

Square, New York, which is the domicile of all the big shows held in that city. The ring in the Toronto armories is 70 x 222 ft., or just 6 ft. narrower and 24 ft. longer than the New York ring. This year the seating accommodation has been considerably extended, and there will be more private boxes than last year, as well as more ordinary seats. In all, about 3,000 persons can be comfortably seated, while the space for the promenade on the north side has been greatly widened, so as to make room for the many who prefer to be near the ring to get a better view of the horses.

Our view is taken from the southwest corner of the building.

Notes from Great Britain.

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

The winter, up to the end of February, has been, taken as a whole, one of exceptional mildness. Feed is plentiful, and the prices of store cattle and sheep are far above that which they ought to be, having regard to the price of beef and mutton. These commodities are very cheap, particularly the coarser and heavier qualities, principally owing to the very large importations from all countries of immense quantities of meat, which seriously affect the value of any that is first-class. Our home feeders grumble loudly, and say that it ought to be stopped, but the majority of consumers, as well as all thinking men, agree that it is a good thing; hence there is not the slightest possibility of any protective or other hindrance being put upon a trade that is of so great a value to the consumers of these commodities. One important feature in connection with the dullness of the meat trade is that for small joints and first-class quality the price is high and the demand firm, thus once more again proving that it is not the producers of first-class meat that suffer, but those that produce the second-rate and coarser qualities. Hence it is of the utmost importance for your feeders and shippers to remember that if they want high prices they must send to this market that which will command them, *i.e.*, meat from bullocks weighing about 1,100 lbs., and sheep weighing about 100 to 120 lbs., well fattened and carefully dressed. Such meat as this will be sure to find a good market and meet with ready sale.

With reference to the selling of imported meat here, I must once more repeat the lesson I trust my last communication made clear, *i.e.*, that arrangements must be made whereby Canadian produce is sold as *Canadian*. This is of paramount importance to every breeder and

feeder in your country; hence it is a question that ought to be kept clear ahead of all others, until it becomes an accomplished fact. The efforts of your competitors to get into a position to supply us with better qualities of both beef and mutton are enormous, and it certainly is needful to warn your breeders and feeders of the need there is to keep their herds and flocks up to the highest standard. During the past month or so I have been in receipt of numerous enquiries for pedigree stock of various kinds, but not one has come from Canada. Are your herds and flocks, taking your entire territory, in such an excellent state that they need no further improvement? Have your breeders of pedigree cattle, sheep, and pigs such a supply on hand of such quality that they need no further help from home? I think not. At any rate, although I know full well that there are many valuable herds and flocks in Canada, I know, on the other hand, taking the sheep sent here last year, that there is a very large amount of room for improvement; and, therefore, I think it will not only be found beneficial, but needful, that importation of registered sires of the various breeds should be continued.

The fact that Mr. Andrew Montgomery has imported from America to Scotland three colts and a filly, all bred by Colonel Holloway, is of the greatest importance to all concerned in the Clydesdale breed. This importation of American-bred stallions, bred on purebred lines, will surely be of vastly more use to the breed at home than the adoption of crossbreeding which some seem to advocate for the purpose of getting some point or other that the individual fancies is needful. Surely these stallions, being purebred, and bred upon the best foundation they could be, will, from the very nature of things, act on the home-bred mares at home as an entirely new line of blood, not necessarily because they are of different lines of blood, but because they and their parents have been located, for a time, at least, in an entirely different country, and under different climatic influences; and thus one will certainly watch with great interest the future, not only of these welcomed strangers, but also of their produce when at the stud.

The annual Shire horse sale at Elsenham can hardly be called a draft sale; perhaps it would be better to say a sale to reduce the stud to its proper limits, and to make room for the usual increase of numbers. Shire horse-breeders were welcomed by Sir Walter Gilbey not only to a grand sight, but also to an instructive one as well; for few, if any, breeders could put before an assemblage such a grand collection of animals as were sold absolutely without reserve here on