

"gummy" leg is very rarely seen, and although within the last couple of months there have been instances of mares which are still in the prime of their usefulness being considerably worn in their legs, yet it is not due to this old-fashioned characteristic of the Shire, compatible with the time when curly hair, small feet, short joints and straight hocks were not regarded with dismay by breeders. In the mare classes one frequently finds a tendency towards masculine character in the outlook, this being associated generally with very big and strong mares. In a sense, it is not an invaluable characteristic, because in the other sex one so rarely meets with stallions which are stallions in appearance. The horses fit to win in the show-yards, and yet preserving a strong masculine crest and a bold outlook, might almost to-day be numbered on the fingers of the hands. This is one of the penalties that breeders will pay for line breeding and the introduction of greater quality. Certain it is that a horse is penalized for his action more to-day than he probably ever was before. This, as a rule, is a strong point with most judges. The horse that cannot walk well or trot well should have little consideration, because that is one of the prime essentials in all equines. With the advance of the motor car, and the competition which it will undoubtedly engender, it is all the more necessary that the locomotion of the animal with which it competes should be carefully attended to, and too strict a penalty can scarcely be exacted for apparent deficiencies in this respect.

Altogether there is a show-yard type of Shire, a type which is more in keeping with modern times and the requirements of these times than old-fashioned breeders who cling to the past are willing to admit. It is necessary at times that even a strong, and, perhaps, a rough stallion should be utilized, but in the main for the show-yard the horse that is most correct in his joints, good in his feet, flat in his limbs, full of substance, with a fine towering form, up to inches, and bold in his outlook, should be the type of horse that the public ring encourages. Certain it is that horses of substance without quality have never had a smaller chance of winning than they have to-day. Some judges have greater predilections for weight, even if a little quality is sacrificed, than others, but in the main they strongly hold that quality is part and parcel of the modern draft horse.—[Farmer and Stock-breeder (British).]

Saddle Horses on the Farm.

One of the luxuries of city people is a horse for driving or riding purposes. As a general rule, young people in the country take considerable pleasure from driving, but the practice of riding is very rarely followed. This is not as it should be. The place the riding horse may occupy in making country life attractive and enjoyable, is not fully appreciated. Light horses are a very great convenience on every farm, while on some they are absolutely essential. They are the favorite pets of the young people, and their influence for good upon the children might be further enhanced if riding were to become more general. Parents might well indulge their children by providing them with one or more saddle horses and accoutrements that they may be led to take pleasure in outdoor recreations that do not exhaust them for usefulness in other vocations. The practice is one fair boards might encourage by providing classes for saddle horses, whether or not there were sufficient funds to give prizes.

Judging Competitions at the International.

It is officially announced that the Spoor trophy that has been offered in recent years as a prize for students' judging at the International Live-stock Exposition, is to remain permanently as the property of the Iowa Agricultural College, the judging team from the college having won the trophy three years in succession.

President John A. Spoor, who is now in Europe, has placed an order abroad for two new trophies, of the value of \$500 each, to be offered for the first time at this year's show for students' judging at the Exposition; one for the best work on horses, and one for the best all-round work upon cattle, sheep and swine.

The commission house of Alexander, Ward & Conover, will offer \$500 cash at the show of 1904 for students' judging on practically the same terms as the Clay and Sanders specials have been competed for at previous Expositions.

The Cook trophy, offered by A. E. Cook, proprietor of the Brookmont Farms, for work in corn-judging at the Iowa College of Agriculture, has been transferred from that college to the International.

Interesting and Practical.

I am very much satisfied with the information I find in your paper, as I always find very interesting and practical agricultural subjects discussed in it.

WM. TENUZAS.

Ames, Iowa.

STOCK.

Our Scottish Letter.

THE ROYAL SHOW.

This letter is written from the Metropolis of the Empire. The room is in the Kenilworth Hotel, Great Russell St., W. C., and respectable citizens cannot be better served than in this same place. The subject is the Royal Show at Park Royal, the new site of the Royal Agricultural Society, and so far a somewhat unfortunate site for this important institution. The Briton is a conservative individual at least, and of all Britons the Londoner is most conservative. He does not know anything about Park Royal; it is a new name for the old site of Twyford Abbey, and therein lies one of the errors in the management of this Royal Agricultural Society. Knowing nothing about Park Royal, but something about Willesden, the Londoner would have been more easily impressed had he been told to go to Willesden to find the great show; for in spite of all drawbacks and difficulties, it is a great show, and we have nothing else in the least like it on this side the water. Unfortunately, the society was for many years managed with very little foresight, with the result that its shows outgrew the possible accommodation at its disposal anywhere near to a great center of population. For more than 50 years its shows were held in different parts of England, and it was a very educative experience indeed to visit these centers in circuit, and see the different modes of farming pursued in each. Unhappily, the lessons of the overgrown show-yard were learned too late, and the question of holding the show on a permanent site had to be faced. It was faced in a fashion which would not have been tolerated for one hour in Canada. The opinion of the members was never once asked, and, naturally, they felt themselves under no obligation to help a society which treated them in such a cavalier way. Worst of all, the King, when Prince of Wales, was asked, as chairman of the great show-yard meeting at York in

1897, a three-year-old, very sweet and level in his flesh, with fine bones, but perhaps a little feminine-like in the formation of head. He was a clear winner, and although better bulls have been seen, none better has been seen this year. His breeding appears to be a combination of Cruickshank and Bates. The reserve champion bull was Lord Calthorpe's first-prize yearling, Elvetham Conqueror. He is a roan "Clipper," a family in special favor among breeders of Cruickshank cattle. The first-prize two-year-old is a great, wealthily-fleshed bull, named Rolleston Serf 84539. He was bred by Sir Oswald Moseley, Bart., and is owned by an expert judge, Mr. John Handley, Milnthorpe, Westmorland. Few men excel John Handley as judges of Shorthorns, and he can bring them out very fit. The male classes were rather strongly mixed, and the extent of the foreign demand was indicated by the somewhat uneven condition of the classes. After the first half a dozen in each class of bulls, the remainder were of moderate quality and unequal. The female championship again went to Mr. J. Deane Willis' first-prize cow in milk, "White Heather." She was bred by Mr. J. B. Manson, Kibblean, Oldmeldrum, and has more than once been first at the Royal. Perhaps she was lucky this time to win the championship, but she looks quite the kind of animal a general-purpose Shorthorn breeder fancies. The reserve champion was Mr. Herbert Leon's roan two-year-old heifer, Roseleaf, from Bletchley. This heifer was first in a strong class, and is a very well-bred one. Her sire was the Collynie-bred bull, Silver Mint 79968, got by the fine breeding bull, Silver Plate, bred by the late Mr. Bruce, Inverquhomery, and a noted breeder in different herds. His Majesty was first, with the three-year-old heifer, Sylph, a great, wealthily-fleshed red, with a few white markings. She was got by the great champion bull, Royal Duke, from a cow by Volunteer. There are few better specimens, although possibly quality is not quite the strongest point of the heifer. A favorite with everybody was the first-prize yearling heifer, Lady Amy 7th, owned by the Earl of Powis, in the West of England, and one of the best animals exhibited. Few better specimens of the breed were on exhibition.

The King's champion Hereford bull was Fire King 22135, a very fine specimen. The champion Hereford cow was Mr. John Tudge's Shotover, which we seem to have heard about before. American friends are inclined to say that they could beat us for Herefords, and I agree with them. They are great cattle, and for the Western ranges stand easily first. The champion Devon was a very bad walker. This is a breed which pays dearly for its fine gift of laying on flesh. One rarely sees a show animal of the breed which goes well on its legs.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle were championed by a female, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Effulgent of Danesfield, a great animal, whose record in the south is almost phenomenal. Mr. Hudson's place is at Danesfield, Great Marlow, and his stock are difficult to beat. This is a cow of uncommon scale and wealth. She has all the substance and length of carcass wished for in the choicest cattle. The reserve breed champion was Mr. Greenfield's Darling of Haynes 2nd, the second-prize winner in the same class as the champion. The bulls were not equal in merit to the cows. The male championship went to Mr. R. W. Hudson, for Knight of Danesfield 20738, a great specimen, which has been sold at a long price for exportation to the Argentine. The reserve, Wizard of Maisemore, is a young bull, very useful, and a winner in the south.

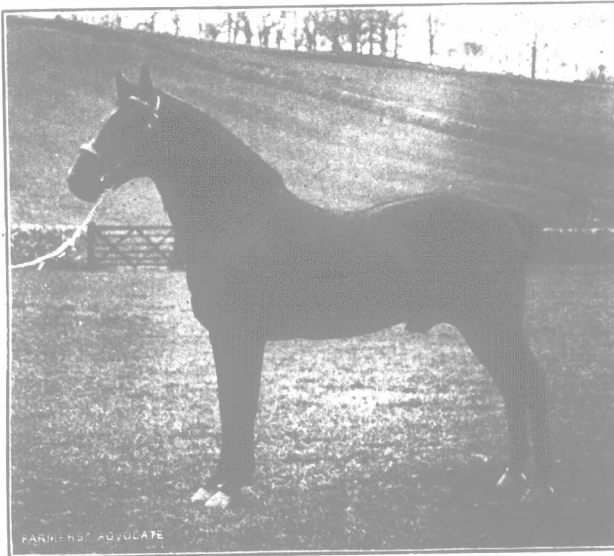
Galloways had no champions. The breed has been deeply worked into by foreign customers. Mr. Swigart, from Champaign, Ill., rather cleaned out some of the best a year ago. The first-prize older bull was Mr. Robert Graham's Defiance of Kirkconnell 8266; Messrs. Biggar & Sons, Dalbeattie, being second, with their well-known Excelsior. For yearling bulls Mr. Andrew Montgomery, of Netherhall, Castle Douglas, was first, with Count IV. of Castlemilk, bred by Sir Robert Jardine, Bart.; a new exhibitor, Mr. Harry Livesey, Rotherfield, Sussex, being second, with Honor Bright, bred by Messrs. Biggar & Sons. Sir Robert Jardine had first and third for cows, with daughters of The Pathfinder 3rd, the two being full sisters, surely a very satisfactory record. They were divided by Mr. John Cunningham's Lady Harden II., of Durhamhill, from Tarbreoch, Dalbeattie. Mr. Cunningham had first for a heifer. Other successful exhibitors were the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K. G., and Messrs. Biggar & Sons.

Highlanders call for little remark; only five of them were in the field. An American asked what he would do with them if he had them over in America. In the N.-W. T. they might be useful. Ayrshire cows were a good lot. The Knockdon herd of Mr. Alex. Cross got first honors, with Blood II. of Knockden, the H. & A. S. champion of last year; the second and third being Colonel Ferguson-Buchanan's two good cows, which have both been winning prizes this year at the Dumbartonshire, Glasgow, and other shows in the West of Scotland. Mr. Andrew Mitchell, Barcheskie, showed a couple of good big commercial dairy cattle, having the right kind of vessels and teats.

Jerseys were a very strong display, but they are a breed I don't understand.

Guernseys look more utilitarian, but one never can tell about these things.

Horses, taken all through, were a poor show. Shires were moderately good, and fairly numerous. Clydesdales were scarce, but fairly good. The male championship went to Messrs. A. & W. Montgomery, for the



Sir Horace 5402.

Hackney pony stallion. A Royal winner, and London Hackney Show champion.

1900, to express the hope that no controversial matter be introduced. It is now rumored that His Majesty has discovered why this request was made, and is not too well pleased. Whether this be so or not, it is certain that royalty, except in the person of H. R. H. the Prince Christian, has not been much in evidence at this gathering. The weather has been ideal, the exhibition of stock, implements, educational results and many other things is well worth going to see, but the public follow royalty, and they have not been much in evidence at the show. Canadian visitors rub shoulders with visitors from all parts of the Empire, the Argentine, and other foreign countries. The Hon. John Dryden is here, having in his wake Professors Day and Gamble, of Guelph. A distinguished Guelph student, Professor Kennedy, now of the Ames College, Ia., is also here. They have seen a fine exhibition, except for the regrettable absence of the public.

The stock classes are best filled. The breeds most worthily represented in cattle are Shorthorns, Herefords and Galloways. Aberdeen-Angus are fairly good, but exhibits are confined to breeders in England. Ayrshires are represented by one class of cows, and Highlanders the same. Red Polled make a very good display. Devons and Sussex are weak in numbers, and not strong in quality. Reminiscences of the past are suggested by Bakewell's great breed, the Longhorns. They might, with equal propriety, be designated the "longbodies." More lengthy cattle we have never seen, but they are short in the rib, and light in flesh. It is not worth while preserving them, except on archaeological grounds. Kerries and Dexters, as well as Welsh cattle, are in evidence, and fill a large place in local favor. The Kerry is the dairy cow of the Irish peasant, the Dexter is a short-legged, fleshy little animal, equally good for beef or milk. The bull championship for both Shorthorns and Herefords went to His Majesty's Royal herds at Windsor. The champion Shorthorn bull is a big red specimen, named Ronald