

tive prices paid for them during the last three or four years, there is no doubt, but from present indications this expansion in breeding is not keeping pace with the growing demand. Buyers from many sections best adapted to the raising of horses suited to business and heavy service, willingly go on record as declaring a shortage of horses of a good market class to be apparent to any man who will investigate the supply throughout the country. Farmers in general are breeding more horses of the right class—good rugged chunks and drafters—but the expansion of farm territory in the Northwest has drawn so many of them to that section that supplies for the regular markets have been depleted, and eastern territory has been compelled to pay high prices for the good horses of such classes as have been needed there.

A good many owners of farms and pasture lands were a few years ago inclined to abandon the breeding of horses, owing to the warning cry of a curtailment of demand incident to the general use of motor-cars for travel and truck service. This use is already general enough to have given the situation a good test, and with the result indicated above, that there is now as urgent a call for good big horses as ever before at this time of year.

This test seems to afford assurance to the breeders that there is still to be an inviting field in the breeding of good horses for years to come, or as long as so many good strong horses find employment in hauling in the disabled machines to the repair shops.

Liverymen and others tell us that many horses which are not frightened by automobiles in the town or city will shy when meeting them on a country road. Evidently the conservative-minded animal considers the machine belongs to the pandemonium of the street, and resents its intrusion into the country quiet.

LIVE STOCK.

Founding the Flock.

"The writer remembers with delight," says Jos. E. Wing, in his interesting book entitled, "Sheep Farming in America," the day when he drove to Woodland Farm his first flock of ewes. It was a fine sunny day in November. The sheep were well selected, round and plump, all young ewes. They travelled willingly along the country road through a quiet neighborhood where great oaks overarched the way, and stopping now and then to browse the green grass among the purpling wild asters.

The writer, was but a boy then, newly wedded, filled with high hopes, and dreaming brave dreams of the future. The young wife met him, and together they drove home the little flock. Happy beginning it proved to be, though many lessons remained to be learned and many discouragements to be contended with, yet the coming of the flock meant the beginning of the upbuilding of the old farm, and of the fortunes of its owners.

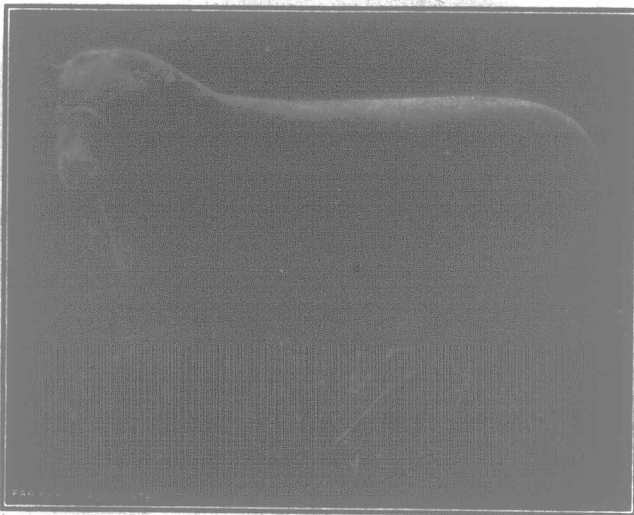
The best time of the year to stock a farm is in the early fall, before breeders have disposed their surplus and cut their flocks down to the number they reckon on wintering, when the ewes are in good condition, and while work is not crowding on the farm. Especially should the selection and purchase of a suitable sire be attended to early in the season, before the stock in the hands of breeders has been culled over and the best taken out. The ram should be typical of the best of the breed, and it is poor economy to stop for a few dollars in the price if, by going a little higher than intended, you can secure one of the type and character your judgment tells you is needed for the improvement of the flock. He should have a strong, masculine, yet not coarse head; a bright, quick eye; a brisk, energetic movement; a short, thick neck; broad shoulders; wide chest; strong, level back; well-sprung ribs; full twist; strong, short, well-placed legs; straight pasterns; a clear, pink skin; and a fine, dense, even fleece, free from coarseness on thighs, and should be well covered with wool underneath. Examine his generative organs, to see that they are to all appearance normal, and such as to indicate vigor and virility. Choose not an extra large or long ram, but one of compact make-up and of medium size for the breed selected. Size does not always go with strength and prepotency, or the ability to transmit good qualities. It is rarely that the largest ram in a lot has the most vigor or quality. A ram of such character will, if a yearling or over, care for forty or fifty ewes, if the pasture is good, or he is given a daily feed of oats and bran. A strong, well-furnished ram lamb will, with similar care, attend to 20 ewes, and, if well wintered, grow into a strong, useful sheep.

Our Scottish Letter.

THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY'S SHOW.

Writing in Peebles, the center of Tweeddale, in the neighborhood of the classic land of Scott and the Ettrick Shepherd, on the third day of a most successful agricultural exhibition, one feels rather more lively than after the depressing experiences of Glasgow in the matter of agricultural shows. Peebles is a comparatively small town, and grave doubt was entertained by many as to the wisdom of holding the Scottish National Show within its borders. The railway accommodation is not the most ample, and, although very popular as a health resort with Edinburgh people, the town has comparatively limited hotel accommodation. It must be frankly conceded now that all misgivings have proved unwarranted, and the show has proved an unqualified success. The attendance on all three days have been unprecedented for a show held in the Border district. There is still one day to go, and I expect the result will be a record for a show of the H. & A. Society held in this neighborhood. Hitherto the center for the show when the Border district was visited has been Kelso, except in 1889, when Melrose was preferred; but Peebles has done so handsomely for the Society that it has probably secured the show for itself every eighth year under the present itinerary. The drawings for the first three days of this show have been £2,261, while for the first three days at Kelso in 1898 they were £1,422, 4s. 3d. The railway companies have risen to the occasion, as it was scarcely anticipated they would, and to-day, with the gate admission only one shilling, the amount drawn at the gates has been £1,077. This means that somewhere about 21,600 people have paid for admission. This attendance has been almost wholly rural, the bucolic element being very strongly in evidence all round the yard.

As an exhibition of stock, the show has rarely



Southdown Ram.

First and champion, Bath and West of England Show, 1906. Exhibited by Exors. of Col. McCalmont.

been excelled in the history of the Society. That it has been excelled goes without saying. The best sections have been those for sheep. The district of the show is nothing, if not pastoral. Blackfaces, Cheviots, Border Leicesters and half-breeds are everywhere on the hills and slopes, and all round the atmosphere is redolent of the shepherd and his interesting calling. Clydesdales also make a brave appearance, and Shorthorns, Galloways and Highlanders are shown in large numbers, and with no deficiency in quality.

The Shorthorns are championed by Sir R. P. Cooper's beautiful white bull, Meteor 86631, which stood first last year at the Highland, and this year was second at the Royal. He is a lovely, level specimen, with straight upper and under line. His birthplace was Wales, but he has good Scots blood in his veins through his sire, Moonlight 75110. Were this bull red in color, his price would be hard to estimate. No unworthy second was found in Mr. John Ross' stock bull, Ajax 80320, a six-year-old red from Meikle Tarel, and a very smooth, level, well-finished specimen. He was bred by Mr. Robert Bruce, Heatherwick, Inverurie, and claims as his sire Sittyton Archer 73059, a name which almost indicates breeding, and his dam was one of the Inverquhomery Augustas, by the great sire, Waverley 68072. Mr. A. T. Gordon's Fascinator 88569, the Aberdeen champion bull of the preceding week, was first in the two-year-old class. He was bred by Mr. James Durno, Jackston, Rothie-Norman. Mr. W. T. Malcolm, Dunmore, had second in the class with Ballachraggan Admiral 87842, a nice roan, got by the Collingbred sire, Challenger 74199, out of Lady Annette, by the great Chamberlain 60461. Another spirited breeder, Mr. Alexander Robertson, Haugh of Ballechin, Ballinluig, was first with the yearling bull Avondale, bred at Stonytown, and got by Pride of Avon

86878. The champion female was Mr. George Harrison's big cow Ursula Raglan, a Westmoreland-bred roan, seven years old, and a winner at the Royal. There is plenty of substance in this cow. Sir Richard P. Cooper, Bart., was first with the two-year-old heifer Dalmeny Beauty 2nd, got by Villager 80177, a nice sweet sort. The first yearling heifer was Mr. Taylor's Pitlivi Rosebud 2nd, the winner at Aberdeen in the preceding week, and a very superior specimen in every way.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle were not as numerous as they have sometimes been at the Highland; but, although rather out of their habitat in Tweeddale, it is not to be forgotten that one of the best herds of the breed that ever existed—that of, Sir Thomas Gibson-Carmichael, Bart.—found its home in this county. The championship of the breed was awarded to Mr. I. Ernest Kerr's noted heifer, Juana Erica 36285, a well-bred three-year-old, bred by the Countess Dowager of Seafield, at Cullen House, Banff. She is this season unbeaten, and in faithfulness to breed tyne, is almost without rival among females to-day. Her sire was Premier of Finlarig 17059, and her dam Ettina Erica, by Earl of Finlarig 12434. In a capital class of old bulls, Sir George Macpherson Grant, of Ballindalloch, Bart., was a good first with his stock bull Teshurun 19257, now five years old. After several years' service in the Morlick herd of Mr. George Cran, this fine bull has returned to head the herd in which he was bred. He was got by Ebbit 14306, and is a remarkably true specimen. He should breed well in the Ballindalloch herd. The second and third were also bred at Ballindalloch. They were, respectively, Prince Forest 21106, and Khartoum of Ballindalloch 20732, and stood first and second at the Royal. The first-prize two-year-old bull was Mr. Garden A. Duff's stock bull Ebbs 23069, bred at Hatton Castle home farm, Turf. He was got by Evorra 20507, out of an Erica cow. His breeder was Mr. James Kennedy, of Doonholm, Ayr, who has a very fine herd of black cattle in the very heart of the dairying district of Scotland. Ebbs was first at the Aberdeen in the previous week, and his merits were not obscured by those of the great Prince Forest, which there beat him for champion honors. Mr. D. M. Macrae's Everlasting of Ballindalloch 24435, the highest-priced bull stirk at the Perth sale in spring, was first in the yearling class.

Galloways have found a new and spirited patron in Mr. William Montgomerie Nelson, of Queenshill, Ringford, Kirkcudbright. This gentleman is anxious to help forward in every good work, and his friends and the friends of the Galloway were pleased to see him lead. He took champion honors with the great bull Campfollower 3rd of Stepford 8407, a five-year-old, by Great Scot 6489, and a great massive specimen, and was first with the beautiful cow Joan of Queenshill 17454, a superior specimen which is pretty sure to attain to further honors. A phenomenal animal in this breed this season is Mr. Fox-Brockbank's Jacamine 18939, the first-prize yearling, and got by Cairnhouse 8784, out of Knockstocks Jessie 16116, the Galloway breed champion of 1905. Sir Robert Buchanan-Jardine, Bart., Castlemilk, Locherbie, had second and third with a pair of beautiful cows.

Only at the Highland can a really grand show of Highland cattle of all ages be seen. The breed champion this year was the Meggernie Castle fold bull, Lord Clyde 2034, a great, square, brindled specimen, bred by the late Earl of Southesk, K. T., and first in his class last year as a two-year-old. He was then beaten for champion honors by the Eusay three-year-old heifer, Laochag Bhuidhe IV. 6584, which led her class as a two-year-old, and this year she leads as a cow with calf at foot, but was not preferred for champion honors to Lord Clyde, but stood reserve to that great specimen. The late Earl of Southesk also bred the first-prize two-year-old bull, Saladin 2067, which is now stock bull in the Kinnaid fold. One of the finest specimens exhibited was the first-prize three-year-old heifer, Empress Victoria 6513, a very stylish animal, with lovely head and horns, and squarely-set body, owned and bred by the Countess Dowager of Seafield, Castle Grant.

Ayrshires were but poorly represented. There were many blanks in the classes for cows in milk, and it cannot be said that the award of the championship to a small-teated, tight-vesselled, three-year-old heifer in milk did much to enhance the breed in the eyes of the onlooker. The fact that such an animal was preferred before all the bulls, and a very fine specimen of the dairy cow, named Dairymaid, owned by Mr. Wm. Murray, Borrowmoss, Wigtown, which won in the cow class, more than anything else, demonstrated the need for some radical reform in the judging of Ayrshire cattle. The champion bull was Mr. James Howie's Spicy Sam, the unbeaten two-year-old of this season. The first-prize three-year-old was Mr. Barr's Zomosal, which only at the Royal has this year been beaten, and this week, with the Royal judge on the bench, he has been reinstated in his old position, being put in