

favorite breeding area for both these varieties, and some of the best herds and studs in Scotland are to be found within easy radius of Paisley, which town is the headquarters of the great thread "combine." Edinburgh always can guarantee a splendid exhibition of horses, and in particular, Hunters and Clydesdales. This year was no exception to the rule. There has seldom been seen a finer show of Hunters, Clydesdales and driving horses than were brought together in the Scots capital this year. Stirling is the best all-round district show in Scotland. There you find an ideal showground, and a more than creditable representation of Shorthorn, Ayrshire and Aberdeen-Angus cattle, a really first-class display of Blackface mountain sheep, and a grand show of Clydesdales. Two of the very best studs in Scotland are to be found near Stirling, those of Mr. Stephen Mitchell and Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, of Harviestoun Castle. These gentlemen own most of the best mares in Scotland. They try conclusions with one another, and have ups and downs, as is inevitable in any competition.

It may interest breeders of Shorthorn cattle to know that the great Shorthorn-sale week of 1908 will open with the sale of the herd of the late Mr. David Hume, Barrellwell, Brechin, at Perth, on Saturday, 10th of October. The Collynie draft sale and sale of bull calves takes place on the following Tuesday, and thereafter we are to have the succession of north country sales on each day of the same week. In the preceding week a series of Shorthorn sales will be held in Ireland, at which excellent stock will be offered. Messrs. John Thornton & Co., 7 Princes St., Hanover Square, London W., has charge of the Irish sales, and Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser & Co. (Ltd.), Perth, have charge of the Scots sales.

"SCOTLAND YET."

#### NAMING ANIMALS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Although not a breeder of Clydesdales, nor especially affected by the proposals respecting the naming of that class of animals recently discussed in your columns, I have had considerable experience in naming for registration members of other varieties of stock, and I have, therefore, been interested in the discussion, and have been led to offer some suggestions on the general subject of nomenclature. Where one has yearly many animals to name for record, it is no easy matter to choose suitable names for all, and he is liable to find himself in the quandary of the little woman who had so many daughters and no sons that she was unable to decide on a satisfactory name for the latest arrival, when her spouse suggested the appellation "Sufficient." Some breeders display little skill or good taste in the selection of names, and many, where the rules do not exclude duplicate names, copy names selected by others, leading to confusion and perplexity, even though numbered differently.

From my experience, I must say I prefer the rule of permitting but one name for one horse or other animal of a breed, and I favor names of one word or at most two or three, for when free license is allowed there is the danger that, as in the case of some of our Holstein-Friesian friends, the attempt may be made to include one-half or more of the pedigree of the baby in its nomenclature, a load which it is surprising that they can carry and live, and which is only explainable on the theory of "vitality," claimed for the milk of their mothers.

The system of numbering consecutively the members of each family in the female line, in the order of date of birth, appears at first sight to have merit, but experience has taught that numbers are even more difficult to remember than names, and when the numbers run into the hundreds it becomes very complicated and unsatisfactory, especially when the animals change hands, as they are all liable to do sooner or later. As a ready means of distinguishing family lines or branches a good plan is to fix upon an initial letter for each family or branch of a family, and choose names for each member of the family commencing with the same letter. This system, adopted by some of the British breeders of Shorthorn cattle, has proven very satisfactory, and though it requires some ingenuity to select suitable names beginning with the same letter, it is good mental exercise, and worth all the effort it costs. A good plan is to keep a memorandum in one's pocketbook, and jot down suitable names as they occur to the mind, or are met with in one's reading, and from these make selections when required. As a rule short names are preferable, for economy of time and space and for euphony, and while it may be true that "a rose would smell as sweet if known by any other name," there is something in the sound of consistent, euphonic and applicable names which makes it well worth while to devote study and reading and research to the task of securing a desirable list from which to select. To my mind, no more charming names appear in the history of notable pure-bred stock than some of those given by the Booths, of Warlaby and Killerby, to their noted Shorthorns; such, for example, as Bracelet, Necklace, Birthday, Mantalina, Venus, Vivandiere, Nectarine, Faith, Hope, Charity, Bliss, Blythe and Bonnet in females, and Albion, Pilot, Buckingham, Achilles, Leonard, Leonidas, Crown Prince, Commander in Chief, Hopewell, Vanguard, Valasco, Windsor, etc., in bulls. Compare these with some of the modern Holstein names inflicted by breeders upon their cattle and cus-

tomers, such as Netherland Pietertje De Kol Tweede, De Kol Mechtchilde Butterfly Mercedes, Gaza Aconeth Howtje Pietertje 2nd, or Jap Paul De Kol Netherland Eudora, and decide which is the more sensible style. The difference is surely as much in favor of the former as is the turban style of ladies' hat over the vulgar Merry Widow production of the present year of grace. Simple, yet sweet-sounding names, like the simple life in eating, drinking and dressing, are preferable from almost any point of view.

BREEDER.

Hastings Co., Ont.

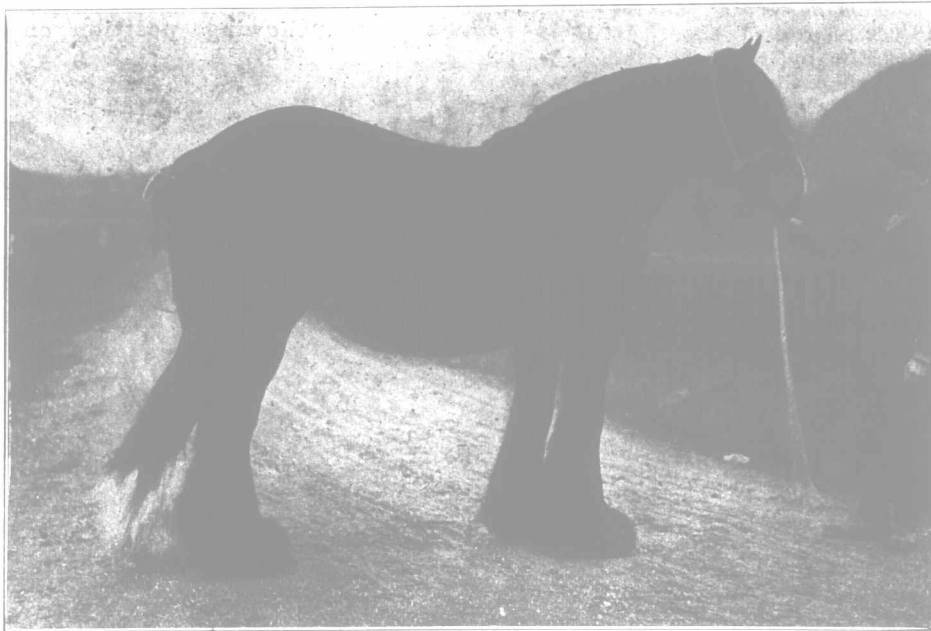
#### TRIMMING OF BULLS' FEET.

Where bulls are kept up in stables and not allowed to exercise, their feet become very long, and it makes it impossible for them to be of the service that they otherwise would. Where animals are allowed to exercise freely, their feet are kept worn down to the proper condition, so that trimming is unnecessary.

There are two or three ways of trimming bulls' feet. The first of these is for one man to hold him on the plank floor, while another, with mallet and chisel, trims the feet round in the proper shape. This is not the most advisable way, however, for it is liable to leave the feet misshapen on the bottom.

Those who are accustomed to keeping a great many bulls follow the practice of having stocks made for the purpose of swinging the bull so that his feet may be turned under him and trimmed on the bottom. These stocks are more or less expensive, and unless there is considerable use for them, it is doubtful whether they should be installed.

Perhaps the best way is to rope and throw the bull, and then trim the feet on the bottom, mak-



Pailton Sorais.

Shire mare, bay, foaled 1903. First in class and reserve champion mare, Shire Show, London, England, 1908.

ing them absolutely level and flat. Then, after the animal's feet are trimmed, it should be stood on a plank floor and its feet chiselled into shape. Where the bottom of the feet are not trimmed, or trimmed irregularly, the feet of the beast turn in such a way as to make him sore in the joints, and this causes his carriage to be very unsightly.

The best manner of throwing a bull is for one man to hold him by the ring, the second man taking an inch rope from 36 to 50 feet long and looping it around the neck just in front of the shoulders, carrying it back to the heart-girth along the side of the animal for a one-half hitch around the body at this point, then carrying it back to the flank through to another one-half hitch around the animal, just in front of the hips. Then, if the man holding the animal holds him tight, the second man by drawing on the rope (which surrounds the body in three places) can very easily throw the bull. They never fall hard, and simply because of the pressure on the rope they lie down. The rope should be held as long as the animal is on his feet, and a third man, with a sharp wood chisel, can, without any trouble, trim the feet in a proper manner.

For bulls that are confined in close quarters, this operation should be repeated at least twice a year, so that the animal's feet will keep in the best possible condition. It is too often the case that bulls are neglected in this respect, and many good bulls are undoubtedly seriously handicapped, if not ruined, because of the lack of attention given to their hoofs.—[Prof. H. G. Van Pelt, Iowa Agricultural College.

#### DUAL-PURPOSE SHORTHORNS IN NEW ENGLAND.

It is astonishing how reluctant Shorthorn fanciers have been to admit the truth about the declining milking quality of their breed, and how slow they are to adopt adequate measures to restore and increase it. With but a few exceptions, the constant policy of the breeders on this continent has been to shut their eyes to facts and endeavor to persuade others to do the same. Pursuance of this fatuous policy has already resulted in a grave detriment to the breed, and assuredly will so long as it is continued. As the familiar saying is, "You can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time." Yet here and there are to be found a few breeders harkening to the signs of the times. England has never forsaken the milking Shorthorn, and is now leading the way in its rejuvenation and development, while down in New England a few isolated breeders are working unostentatiously to the same end.

As once more demonstrating the feasibility of developing milking quality in Shorthorns, we take occasion to refer to the leading article contributed to a recent issue of the Chicago Breeders' Gazette, by a correspondent signing himself "D. C. W."

Chancing upon a locality in Caledonia County, Vermont, where some Bates-bred milking Shorthorns were kept, he had the good fortune to meet and inspect the herd of a wide-awake young farmer. These cattle were described as genuine dual-purpose Shorthorns, in type approximating the best old standard. For ten generations they had been bred chiefly for milk, "but," to quote the young breeder, "the use of a pure Scotch bull some years back almost paralyzed their milk-making ability. We are now trying to re-establish the old type, which our father and a few other farmers in this section had firmly fixed before the Scotch craze began. The daughters of that bull did not begin to compare with their mothers as milkers. Perhaps we happened to get a Scotch bull that was highly bred along beef lines. Whatever his blood lines, he just about knocked all the milk out of our herd. My father used to have a number of cows that gave 8,000 to 10,000 pounds of milk in a year. They were pure-bred Shorthorns, regular breeders, each raising a good calf every year, and they were profitably useful until far advanced in age. One of these old cows, now 15 years old, still outmilked many of the younger cows. When fat, the old-fashioned milking Shorthorns would weigh 1,600 to 1,750 pounds. They carried big udders, with large, workable teats."

The young man had the milk records of his individual cows down in black and white, and going over the figures the average was seen to be about 8,000 pounds of milk per cow per year, all making a fair profit. The heifer calves are

raised on skim milk, and although their growth is rather slow, they "reach standard mature stature as milking Shorthorns go."

The correspondent learned that there were some 500 head of these cattle in different sections of the New England States, and that the herds were being gradually enlarged, their owners co-operating with a view to improving their cattle and securing better prices for surplus stock. Ohio has been drawn upon several times for herd bulls representing families noted for deep milkers. Breeders are taking pains to select what by type and performance seems the most promising dual-purpose sire with which to intensify the milking trait in their herds. In fact, the writer feared that in time they would attain milk to the sacrifice of beefing qualities. Milking Shorthorns in New England are making for their owners a net profit of from \$30 to \$60 each per year, and are declared to be rapidly growing in popularity. Several new herds have been recently started, the foundation material having been secured from the sporadic colonies, which have been quietly built up during the past ten years. As existing today, these cattle are described as somewhat on the small order, and not quite so smooth or symmetrical as the cattle of this breed in the corn belt. This, however, could be largely remedied by a little more attention to beef type in selecting and breeding. Even now the visitor asserted that, properly fitted, many of them would make a creditable exhibit in Western showyards. The fact that the New Englanders have neglected beef merely indicates that under their conditions a unit of dairy quality counts for more than a unit of beefing tendency. However, the rank and file of Shorthorn breeders in America will do well to leave the breeding of special-purpose dairy cows to the recog-