

### Milking the Government Cow.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—I have read Mr. Isaac's letter in your issue of the 1st inst. in reference to combination sales of pure-bred stock by public auction. I am strongly of the opinion that such sales, properly conducted, will be of the greatest benefit to all breeders of all pure-bred live stock. We often see a small breeder, perhaps a new beginner, who has a bull or two for sale, refrain from spending \$10.00 or \$20.00 in advertising, and we often find that the animals remain on his hands until they have eaten their heads off. If this breeder could take them to a well-advertised sale with assurance that he could sell them at a fair

### Combination Sales.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—In reference to holding combination public auction sales of pure-bred stock at different points in the Province, under public control, and under rules and regulations approved by the various breeders' associations, this is not altogether a new question, and we all know from past experience that combination public auction sales have been a failure so far as they have been tried in this country. I think perhaps if they could be rightly established and placed on a sure and substantial footing they would be of advantage to both the breeders and farmers. But I am very much inclined to think that in a country like this, where the transportation would be expensive owing to the long distances that some stock would have to be shipped, and some people would have to travel, it would be very difficult to get breeders to risk the expense that would be necessary, and risk entering first-class stock in a sale of that kind without having some assurance that they would not be sacrificed. Then, on the other hand, it would be necessary, to insure a good attendance of buyers at a sale of that kind, that they should have some guarantee that they could secure what they want to buy at a fair market price. It has been said that no animal after being entered for the public sale should be sold privately, but that would be a hardship on the breeder; for instance, he might enter a number of cattle in the sale, say this week, and in a few days a buyer comes along and offers him all he would expect to get for one or more of the animals entered, and what he considers a good price, but owing to having entered them in the sale he could not sell. Perhaps the buyer could not be present at the sale. I would like to see your valuable columns used freely to discuss this very important question.

### Dogs and Sheep.

To the Sheep Farmers of Ontario:

At the last session of the Ontario Legislature we were promised that at the next session the dog and sheep law would be brought up for amendment. As the promised time is now at hand, we should like to hear, through the papers and otherwise, from all interested in the matter, with a view of assisting the Assembly to amend the law. All who have read the papers during the past year have noticed that the destruction of sheep by dogs has been very great. The present law is unjust to breeders of sheep and owners of dogs; but if we wish the conditions improved we must look after it, and have the necessary changes made. As one of the sheep breeders of the Province, I would offer some amendments I think we should have: 1st, full value for sheep so killed or destroyed; a set maximum price should be established for registered and unregistered sheep, and judged by one or more inspectors in each municipality, to be appointed by the council, same as fenceviewers or poundkeepers; and that it be the duty of the assessor to collect the dog tax, and furnish each dog-owner with a tag, for which he will pay an annual fee of—cents, which would be a means of getting rid of a lot of worthless curs, and the tax would be collected in full on all worthy dogs, as all dogs without tags are game. All cities, towns, and incorporated villages shall bear a share of the loss caused by dogs worrying sheep, in proportion to the number of dogs kept in each. 4th, say a tax of three dollars on each bitch and one dollar on each dog, which would induce a better breed of dogs to sell. Hoping to hear through the ADVOCATE suggestions to meet the case, we wait with patience.

Norfolk Co., Ont.

J. H. WOOLLEY.

Farm-yard manure or feeding highly concentrated foods on a pasture, supply appropriate fertilizing elements for permanent pasture.

### "Canada's Ideal."

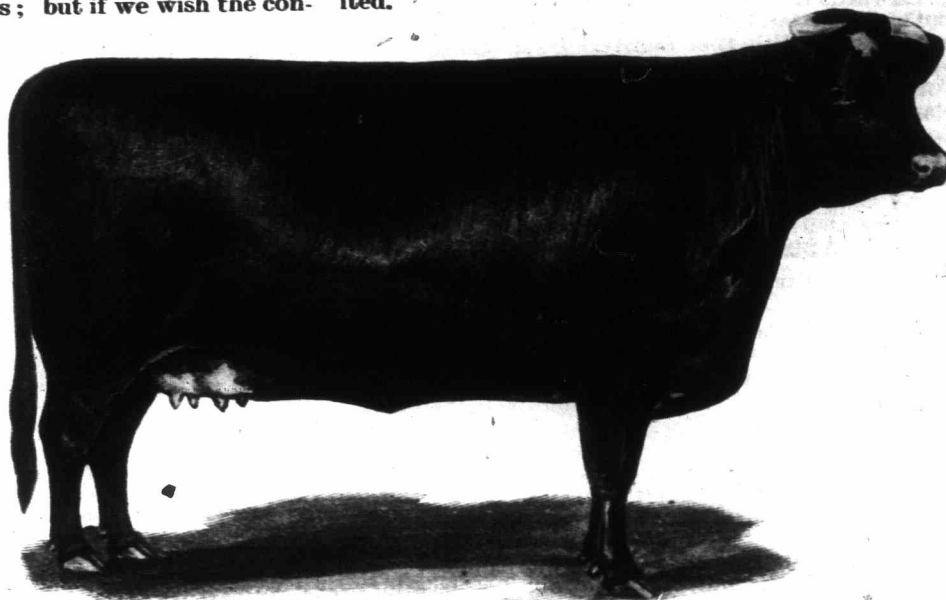
We give herewith a brief sketch of the breeding and show record of the twelve notable Shorthorns whose portraits appear in the fine premium picture just issued from the office of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, entitled "Canada's Ideal," which is being eagerly enquired for and ordered by a large number of our readers in all the provinces and many of the States, and which is greatly admired by all who have seen it.

**Judge** = 23419 =, the first of Manitoba's big four, is a roan bull, and was calved Sept. 26th, 1895. He was bred by J. & W. B. Watt, Salem, Ont., and is owned by Hon. Thomas Greenway, Crystal City, Man. Sire imp. Royal Sailor = 18950 =, dam Mildred 4th = 22941 =, tracing to imp. Minnie, alias Mildred = 5175 =, of Mr. S. Campbell's (Kinellar) Mina tribe. Judge won 2nd prize as under a year at Toronto Exhibition (1896), 1st at Toronto as yearling in 1897, 1st and sweepstakes at Winnipeg (1898) Industrial, and was at the head of the 1st-prize herd at that show. His sire, Royal Sailor, was bred by W. S. Marr, Upper Mill, Aberdeenshire, and got by Sea King (61769), dam Red Lady 18th, by William of Orange. The dam of Judge was got by imp. Hospodar = 2703 =, and her granddam by Challenge = 2033 =, a son of Barmpton Hero = 324 =.

**Topsman** = 17847 =. Red. Calved December, 1891. Bred by J. & W. Russell, Richmond Hill, Ont. Owned by and used for four years in the herd of J. G. Barron, Carberry, Man. Sire Stanley = 7949 =, dam Nonpareil Victoria = 17138 =, by imp. Vice Consul (60112), g. d. imp. Nonpareil of Kinellar = 8314 =, bred by S. Campbell, Kinellar. Topsman won 1st prize in 1896, 1st and sweepstakes in 1897, 1st and sweepstakes in 1899, at Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, in the hands of Mr. Barron; also 1st prize and sweepstakes at Toronto, London and Ottawa in 1899 as the property of Capt. T. E. Robson, M. P. P., Ilderton, his present owner. Stanley, the sire of Topsman, was got by Challenge = 2033 =, and out of imp. Wimple 15th, bred by S. Campbell, Kinellar. Topsman is the sire of Moneyfuffel Lad = 20521 =, sweepstakes bull at Toronto in 1895 and 1896. He is also sire of 1st-prize Manitoba-bred herd at Winnipeg Exhibition, 1899.

**Matchless 18th** = 29130 =. Red. Calved Oct 19th, 1895. Bred by J. & W. B. Watt, Salem, Ont. Sire imp. Royal Sailor = 18950 =, bred by W. S. Marr, Upper Mill, Aberdeen; dam Matchless of Elmhurst 9th = 17260 =, by Perfection = 9100 =, by Barmpton Hero = 324 =, and out of imp. Lovely 19th = 306 =, bred by Amos Cruickshank, Sittytton. Matchless 18th won 2nd prize as a 2-year-old at Toronto Exhibition in 1896, and 1st as a 3-year-old and sweepstakes as best female any age at Toronto, 1899.

**Royal Member** = 17107 = (64741). Roan. Calved April 16th, 1892. Bred by the representatives of the late S. Campbell, Kinellar; imported in 1892 by Arthur Johnston, Greenwood. Owned by H. Cargill & Son, Cargill, Ont. Sire Royal James (54972), dam Nonpareil 32nd, by Borough Member (33186). Royal James was sired by Cumberland (46144), used exclusively in the Sittytton herd of Mr. Cruickshank. Borough Member was a pure Booth bull, probably one of the highest-priced bulls in his day. He was by Lord Blythesome, and out of Lady Faithful, by Baron Killerby. Royal Member has not been exhibited.



**MATCHLESS 18TH** = 29130 =.  
Champion female Shorthorn at Toronto Industrial Exhibition, 1899.  
BRED AND OWNED BY W. B. WATT, SALEM, ONTARIO.

**Knuckle Duster** = 28808 = (72793). Roan. Calved March 13th, 1897. Bred by J. Bruce, Inverquhomery, Aberdeenshire. Imported in 1896 by H. Cargill & Son. Owned by H. Smith, Hay, and A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge, Ont. Sire Waverly (69072) (sire of Smithfield winning steer in 1896), dam Augusta 42nd, of the Inverquhomery family of that name, by Cap-apie (58591). Knuckle Duster won 1st prize at the Western Fair, at London, 1899, over the 1st-prize bull in the same section at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition in the same year.

**Rosabella** = 19753 =. Red. Calved Jan 17th, 1891. Bred by Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, Ont. Born in Manitoba, the property of and now owned by



**IMPORTED SHORTHORN BULL, ROYAL MEMBER** = 17107 =.  
OWNED BY H. CARGILL & SON, CARGILL, ONTARIO.

price and have his money to bring home with him, he would feel encouraged, and perhaps go to Mr. Isaac's for another bull to propagate more of like kind; and his neighbors, seeing how well he had done, would wish to do likewise. Thus the good work would go on and on, and in a few years there would be an immense increase in the number of breeders of pure-bred stock of one kind or another.

I look upon the Hon. Mr. Fisher's proposition as the most progressive that has ever been offered to the farmers of this country. How farmers can grumble at the small sum of two thousand dollars being set aside for their special benefit I cannot understand. If a few promoters and politicians wait on a government to get a grant to improve a harbor, build a dock or post office, no one speaks a word in opposition, except politicians; but if any part or section of the farming community want even a very few dollars, comparatively, the farmers themselves throughout the country are the first ones to hold up their hands in holy horror against it. The Government of the Northwest Territories are doing a noble work for the people of their part of the country. If such sales as are proposed were established, the people of the Northwest Territories, and also the Americans, could and would attend, as they could get the animals they want without travelling over the country for weeks, at great expense of time and money, often to be completely disappointed in the animals they see and have offered to them. By all means have these sales established, get all the money we can from the Government to help us, and ask for more, and then we shall not have too much. Under the management of Mr. F. W. Hodson, success from the very commencement is assured.

WM. LINTON.  
York Co., Ont., March 5th.

[EDITORIAL NOTE.—We notice that in the arrangements for the Central Shorthorn Breeders' Association sale at Kansas City the expense has been fixed at \$20.00 per head, and the sale is managed and expenses provided by the breeders themselves and not by the government. Added to that sum, we presume, will be the cost of shipping animals to the place of sale. The author of the above document appears to have a rather fanciful way of putting his ideas of the cost of selling animals in ordinary procedure. With the business in politics, what the outlay for government combination sales might be it would hardly be safe to forecast, but as the government is to foot the bill, in the words of "The Mikado," "it really doesn't matter."]

### The Show at Mafeking.

The development of the show system is remarkable among the English-speaking people all over the world, but we have rarely noticed a more striking evidence than the note in a recent message from our beleaguered South African town of Mafeking, which has been invested by the Boers for four months. A recent telegram from the little town in which Colonel Baden-Powell and his brave comrades have made such a gallant stand against the enemies of the country, remarked, among other items of interest: "We have just held our Agricultural Show, and it proved very successful." The holding of an agricultural show amidst the constant fall of shells from an investing army must be a unique experience.—London Live Stock Journal.