

THE VICTORIAN ERA EXPOSITION.

Report of Live Stock Exhibits.

The great fair of Toronto, called this year the Victorian Era Exposition, has in its success eclipsed all previous efforts. Favored with almost perfect weather from the beginning to the end (August 30th to Sept. 11th), and possessing unusual attractions both in exhibits and in amusements, it drew to the city a crowd estimated to be over 40,000 more of people than were ever present at the fair before. Of this increase of actual attendance 25,000 are reported to have come to the city by the Grand Trunk and 15,000 by the Canadian Pacific. The daily attendance also far out-distanced all previous records. The amusements provided by the directors were unexceptionable in character, intensely interesting and pleasing, and, notwithstanding their tremendous expense, a source of profit.

The show itself, from the standpoint of the Canadian farmer, was beyond all praise. Experts assert that the display of cattle, sheep, and swine was the finest ever gathered together on the continent, while the display of horses was almost equally good and large. In every other department of the show the enterprise of the farmer was almost equally transcendent. No finer exhibit of roots and grains, of fruit, of poultry, of butter and cheese, and of honey, was ever before displayed anywhere.

The Dominion Government missed its opportunity in not making the Toronto show this year a Dominion affair. Had it done so, it would have crowned itself with glory. It turned down the biggest chance for making a hit that has ever been offered to it. But there is still an opportunity to redeem the mistake. Let the Toronto Fair of 1900 be in a real sense a Dominion Exhibition, and we venture to say it will return to the country many fold every dollar of expense that it will cost.

FARMING marked its appearance as a weekly by being represented on the ground by a staff of specialist reporters in every department of interest to farmers; also by having for its centre of operations a commodious tent placed in an angle of the stock ring, just opposite to the tent of the Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes. This tent proved to be a very great convenience to our patrons, as well as to our staff of reporters, and was in constant use day and night. We herewith tender to Mr. Hill and the board of directors our hearty thanks for their permission to erect this tent; also for their kindness in suggesting to us to place it in the very spot where, above all others, we should prefer it to be.

We present in the following columns a partial report of the agricultural exhibits of the show, and shall complete the report in our next issue.

Cattle.

It was undeniably the best and greatest show of cattle ever brought together on this continent. The number of cattle entered was 706 head, and nearly all of these were present. The only class in which a falling off in numbers could be found was the Shorthorn class, the other classes, and especially the dairy classes, being full to overflowing.

Beef Cattle.

SHORTHORNS.—As mentioned above, this class showed a falling off in numbers, there being only 79 head present as compared with 123 last year. The standard of quality was, however, as good as ever. The reason for the decrease in numbers may probably be found in the fact that the more extended demand for Shorthorn bulls and females during the season past had cleared out the breeders' stocks pretty well, and that, consequently, some of the usual exhibitors thought that it was unnecessary to advertise themselves so much this year, as usual, by following the circuit of exhibitions. It was in the bull and heifer calf sections that the falling off was most noticeable.

Out of the five aged bulls entered, three faced the judges, who, after a careful inspection, placed T. E. Robson's Nominee first. He is a very smooth beast, of high quality, even all over, with a capital back and loin, and well-covered shoulder. Next to him came the well-known Abbotford, shown by H. & W. Smith, which captured first last year as a 3 year old, a good, thick-fleshed one, but not so sweet on his back and shoulder or so good in the thighs as Capt. Robson's entry. Third place fell to Wm. Redmond's Prime Minister, a Collynie-bred bull, with a deep front and of good length, but narrow on his withers. Three year old bulls were four in number. Here, last year's sweepstakes bull, Moneyfuffel Lad, came to the front. He has an excellent skin and well-covered shoulders and

back. If one might be inclined to criticize him, it would be that he might be a trifle better in the hams and thighs. Jas. S. Smith's Caithness, a blocky red, came next. He handles nicely and carries his lines out well. Messrs. Nicholson's Indian Brave, which beat Caithness last year as a 2 year old, had to take third place here. He is one of the thick-fleshed kind, but hardly so smooth as his opponents. Eastwood Bros. had the first prize, 2 year old, 16th Crown Jewel, one of Messrs. Nicholson's breeding, a nice topped beast with a good skin and hind end. Two half-brothers, sons of Rantin Robin, came second and third. New Year's Gift, shown by Thos. Russell & Son, Exeter, a red of good substance, had been looked upon by some as likely to stand first in this section. He got second, and Messrs. Gaunt's General, another big red, third. Yearling bulls were headed by J. & W. B. Watts' Judge, which was second as a calf here in 1896. He has a great skin and lines, but is somewhat deficient in girth. The blue ribbon was placed on Jas. I. Davidson's Sittytton Hero, which won fourth in the calf class last year, a good style of a bull. J. Fried & Sons, Roseville, were third with Lord Willison. Only 13 bull calves were entered. Among them were the red calf that won first prize as well as the sweepstakes at Montreal the week previous, and the roan that came second at that show. They were shown by W. C. Edwards & Co., Rockland. Most of the knowing ones had expected that the red ticket would go to one or the other of these, but they proved false prophets, as the judges preferred Cedric, a red, shown by Jas. S. Smith, Maple Lodge. This calf is out of the same dam as Caithness, which was second in the 3 year old bull section and is much of the same build as him. The red and roan shown by Messrs. Edwards were placed second and third. Very good calves they are, of grand quality, and straight in their lines. The roan is a full brother to Banker, last year's first prize winner in the calf class. The same exhibitors had another red not far behind them. The roan, and we believe, the reds also, are by Messrs. Edwards' Knight of St. John. R. & S. Nicholson's 19th Crown Jewel, a good red, came fourth. There was a strong fight for the sweepstakes for bulls between T. E. Robson's Nominee and Jas. Leask's Moneyfuffel Lad, with the result that the coveted honor went to the former.

Three fine, blocky cows won the honors in the aged cow class. H. & W. Smith's Vanity, last year's first prize winner here, a beautiful roan, was first, Glamis Gentle, T. E. Robson's entry, second, and Messrs. Watts' Matchless 11th, 3rd. Three year old cows, though only 3 in number, were a very even lot. Daisy of Strathallan 12th, a low-set, thick cow, with good lines and quarters, was first, with Matchless 17th and Indian Princess second and third. Eight 2 year olds competed. Mysie's Rose, a sweet heifer with a good shoulder and level all over was first choice, with Freida, a good all round animal, with great heart girth, second, and English Lady 11th, a daughter of Sittytton Chief, third. Yearlings were a very fine class. Here Messrs. Watt secured first and third on Mildred 6th and Matchless 18th, both by Royal Sailor, the first a blocky heifer, the other of larger type. Messrs. Crerar had a smooth, blocky entry in Ruby Hill 3rd, which won second. Heifer calves were like the bull calves, 13 in number, and not a really bad one among the lot. Royal Sailor's stock were here again successful, Messrs. Watt winning first with Matchless 17th, a great heifer, with good back, ham, and shoulder, and fourth with Dora Stamford, which was very good in the thighs. Second place went to Myrtle 6th, a daughter of Royal Member, shown by T. E. Robson, third to the Rockland herd, and fifth to Messrs. Crerar's smooth Ruby Hill 5th. The Rockland herd won the first prize for 4 calves after a close tussle with the Salem string. The prizes in the open herd competition went to the Iliderton, Salem, and Rockland herds in the order named. Capt. Robson's wonderfully sweet 2 year old heifer, Mysie's Rose, was the winner in the sweepstakes for females.

Awards.—Bull, 4 years old and upwards—1st, T. E. Robson, Iliderton; 2nd, H. & W. Smith, Hay; 3rd, William Redmond, Millbrook. Bull, 3 years old and under 4—1st, James Leask, Greenbank; 2nd, J. S. Smith, Maple Lodge; 3rd, R. & S. Nicholson, Sylvan. Bull, 2 years old and under 3—1st, Eastwood Bros., Mimico; 2nd, Thomas Russell, Exeter; 3rd, E. Gaunt & Son, St. Helens. Bull, 1 year old—1st, J. & W. Watt, Salem; 2nd, J. I. Davidson, Balam; 3rd, J. Fried & Sons, Roseville. Bull calf, under 1 year—1st, J. S. Smith; 2nd and 3rd, W. C. Edwards & Co., 4th and 5th, R. & S.

Nicholson. Bull of any age, silver medal—1st, T. E. Robson, (Nominee). Cow, 4 years old and upwards—1st, H. & W. Smith; 2nd, T. E. Robson; 3rd, J. & W. Watt. Cow, 3 years old—1st, T. E. Robson; 2nd, J. & W. Watt; 3rd, J. & P. Crerar, Shakespeare. Heifer, 2 years old—1st, T. E. Robson; 2nd, H. & W. Smith; 3rd, J. & W. Watt. Heifer, 1 year old—1st and 3rd, J. & W. Watt; 2nd, J. & P. Crerar. Heifer calf, under 1 year—1st and 4th, J. & W. Watt; 2nd, T. E. Robson; 3rd, W. C. Edwards & Co.; 5th, J. & P. Crerar. Four calves, under 1 year old, bred and owned by exhibitor—1st, W. C. Edwards & Co.; 2nd, J. & W. Watt; 3rd, R. & S. Nicholson. Herd, consisting of one bull and four females, over one year old, owned by the exhibitor—1st, T. E. Robson; 2nd, J. and W. Watt; 3rd, W. C. Edwards and Co. Herd of one bull and four females, under two years of age, owned by exhibitor, and recorded in Dominion Shorthorn Herd-book—1st, J. and W. Watt. Female of any age, silver medal—1st, T. E. Robson (Mysie's Rose).

Judges.—John Gibson, Denfield; E. Jeffs, Bond Head.

HEREFORDS.—The white faces made a good average display, although the exhibitors numbered only two. H. D. Smith's Amos of Ingleside could not be denied 1st place once more in the aged class. He also again secured the sweepstakes, his chief opponent for this latter honor being the same exhibitor's very nice 2-year-old bull. Amos of Ingleside was, as usual, in grand shape, and, withal, quite smooth. A Stone came 2nd in the aged class with Gracchus, a smooth animal, but with not quite so good a shoulder and hams as Mr. Stone's other entry, whose weak spot was his back and tailhead. The same exhibitor had 2nd in the 2-year-old class with Acton, a low-set fellow, better in the ribs than his companion. The Guelph herd had no competition in the yearling bull class, and they fairly beat the Compton herd's entry for bull calves with Chamberlain, a straight, promising bull, with a good shoulder and hams. First in her class and sweepstakes for the best female, went to H. D. Smith's grand old-time winner Lady Tushingham 3rd, as smooth a cow as one could wish to see, in spite of her wealth of flesh. Spot 3rd came next, a good cow, but far behind her companion, while Mr. Stone's Lady Fenn 7th, a neat cow, was 3rd on the list. The red and blue ribbon for 3-year-old cows fell to Sylvan 3rd of Ingleside and Lady Ingleside respectively, the former the smoothest and of good quality, but not quite so wide behind as she might have been. The Guelph entry, Cherry 47th, the mother of the 1st prize bull calf, was awarded third. H. D. Smith had all the three winners in 2-year-olds, three very fine thick-fleshed, low-set heifers. Only two yearlings were out, a nice young thing from the Compton string being 1st, and a younger, but good one, shown by Mr. Stone, 2nd. The Compton entries won the red and blue tickets for herds.

Awards.—Bull, three years old and upwards—1st, H. D. Smith, Compton, Que.; 2nd and 3rd, Alfred Stone, Guelph. Bull, two years old—1st, H. D. Smith; 2nd and 3rd, A. Stone. Bull, one year old—1st, 2nd, and 3rd, A. Stone. Bull calf, under one year—1st and 3rd, A. Stone; 2nd, H. D. Smith. Bull of any age—Silver medal, H. D. Smith (Amos of Ingleside). Cow, four years old and upwards—1st and 2nd, H. D. Smith; 3rd, A. Stone. Cow, three years old—1st and 2nd, H. D. Smith; 3rd, A. Stone. Heifer, two years old—1st, 2nd, and 3rd, H. D. Smith. Heifer, one year old—1st, H. D. Smith; 2nd, A. Stone. Heifer calf, under one year—1st, H. D. Smith; 2nd and 3rd, A. Stone. Herd, consisting of one bull and four females, over one year old, owned by the exhibitor—1st and 2nd, H. D. Smith; 3rd, A. Stone. Female of any age—Silver medal, H. D. Smith (Lady Tushingham 3rd).

Judges.—G. W. Green, Toronto; R. J. Mackie, Oshawa.

POLLERDANGUS.—The doddies formed a very nice class with some grand animals among them. Walter Hall's Lucretius, last year's 1st prize winner, once more headed the aged bull class. He is a bull of excellent conformation, and was in splendid condition. Kyma's Heir, shown by Jas. Bowman, made a good 2nd, with Messrs. Stewart's Oxford King, a straight smooth one, 3rd. The sections for 2-year-old and yearling bull had but a single entry apiece, but both were good. W. Stewart & Son had the winner in the former class, McKenzie of Willow Grove, a bull of good conformation, with a clear-cut throat; while Walter Hall's Bruce, a yearling son of Lucretius, was one of the best young Angus bulls shown for some time. The

Washington herd had two good bull calves, which were placed 1st and 3rd, with Messrs. Stewart's entry, which was rather low in flesh, sandwiched in between. Lucretius was justly awarded the sweepstakes for bull of any age. A fine lot of aged cows faced the judges, and the diversity of types made the work of selection not an easy one. Eventually the fine old prize-winner, Kyma 2nd, was placed first, followed by Newtona 2nd, a cow of good quality, and Isabella, a neatly turned cow, came 3rd. Walter Hall came to the front in 3-year-olds. His Lady Aberdeen, which was 1st, is a really good cow looked at from both ends, but his 2nd prize, Lady Gladstone, is a little too much of the Shorthorn type on the back. A short-legged animal, Heather Bell, one of James Bowman's string, completed the list. Two-year-olds were a really good lot, but yearlings were not above the average. Heifer calves were well shown. Walter Hall's Lady Aberdeen was the winner of the sweepstakes for female of any age.

Awards.—Bull, three years old and upwards—1st, Walter Hall, Washington; 2nd, James Bowman, Guelph; 3rd, Wm. Stewart & Son, Lucasville. Bull, two years old—1st, W. Stewart & Son. Bull, one year old—1st, Walter Hall. Bull calf, under one year—1st and 3rd, Walter Hall; 2nd, W. Stewart & Son. Bull of any age—Silver medal, Walter Hall (Lucretius). Cow, four years old and upwards—1st, James Bowman; 2nd, Walter Hall; 3rd, W. Stewart & Son. Cow, three years old—1st and 2nd, Walter Hall; 3rd, James Bowman. Heifer, two years old—1st, Walter Hall; 2nd, W. Stewart & Son; 3rd, James Bowman. Heifer, one year old—1st and 3rd, W. Stewart & Son; 2nd, James Bowman. Heifer calf, under one year—1st, W. Stewart & Son; 2nd and 3rd, James Bowman. Herd, consisting of one bull and four females, over one year old, owned by the exhibitor—1st, Walter Hall; 2nd, James Bowman; 3rd, W. Stewart & Son. Female of any age—Silver medal, Walter Hall (Lady Aberdeen).

Judges.—J. G. Davidson, New Lowell; A. McNeill, Vellora.

GALLOWAYS.—There was no falling off in the Galloway class, the hardy blackskins being present in good numbers, all the sections being well contested. Aged bulls were three in number. Here 1st prize went to that old veteran, Canadian Borderer, whom, in spite of his age and being somewhat out of shape and condition, the judges nevertheless considered as being possessed of the best Galloway characteristics. The contest for 2nd place lay between John Sibbald's Ottawa and Messrs. Shaw's MacCartney, the latter of whom was last year placed ahead of the former, a position which was here reversed. A. M. & R. Shaw had a good bodied even 2 year-old bull in Victor Wild, who was an easy first in that section. First for yearling bulls and bull calves fell to two of D. McCrae's entries which carried beautiful coats of hair. John Sibbald had a smooth yearling, and Messrs. Shaw a lengthy calf of good style, which secured second in their respective sections. As at last year's show so once more the sweepstakes prize fell to D. McCrae's aged bull, Canadian Borderer. A grand old cow is John Sibbald's Countess of Glencairn 3rd, and well did she deserve her place at the head of her class, and also the sweepstakes prize for best female any age, her closest competitor, and a pretty close one too, being D. McCrae's 3 year-old heifer, a most promising one. The latter exhibitor had the red ribbon in all the female sections except the aged one, with animals of good type and beautiful coats of hair, J. Sibbald and A. M. & R. Shaw winning the other prizes between them with animals of very good character well brought out. D. McCrae showed an old and young herd, with which he secured 1st and 2nd herd prizes respectively, John Sibbald being 3rd.

Awards.—Bull, 3 years old and upwards—1st, D. McCrae, Guelph; 2nd, John Sibbald, Annap; 3rd, A. M. & R. Shaw, Brantford. Bull, 2 years old—1st, A. M. & R. Shaw; 2nd, John Sibbald; 3rd, D. McCrae. Bull, 1 year old—1st and 3rd, D. McCrae; 2nd, John Sibbald. Bull calf, under 1 year—1st, D. McCrae; 2nd and 3rd, A. M. & R. Shaw. Bull of any age, silver medal—D. McCrae (Canadian Borderer). Cow, 4 years old and upwards—1st, John Sibbald; 2nd, D. McCrae; 3rd, A. M. & R. Shaw. Cow, 3 years old—1st and 2nd, D. McCrae; 3rd, John Sibbald. Heifer, 2 years old—1st, 2nd and 3rd, D. McCrae. Heifer, 1 year old—1st, D. McCrae; 2nd, John Sibbald; 3rd, A. M. & R. Shaw. Heifer calf, under 1 year—1st and 3rd, D. McCrae; 2nd, A. M. & R. Shaw. Herd, consisting of 1 bull and 4 females, over