

SHEEP AND SWINE AT THE ROYAL SHOW.
SHEEP.

It can be said of the Lincoln Royal that probably never before at any previous Royal has there been a more representative entry of British sheep, no less than 23 distinct breeds finding a place in the schedule, which commenced with the Oxford Down breed, which was represented by a wonderfully level and uniform entry, Messrs. J. T. Hobbs, J. Horlick, G. Adams and H. W. Stilgoe being the leading winners.

The Shropshires made an entry creditable alike to the breeders and the breed, of remarkably uniform and typical appearance, with splendid type and character. Mr. M. Williams won in the yearling ram class with one of the finest specimens of the breed we have seen for some time. Sir R. Cooper's pen of five rams this age were particularly well matched. A notable stud ram, too, was Mr. T. S. Minton's first-prize aged ram. Sir R. Cooper was unbeatable in the classes for ram lambs, ewe lambs and shearling ewes, his entries being of specially high quality.

The Southdowns, sometimes termed the royal breed of mutton sheep, were most typically represented. The champion honors for males went to Mr. W. M. Cazalet, and that for females to Mr. J. Colman. These, together with H. M. the King, the Duke of Devonshire, and the Executors of Colonel H. McCalmont, were principal winners in very strong competition.

The Hampshire Downs, that early-maturity breed, fully proved their right to this distinctive title. Mr. James Flower was first in each class save that for yearling ewes, in which Sir W. G. Pearce took premier honors. Messrs. T. F. Buxton, H. C. Stephens and the Marquis of Winchester were also prominently successful.

A small but thoroughly typical entry represented the Suffolk breed, Mr. H. W. Smith being first for each class except the yearling ewes. Here Mr. R. Barclay was the leader. These two exhibitors, together with Messrs. S. R. Sherwood and D. A. Green, were the competitors.

The Dorset Horn breed, with a fine, representative entry, owned by, amongst others, Messrs. F. A. Hambro, W. R. Flower, James Hatrill and S. J. Merson, formed an attractive feature of the section, the above being the chief winners.

The Lincoln breed, with its unique, unequal and record exhibit, must be referred to in somewhat more detail, for never before has so large a collection of this breed been seen at any show, nor has there ever been so large a number of competitors. The two-shear ram class had for its winner Mr. F. Miller's champion ram (bred at Nocton Heath), Mr. H. Dudding taking the second prize in the class with a very good one. The latter exhibitor, in what some are pleased to term the strongest class of yearling rams seen for many a day, took first with a ram of special high merit, Mr. Tom Caswell being second. The class for pens of five yearling rams was one the like of which has never been seen before in the Royal show-yard, for there was no less than 160 sheep competing, a sight that was the most striking feature in connection with this most unique exhibit, the first honors therein going to Mr. Dudding, a great success, and one thoroughly well deserved by reason of the merits of this winning sheep; Mr. John Pears was second. In the ram lambs and ewe lambs class, Mr. Dudding again led the way with most typical sheep, Messrs. Dean & Son taking second place. In the class for yearling ewes, Mr. C. F. Howard was the winner, with a grand pen, and this exhibitor, one of the youngest breeders, had the great honor to be the owner of both first and second prize pens in the class for yearling ewes in full fleece, a class in which no less than 19 pens competed. The final class of this unique exhibition of Lincoln long-wool sheep was for the best group, and here Mr. Dudding led the way.

The Leicester sheep were typically represented with choice specimens of the breed. Messrs. G. H. Harrison and E. F. Jordan were principal winners for yearling sheep, and the Messrs. Simpson in the classes for lambs.

Messrs. W. T. Garne & Son were the principal winners in small but good classes of Cotswold sheep, and Messrs. R. Taylor, D. Hulme and J. F. Kerr led in good classes of Border Leicester sheep. Never before at the Royal have the Kent or Romney Marsh breed been so largely represented, nor has its exhibits been so good in merit, as upon the present occasion, Messrs. C. Fife, J. B. Palmer and W. Millen being the principal winners.

The Executors of T. Willis and Lord Henry Bentinck owned the winners in the very typical classes of the Wensleydale breed. Mr. F. White owned the prizewinning Devon long-wooled sheep; Messrs. H. Fairweather and J. Stooke those of the South Devon breed.

PIGS.

The entry in this section was one of the largest we have seen at the Royal Show for a long time, and it can be said, also, that the competition in the various classes was notably keen. For the first time, the Lancashire curly-coated

pigs had full classification at this show. The entry was of specially good merit—a grand one, in fact—and the champion boar, owned by Mr. J. Ward, made 52 guineas. The champion sow was owned by Mr. H. Caudwell, and these gentlemen, together with Messrs. T. Ward and H. Caudwell, were the principal winners.

A particularly good entry of Large Whites (Yorkshires) faced the judges. Mr. C. Spencer won first in boars born in 1905 or 1906 with Hollywell Czech 2nd. Mr. R. M. Knowles won the champion prize for the best animal in the class with Colston Lass 13th, born in 1904. D. R. Daybell was first and third for boars born in 1907, second going to R. R. Rothwell. Sir Gilbert Greenall was first and second for yearling sows with Walton Lady Alice 23rd and Walton Sunlight 12th. The Earl of Ellesmere was first for sows of 1907.

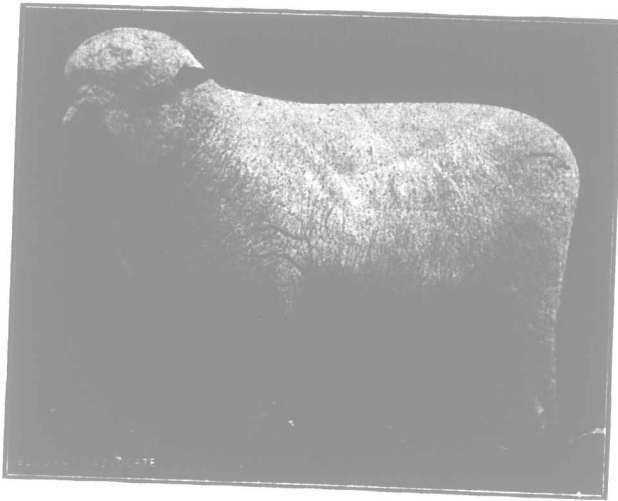
A very fine entry, and typical of its breed, represented the Tamworths, the champion prize for which went to Messrs. F. W. Gilbert & Co. Sir Peter C. Walker and R. Ibbotson were the other leading winners.

A grand lot of Berkshires made up a specially large and good entry of the breed, Mr. G. T. Inman winning first prize in the old-boar class (farrowed in 1905 or 1906), and taking with this animal, Highmoor Curio, champion honors for males. The Duchess of Devonshire, with Polegate Dorcas 2nd, took first in aged sows, and champion honors for females. Mr. Godfrey Chetwynd was first and second for boars and sows of 1907, and Lord Calthorpe first for sows of 1906. Other winners were Russel Swanwick, N. Benjafield and R. W. Hudson. W. W. C.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A SHEPHERD.

(Continued.)

My recollections in this chapter are of recent date, and relate to the rush of letters in last week's issue of "The Farmer's Advocate" in defense and eulogy of "man's best friend," the dog, which would appear to verify my former statement that the friends of the sheep are in a hopeless minority in this glorious country, "the home of the brave and the free." The dog and his friends claim the right of way, and get it, and those commonplace farm animals, the horse, the cow, the sheep, and "the gentleman that pays the rent," must keep off the road and off other people's property, and play second fiddle to his honor the dog. And although the writer of the letter so severely criticised freely admitted that there are some good dogs, deserving of respect, and said not a word against the well-bred and well-behaved Collie who stays at home and minds his own business; yet, because he confessed that, for the protection of his flock, he had quietly dispatched a few sneaking trespassers of the species, he is



Shropshire Shearling Ram.

First at Bath & West Show, 1907. Owned by M. Williams, Wolverhampton.

anathematized, Scripture references are hurled at him, and he is consigned to the everlasting howls, and is even held in derision as the hero of a tragedy in which a slinking half-breed, caught in the act of stealing the children's bread while they slept, was treated to a dose of lead and given a private burial—a tragedy in which the writer played no part, and claimed no such distinction, though he was one of the children whose bread was stolen. There is poetry for departed dogs and sympathy for their bereaved owners, but not a word of commiseration for the mangled sheep for whose protection the writer was pleading, or of patient care and expenditure, have been decimated in a night by their prowling enemies. If the shepherd had been aiming to make out the worst case against dogs, everybody knows that, for one instance where a human life has been saved, a hundred have been destroyed by their work, directly or indirectly. The difference is that in the former cases a monument is erected,

and in the others a veil is drawn. And if one were disposed to meet his Scripture-reference friend with quotations from that source, anyone who has read those books knows that the company they are there bracketed with is far from being complimentary to "man's best friend," so called. The "Shepherd" has merely sought to show up the selfishness and indifference of the men who have no sheep, but keep dogs, most of them entirely useless and many dangerous, in being unwilling to pay a tax of a dollar a year to provide for remuneration to flock-owners for losses sustained through destruction of their property by dogs. However, this is too hot a subject for discussion in the "dog days," when short sermons are in season, and I seek the shade of a weeping-willow tree to ruminate over the possible consequences of the careless reading of critics who would make me "the hero of a bulldog tragedy." It has been said some men are born great, some achieve greatness, while others have greatness thrust upon them. If I am in either class, I think I must be in the last named. But even in hot weather, a joke is not out of season, and not inappropriate just here is one that appeared in a late issue of "The Farmer's Advocate," said to have been told at his own expense by an Irishman who had trained his watch-dog to bark long and furiously at tramps, but had also taught him to carry parcels in his mouth; and who, hearing a disturbance in his house one night, struck a light and discovered his pupil carrying a lantern for burglars. "Ochone ma chree," some trained dogs, like some educated fools of the genus homo, are easily bribed by the gift of office.

"SHEPHERD."

CHEAP VENTILATION.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

You asked for my experience with the muslin-curtain ventilator. I used it on our chicken-house the winter before last, and it got rid of moisture so well that I tried it on our sheep barn this past year. We fatten winter lambs, keeping them in small pens 16 feet by 8 feet—30 lambs to a pen; so, you see, are very crowded in the barn. In cold weather the barn used to be full of steam, the air very damp, and the sheep wet. I put on 120 square feet of common 6-cent factory cotton on one side of a barn 34 ft. by 40 ft. It cleared out the moisture very well, made the building lighter and the air purer. It seemed a great deal nicer on the side of the barn near the muslin. When we sat to watch the sheep, we would sit on that side because it was pleasant, and what we like an animal likes. There is no need of anyone having impure air in his barn when one can ventilate so cheaply.

GILBERT A. PROLE.

Batavia, N. Y.

THE FARM.

THE FORCE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

"The use of a split-log drag in a community has a surprising influence on public sentiment," writes D. Ward King, in his treatise, "The Missouri Idea." "Ordinarily, a community despairs of road improvement. They know of nothing short of macadam, at from \$1,500 to \$3,000 per mile, and this to them seems an impossibility. While this frame of mind exists, the average man will look at the mudhole near the front gate and wonder why the overseer does not come to 'fix' it. But when dragging is taken up by a neighborhood, that same mudhole becomes a personal matter—the owner of the front gate feels responsibility for it and the mudhole disappears. Occasionally a dilatory or selfish man will refuse to drag; but as sentiment rises or intensifies, and his piece of road attracts attention by its contrast with adjacent roads, he finds it more and more difficult to stand out against the displeased glances and insinuating remarks of his neighbors."

Wallace's Farmer very properly joins issue with a correspondent who has advanced the theory that education must come from the university down. "In our judgment," observes our valued contemporary, "the very reverse is true. The real basis of all the education is the common school, and we shall never have our young people educated as they should be until we work a reform in our entire system of common-school education. The plastic period of human life is not when the boy goes to the college or university, but while he is in the common school. Make their courses of study more intensely practical, and give them teachers in closer touch with the life around them, and the college and university will prosper as they have never done before. We do not minimize the value of the university or of the college, but we plead for the better education of the ninety and nine, rather than the finished education of the one."