.....	715	1310	1.83
J. R. Price & Son.....	Eldorado 37821.....	682	1310	1.92
J. R. Price & Son.....	Expert.....	573	1125	1.96
Adams Earl.....	Edison.....	681	1110	1.63
W. S. VanNatta.....	Jolly.....	714	1350	1.89
W. S. VanNatta.....	Horace C.....	546	1125	2.06
W. S. VanNatta.....	Whitcom.....	591	1185	2.00
W. S. VanNatta.....	Wiley.....	559	945	1.69
J. M. Turner.....	Hawthorne.....	462	1040	2.25
T. C. Ponting.....	Get There.....	591	1140	1.93
G. W. Henry.....	Roccacio.....	719	1160	1.61
G. W. Henry.....	Glennmore.....	712	1210	1.70

This was the largest ring in the show in the classes, but not remarkably even. A well grown steer, with good future promise, was Thomas Clark's Abel, being even from end to end, but not over thick in the middle rib. Culbertson's Pathmaster was rather plain in his top, with nothing special to recommend him. Adams Earl's Edison, winner of the third prize, is an even steer in front, but very plain in his finish behind. In this class the judge left two much better steers unnoticed.

STEER OR SPAYED HEIFER UNDER ONE YEAR.

Exhibitor.	Animal.	Age in days.	Weight.	Gain per day.
C. M. Culbertson.....	Pecksniff.....	338	785	2.32
J. R. Price & Son.....	Eclipse.....	352	820	2.33
J. R. Price & Son.....	Ensign.....	351	850	2.42
Adams Earl.....	Eifel.....	356	876	2.44
Adams Earl.....	Earl Wilton 43rd.....	338	980	2.90
W. S. VanNatta.....	Hickory.....	343	735	2.14
W. S. VanNatta.....	Jerre Rusk.....	338	675	2.00
T. C. Ponting.....	F. M. Atwood.....	328	790	2.41
G. W. Henry.....	Climax.....	357	775	2.17
G. W. Henry.....	Lucian.....	359	805	2.24

A wonderfully developed calf won the honors for the Earl entry in this section, both of large size and even quality, combined with great substance. Ponting's Atwood, a fine, even calf, but completely overshadowed by the first, was second. Earl's other entry obtained the third place.

HOLSTEINS

Just an ordinary show of Holstein steers were forward. They had not the finish of the others, and with the exception of a nicely brought out spayed yearling heifer, shown by B. Waddel, had nothing specially to recommend them. This heifer was decidedly one of the best representatives of the breed yet shown. She was evenly fed and quite ripe for her age.

GRADES AND CROSSES

were not the usual strong classes that are generally looked for. The section for steers, over three and under four, brought out six, comprising a good Shorthorn grade of W. H. Renick's feeding, and another of similar breeding, shown by J. D. Prince, both being evenly fed and heavy steers. The third place was won by a grade Galloway.