

Agricultural Intelligence.

Sale of Thorough-bred Stock.

An auction sale of Short horns, Cotswold sheep and Berkshire swine, belonging to Mr. John Miller, took place according to advertisement, on the 16th of November, at 'Thisle Ha', Pickering. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the sale was quite successful. The first lots offered were the Cotswold sheep. Eleven imported ewes were sold, of which one pair brought \$220, another pair \$200, and the rest ranged from \$170 down to \$91 per pair. Fourteen ewes, bred on the farm, brought from \$40 to \$80 the pair. Only two of the rams were put up, the season being late. These fetched \$100 each. Five Berkshire boars brought from \$15 to \$41 each.

Of the Short-horns there were eight cows, eight heifers, and eight bull calves. The total sum realised for the twenty-four cattle was \$3634, giving an average of \$151 per head. The highest price obtained was for the cow Maggie 2nd, that with a heifer calf by her side brought \$310. \$291 was given for another cow, Camellia, and several fetched over \$200. Mr. Morgan, of New York State, gave the highest price, \$200, for a heifer. The bull calves also brought good prices, making an average of \$120 per head for the lot. The highest price for any one calf was \$180.

Trial of Double-Furrow Ploughs.

A public trial of two of these ploughs took place at Milliken's Corners, Markham township, on Monday, November 14th. The day being wet and stormy, but a small attendance of farmers was on the ground, the number of spectators not exceeding fifty. Of the ploughs brought out one was made by John Gray & Co., Uddington, Scotland, and imported by Wm. Rennie, of Eglinton, York township. The other was made by R. Mitchell & Son, Peterhead, Scotland, and imported by C. Brodie, Gormley, Markham township. The ploughs set to work about 2 p.m., in a field of good strong timothy sod, the soil a rich loam interspersed with small stone. One pair of horses drew each plough. The work done by both was not only entirely satisfactory, but greatly exceeded our expectations; and was superior even to what can be accomplished by the best ploughman. The work done by the Gray plough seemed the best, the furrows being more smoothly and evenly laid, and set up at a better angle than those of the Mitchell plough. Each furrow cut was 12 inches wide by six deep. For want of a dynamometer we could not ascertain the amount of draft of the respective ploughs, nor how it would bear comparison with that of the ordinary single-furrow plough; but the general impression seemed to be that with three horses such as are ordina-

rily used, and as a faster gait attained, it would be easy work to plough four acres of land in an ordinary day's time. The teams used were heavy Clydesdales, and accomplished their work with apparent ease, yet their gait we thought to be too slow, as compared with ordinary ploughing. The machines themselves are somewhat complicated, requiring no handles for guidance, the work being controlled by three wheels on which the machine runs, which go a great way towards lightening the draft. From what we saw at the trial we are satisfied that the double-furrow plough will prove perfectly practicable, and not only a saving of time and labour, but also doing away with the necessity of employing experienced ploughmen at high wages; as the machine can be easily controlled and guided by any man or boy of ordinary intelligence after a few lessons on its management. The cost, too, is not great, being about double that of the best iron plough now in use. It could be probably still further modified and cheapened by our own agricultural implement manufacturers.

It is Mr. Rennie's intention, we believe, to import several more of them during the winter, and have them tested with the dynamometer next year.

Shorthorn Sales in Britain

A number of recent sales of Shorthorns are reported in our English exchanges; among them the following are worthy of notice:—

A sale was held early in October of a selection from the herd of the Messrs. Garne, of Broadmoor and Churchill Heath, when no very high figures were given, but prices were pretty uniform, and the good average of £36 4s. 4d., on fifty-seven animals, was realized, the fifty-four cows and heifers making £36 2s. 11d. each.

A herd of 74, belonging to Mr. Butler, of Radminton, sold the next day, including some higher figures, but making much the same averages, namely, £38 7s. 4d. on the whole, and £39 11s. 7d. on 62 cows and heifers by themselves. Bids were made in several cases for Mr. Cochrane.

At the sale of Mr. Hewer, Sevenhampton, prices were low, averaging £26 on cows, about £23 on heifers, and less than £12 on calves. A fine lot of Berkshire pigs were sold at good prices, Mr. Beattie, of Canada, being one of the most liberal purchasers, and paying from 9 to 17 guineas each for a number of young sows. One young boar brought 21 guineas. The forty pigs realized £459 18s., or an average of £11 10s., said to be probably the highest price that has ever yet been realized for a similar lot of Berkshires.

A draft from the herd of Sir G. R. Phillips, Weston Park, was sold on October 18, consisting of 39 females and 9 bulls. The averages were very good, being £46 15s. 6d.

on the former, and £28 on the latter, or £43 5s. on the whole 48. The highest prices paid were—£215 5s. for Polycherry, red, calved Sept. 27, 1868, by 3rd Duke of Geneva; £210 for Lactea Oxoniensis, roan, calved Jan. 27, 1867, by Imperial Oxford, £183 15s. for Lactine, roan, calved March 14, 1869, by 3rd Duke of Geneva, and £115 10s. for Polygeneva, calved March 29, 1869, by the same bull. As regards the several families of cows embraced in the sale, the following averages are given:—

		£. s. d.	Average. £. s. d.
13	Tawley & Charmets	169 18 0	83 16 9
12	Welcomes.	365 8 0	33 4 4
6	Gwyneths.	374 0 0	29 1 0
28	Shutter Pedigree.	446 15 6	21 6 5

At a recent sale of Mr. Marr's short-horns, Uppermill, reported in our English exchanges, the average price of twenty bulls sold was £25 14s.; the average price of heifers was over £26 10s.; and the total proceeds £1059 10s. Some of the lots were destined for Canada.

Cattle Plague.

For upwards of fifty years the continent of Europe has been a stranger to the widespread diffusion of cattle plague which now exists. The disease has extended far and wide from many of the places then named as centres of the infection. This was to be expected, seeing that the pressing necessities of war prevented the full adoption of those sanitary measures on which Central Europe mainly relies for arresting the cattle plague. Passing onwards with the German army, the plague soon came into the valley of the Marne and the Seine, and according to some reports has absolutely made its appearance in Paris itself. How it passed the Prussian lines which beleaguere the unfortunate city may not perhaps be known, although we can easily conceive of many ways by which the infection might easily be transmitted inside the fortifications. The provinces of Alsace and Lorraine—especially in the district around Metz—are sustaining severe losses; indeed it has been recently stated that the cattle were there dying too fast to admit of their proper burial. Around Metz also the plague has broken out among the sheep. To save as much food as possible the Germans are slaughtering the apparently uninfected animals, and salting down their carcasses. In the Palatinate the plague is reported to exist in sixty communes, and already about 1,200 beasts have been killed to arrest its progress in the neighbourhood of Kaiserslautern and Landau. Fairs and markets are suppressed in Luxembourg, and also the herding together of cattle in large numbers belonging to different owners. In Rhenish Prussia the disease has broken out in the neighbourhood of Treves and Cologne, and also in some districts near Coblenz. In Prussia proper it has re-appeared in many places in which it