

these horses from the few notes given, but they will at least know something of the blood which still is telling, even when heavy, big horses for the lorries are being aimed at.

I had purposed saying something in this note about the good trade experienced in sheep this fall, but perhaps enough has been written on that subject in former letters. We are now looking forward to the great fat stock shows. The first is over. It took place at Norwich, and the Queen's Hereford ox was placed champion.

SCOTLAND YET.

#### A Reminiscence.

Accept my thanks for the interest taken in my friend, Amos Cruickshank. I read late copies of the *ADVOCATE* with great interest, for there is no man I respect more. What you have said was not too much and just enough. Worthy and straightforward, I respect no man more. I have had a great many transactions with him, and after receiving the last importation, I wrote asking him if everything was satisfactory, as it was likely to be our last deal. He replied as follows: "I am quite satisfied with the statement, and, taking a retrospective view of our transactions for so many years—and they have been very extensive—it seems marvellous that things have gone on so smoothly; not a jar on either side. It is cause for thankfulness, and I don't want our correspondence to drop."

The first cattle I imported was in 1871: five heifers, all in calf. Was disappointed in getting one. After their passage was made, a cousin of mine bought Matchless 16th from Mr. Cruickshank. He let me have her. She was a shabby little beast, and some of the others cost three times as much, but it

#### Feeding Young Stock.

It is a mistake to run the heifer and steer calves together, giving them the same feed and treatment. One class should be cared for with one object in view, while the other will have an entirely different function to perform. Steer calves should be fed so as to obtain the greatest amount of growth and flesh at the earliest possible age, without sacrificing vigor. The heifer should be fed so as to give her a good sturdy growth without fattening. It is a confirmed fact that over-fattening in a calf materially lessens milk secretion, by closing to some extent the lacteal ducts. Therefore the folly of such a course is evident, as fat cannot be produced without rich food, and when it is produced the result is injurious to the animal as a money-maker. Now, as to the difference in feeding heifer and steer calves. The latter should make very satisfactory growth on ensilage or roots, hay and grain, all they can eat up cleanly. The grain: peas, barley and oats, equal quantities, ground finely and fed with ensilage or pulped roots, will produce rapid growth with a good deal of flesh. The heifers' grain food, which should not be more than half the quantity fed the steers, should be largely oats, although a little oil-cake or ground wheat may be added with good effect. The object should be to get all the growth possible, with plenty of muscle, and as little fat as can be produced.

Is the tendency of the day to have heifers come into milk from eighteen to twenty-four months old, but a serious blunder may be made just here, by breeding a small, delicate heifer too young, and thus start a line of stock susceptible to disease. There is, perhaps, a more common mistake made by too conservative breeders allowing their heifers to run idle till they are thirty months to

#### System of Management in Breeding Stud of Draught Horses in Scotland.

[Compiled from a paper prepared by Archibald MacNeillage, Secretary of the Clydesdale Horse Society.]

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The second class of mares—those kept both for work and breeding—is, it may well be supposed, in Scotland much more numerous than the last under notice, and considerable diversity prevails in the treatment of these mares. On one point there is, however, absolute unanimity amongst breeders, viz., that mares in foal should be carefully worked in cart-yoke, at all times; should not be "backed," and for two or three months before foaling should only be worked in plough, and more and more leisurely and carefully as the foaling time draws near. At the same time there is equally general agreement amongst breeders that mares thus carefully handled have usually the easiest foaling time, and the strongest, most thriving and healthy foals. All this is perfectly intelligible, and in accordance with nature. The natural state of the draught horse is one of labor; and while the class of mares first considered cannot be said to lead an unnatural existence, there can be little doubt that the third class—mares for exhibition—undoubtedly do so.

In the Linkwood stud, the ordinary rations for work-mares in foal are 168 pounds bruised oats to the pair per week, with a small allowance of Swedish turnips, and hay *ad libitum*. A small proportion of Epsom salts, about 2 oz. each, is given occasionally on a Saturday night, and in Aberdeenshire it is customary, about a month before foaling, to give more laxative food, such as bran and linseed, than at an earlier date. The Earl of Strathmore has a stud of



THREE TYPICAL SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

was not long until she could compare favorably with any of them. The first calf she had was by Imported Statesman (32007), a bull I bought of the late Mr. George Isaac. I sold her to a gentleman in Iowa for \$500.00 in gold when fifteen months old, and she would have been a good investment at four times the money. Her descendants have been prize winners in Canada and the United States. I merely mention this, as some think the man that pays the most money gets the best beast, which is not always the case. Mr. Cruickshank's cattle were all bred as represented, which no doubt was the cause of his success, coupled with his good judgment in selecting the right sort of animals, which I think few will be disposed to dispute at this time. My transactions with Mr. Cruickshank extended from 1871 to 1886, when the pleuro-pneumonia broke out at the quarantine, Quebec, and were then terminated, as I did not feel inclined to take any risk. It was always a pleasure to do business with Mr. Cruickshank. When he concluded to dispose of his herd, he made me the first offer of them, and I had no difficulty in getting a company up to buy what portion of the herd was suitable to come to Canada and the United States. Perhaps 120 cattle would have come had the arrangement been carried out. There were ten of us in it, and when the time came, some changed their minds, so I cabled Mr. Cruickshank to that effect, which was better for him, as he sold them more advantageously afterwards.

In the *ADVOCATE* of Nov. 15th you gave a true sketch of him, and of the Duke of York shaking hands with him. I can safely say he never shook hands with a better man than Mr. Cruickshank.

Yours truly,  
JAS. I. DAVIDSON, Balsam, Ont.

three years old, when the milking function will be very much weakened. This latter mistake is often made by men who have been previously engaged in beef raising, and have changed to dairying.

#### J. A. S. Macmillan's Shropshire Sheep.

The extra illustration appearing in this issue represents three individual members of one of the leading flocks of Shropshire sheep in England, from which Mr. Macmillan, Brandon, Man., made a draught of ewes for his first importation, when founding his well-known flock of this popular breed.

Of Mr. J. A. S. Macmillan's flock, 200 ewes and three rams were imported in September, 1882. These rams were purchased from Mrs. Barres, of Odstone Hall, Warwickshire, England, and the ewes from such well-known breeders as Mansell, Harrington Hall, Shropshire, W. F. Ing, Thorpe-hall, Tamworth, etc., etc. No trouble or expense was spared in their selection, and that the flock has not deteriorated since their change of home, Mr. Macmillan's success at the Provincial Summer Fair amply demonstrates.

Last spring, a new importation was made of three rams from Mrs. Barres' flock, one two-shear ram and two shearlings, for use in his own flock. At Winnipeg the two shearlings took first and second in their class, and the two-shear easily first over all competitors. One of the rams in the first mentioned importation was beaten by this noble animal only.

fourteen breeding mares, all of which are wrought at ordinary farm labor, and treated, up to the time of foaling, as already indicated. After foaling, and while nursing, they are hand-fed at first with mash and soft food, and later on, as harvest approaches, with oats. I do not think it is general to hand-feed mares while nursing, but the course followed in Mr. Morton Campbell's stud, of giving such mares a feed of oats night and morning, if in low condition, is probably not exceptional. Mr. Bisset, the able farm manager at Balbirnie, is strongly in favor of a bite of good grass as the most favorable food for mares, immediately before and after foaling. Mares that foal early and have little nourishment for their offspring, are generally fed on sloppy food, consisting of boiled barley, oats, turnips and cut hay, mixed with some meal. Bran is considered specially valuable for this purpose, and can never be dispensed with. The quantity recommended by Mr. Lumsden is as follows: One lb. oats, 1 lb. barley, 1 lb. bran, 1 lb. bruised oats and 1 lb. cut hay and straw, with a few turnips and a little salt and treacle, three times a day.

There are, however, mares whose milk is alike plentiful and strong, causing diarrhoea in the young foal. This is an evil to be guarded against, and it is found useful in such a case to put the mare on dry food and straw fodder, and if at grass, she is put on the oldest, where it is least succulent, and sometimes it might be advisable to drain off some of the milk by hand. These cases are, however, comparatively rare, and exceptional treatment of this kind is therefore not much called for.

These particulars give a good general description of the treatment of mares in this class all round; but there are some phases of the question which