

STOCK.

Studs, Herds and Flocks.

GREENHOUSE SHORTHORNS.

It has been generally understood among stockmen that if any herd of Canadian Shorthorns was likely to compete for the prizes offered at the World's Fair, Chicago, Mr. W. B. Cockburn, Aberfoyle, would be in the thickest of the fray, and as several individuals of his herd had carried the highest honors in Ontario and Quebec last season, they were as likely as any Canadian competitor to bring honors to Canada. It was therefore with more than usual interest that we inspected each of last year's winners as they were led out before us. Greenhouse Chief, by Indian Chief, the sweepstakes bull at Toronto and Montreal last season, was the first to be shown us. He has added largely to his weight and is carrying more flesh than when we last saw him. He has kept his form remarkably well, and is quite as smooth in finish. However, he will show to disadvantage in age as he is now only turned three, while he will have to compete with older animals. His stable companion and twin brother, British Chief, which Mr. Cockburn purchased of Capt. Robson, Ilderton, late this spring, has done wonders in development. Last fall he was shown in London in lean condition and although he is now not anything like show fit, he impresses one with the fact that he is an extraordinary good one. Although not thick fleshed he is a bull of greater scale, and has a wonderfully smooth, level top. He also has the advantage in character; although he is not quite so well filled in some of the minor points, he is one of the handsomest bulls that we have recently seen.

Village Lily, the first prize cow in Messrs. H. & W. D. Smith's hands at Toronto and Montreal last season, has also done extremely well. She has placed several hundred pounds more flesh upon her frame, and yet has done it so evenly that she is not in the least overdone, and is wonderfully improved; taking her in scale, finish and quality, she will be a hard one to get over. As she is from the same dam as young Abbotsburn, she will have lots of admirers.

Nonpareil Prize, a daughter of Mr. Arthur Johnston's Indian Chief, was decidedly the best of Mr. Cockburn's last year's string, and has gone on improving. She is in much thicker flesh and better filled out at every point, and is as well high perfect as a Shorthorn under a white skin can appear; she is, in fact, just the type of feminine beauty in a Shorthorn.

The roan bull calf Indian Warrior, another son of Indian Chief, is a grandly-developed youngster, certainly one of the best we have seen. His grand dam is one of Lord Polwarth's Booth-topped Gwynnes.

By all appearances, several of the foregoing will make a strong fight for the family contest, which will make the Chicago show ring all the more interesting.

A number of others will be also sent from the Greenhouse herd, such as the yearling heifer Wimple Birdie, by Indian Chief; heifer calf Wimple of Needpath, and the three-year-old heifer Wimple of Halton 2nd.

During the spring Mr. Cockburn visited England and brought out three different breeds of sheep. Among them were a few Shropshires, Oxfords and Suffolks. The two former lots have been disposed of, also a few of the Suffolks, but enough of the latter remained to show us that a choice lot had been selected, and such as will do much to impress upon those who go and inspect them that, in addition to their handsome looks, they have many useful qualities to recommend them. They are very breezy-looking in appearance and perfectly uniform. Mr. Cockburn contends that he found fewer ordinary specimens among the flocks of Suffolk sheep in England than in those of any other breed. The breed is almost unknown in Ontario. Excepting a few imported by the Hon. John Dryden for the Agricultural College Farm, Guelph, we do not know of another lot. However, these sheep look as if they had come to stay. The ewes are productive, a whole flock often averaging two lambs, which early grow to a great size. They are far more handsome than Hampshires, which they most closely resemble, but their heads are much finer, while they are straight and smooth-bodied. A view of them is quite worth a trip to Greenhouse Stock Farm.

PARK HILL FARM, THE PROPERTY OF MESSRS. JAMES DRUMMOND & SONS, OF PETITE COTE, MONTREAL.

This herd has been established over twenty years. It now numbers about sixty head of Ayrshires. The herd is headed by Victor of Park Hill, No. 5001, three years old, the winner of eight first prizes at the leading exhibitions; he has never taken second place.

Among the cows especially worthy of mention are imported Viola 3rd, an excellent breeder, having produced a large number of prize winners. She is an exceedingly heavy milker. Viola 5th is a successful prize winner. Kate of Park Hill, a three-year-old, has fine form and skin, good teats and a splendid udder. Victoria, the dam of Victor, is typical Ayrshire, of high quality, and an excellent milker.

In this herd are a large number of excellent heifers, varying in ages from six months to two years; the calves of 1893 are excellent.

Mr. Drummond's stock may be seen at the fall exhibitions, where he will doubtless make a strong show.

Our Scottish Letter.

The Royal Northern Agricultural Society has just been celebrating its jubilee, and that important function has been carried through in a highly-becoming manner. There has been a two-days' show at the Granite City, marked by great enthusiasm, and a dinner has been held at which congratulatory speeches have been delivered by your future Governor-General, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Marquis of Huntly, Sir Arthur Grant, Bart., and such well-known farmers as Messrs. William Duthie, (Collynie), James Hay (Little Ythsie), John Marr (Cairnbrogie), and others. The Aberdeenshire farmers have a proverbial reputation for knowing what to do and when to do it. When all the world was following fashion, and spending its thousands on Shorthorns in which there was abundance of blood without character, the Quaker brothers, Anthony and Amos Cruickshank, were at their farm at Sittyton quietly building up a herd on blood with character, which, when the insanity had passed away, enabled the world to recover the Shorthorn, and Canada to find fresh, strong, healthy blood by which to strengthen its herds. At an early date William McCombie, recognizing that the success of the Shorthorn-Aberdeen-Angus cross was imperilling the very existence of the material which made that cross possible, devoted all his great powers to the preservation and improvement of the Polled cattle of the north, with what results all who know anything of the history of British cattle have no need at this time of day to be told. These breeds formed in a large measure the centre of attraction of the Jubilee Show, but the Clydesdale horses were no unimportant item, and attracted a great amount of attention. The north was always famed for a fine, healthy, wiry class of work horses; but, like the great bulk of commercial stock of every kind, they were to a large extent of mongrel breeding, and were not of much value for breeding purposes. When the great wave of prosperity in connection with Clydesdales for breeding purposes from abroad began to flow, the Aberdeenshire farmers clubbed together and hired the best horses contained within the four corners of the breed. The good effects of this movement were not long in appearing. There was a rush to the north for breeding animals, and many of the best horses in Canada came from the north-east of Scotland. Mr. John Marr, Cairnbrogie, was a pioneer in this movement, having as early as 1876 purchased some of the best mares at the Knockdon dispersion sale. But he was not alone. Mr. Geo. Bean, Balquhain Mains, Piteapple, Mr. James Durno, Jackstown, Rothie-Norman, Mr. David Walker, Coullie, Udny, Mr. John Allan, Aikenshill, Mr. Thomas Garland, Ardlethan, and at a later date Mr. Robert Copland, Milton Ardlethan, Eillon—amongst tenant farmers, with Mr. Lumsden, of Balmedie, pre-eminently amongst lairds, were all forward in this good work, purchasing good animals with good blood in the south and bringing them north to improve the breed. The effects of this spirited policy were very apparent in the jubilee show. The roll call of first prize winners includes, for Shorthorns, Mr. Alex. M. Gordon, of Newton, who won the group prize, as well as first for aged bulls with Mario II., first for two-year old heifers with Butterscotch, and lesser prizes with Butter-milk and Daisy; all three heifers being after Star of Morning, a bull whose stock were well forward in various classes. Mr. Arthur B. Law, Mains of Sanguhar, Forbes, was first with his handsome roan two-year-old bull Sanguhar, and Mr. John Law, Keig, had perhaps the best Shorthorn exhibited—the first cow in milk, of any age, Vain Maid. Mr. Turner, Cairnton of Boyndie, showed grand cattle in various sections, and was first with his yearling heifer Lady of the Ring, and for a pair of breeding cows, with Florence VI. and Flora. His bull, Master of the Ring, a choice animal and sire of the first heifer, was second in the aged class to Mario II. Mr. Duthie, Collynie, we may be sure, was not far away when prizes were going, and, although he showed in only one class, he was first and second. These prize winners were yearling bulls, Pride of the Morning and Pride of the North. They are very promising, and the former got the Shorthorn society's championship as the best young Shorthorn in the northern counties. Aberdeen-Angus cattle—the breed that beats the record—were a formidable display. Ballindalloch-Iliad blood was marvellously triumphant, and many of the chief prizes went to Sir George Macpherson Grant and Ballindalloch blood. He won the group prize with Prince Inca and the cows Eurya, Genista and Gentian; Her Majesty being second, with Baron Aboyno and the cows Miss Pretty, Princess Irene II. and Marie Alexandra. Prince Inca gained the Queen's £50 prize for the best Aberdeen-Angus or Shorthorn, beating a heavy field of both breeds, the reserve being his own brother, Prince Iliad, with which, as we have said, the Shorthorn cow Vain Maid had a stiff fight.

In the younger class of bulls the Ballindalloch Eltham was first, and Mr. Fred. Crisp's Gilderoy, also from Ballindalloch, second. Eurotas of Ballindalloch was first yearling. Mr. Grant, Mains of Advie, was an easy first with the magnificent cow Laybird. One of the best animals of the breed exhibited was Elena of Naughton, the first two-

year-old heifer, owned by Miss Morison Duncan. Elena is a grand heifer, splendidly fleshed, and is sure to be heard of again. Sir George had a beauty in Gentian, the first yearling heifer by Prince Inca out of Genista. This heifer is not likely to be easily beaten anywhere amongst her breed.

We must defer our notes on the horses until next week. SCOTLAND YET.

Chatty Stock Letter from the States.

(FROM OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT).

States hog raisers are in a position to be very thankful for blessings enjoyed, even if late prices have not been so "velvety." The profits on pork making during last winter were unusually large, and with corn selling at 39c., against 53c. a year ago, and hogs worth \$5 to \$5.50 at market, there is no cause for complaint.

During the drop in prices for hogs from the \$7.75 figure reached last February down to \$4.75 in August, owners of hogs have felt surprised and abused, as the supplies were comparatively light, and everybody "talked" high prices for July and August, when farmers would be too busy to market hogs, etc.

The July receipts, however, at Chicago were the second largest on record for the month, and the quality of the hogs lately has been exceptionally fine. The effect of this was to shake the confidence of Board of Trade manipulators who were trying to "corner" pork and lard. On August 1, these "corners" collapsed, mess pork going off at \$8.50, and lard at \$3.50 in a few hours. Of course, the hog market was temporarily demoralized, and sales could not be made short of \$1 decline. The supplies were quickly shut off, however, and since that time the bulk of the decline has been recovered.

The fight over the silver question has precipitated trouble in all lines of commerce, and live stock has suffered with the rest.

There is every reason to believe that wise legislation on the money question will quickly restore confidence. The general live stock situation is on a sound basis. Prices for fine stock are exceptionally low, but a restoration of commercial confidence will result in a wider distribution of good blood than has heretofore taken place.

The current prices for live stock and other articles compared with a year ago will prove interesting:—

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1893, 1892. Rows include Good Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, Corn, and Wheat.

Texas cattle men have marketed a very heavy crop of cattle this year, and, having received fair prices, they are not now disposed to rush their cattle to glutted markets at low prices.

Northwestern range cattle men are selling their cattle at \$2.75@4.10, against \$3.50@4.50 a year ago, but the cattle are not quite so good. The live cattle exporters are operating lightly, and are now making some money.

Feeders of fat cattle are somewhat disappointed at current prices, but they have no more cause to complain than people in other lines of business.

Sheep men have suffered heavy loss on their wool, owing to the tolerable certainty that the tariff protection will be removed as soon as congress gets through wrestling with the finances. Flocks of low grade range sheep kept mainly for wool have been sacrificed regardless of consequences, and have sold at ruinous prices. Good mutton sheep continue to sell fairly well.

The breeding of the livestock now being marketed in the States is generally very poor.

Anthrax in Northamptonshire, England.

Outbreaks of Anthrax have occurred at Haversham and Passenham, near Stony Stratford. At the former place Police Constable Cox, of Stantonbury, who helped to make a post mortem of some diseased animals, cut his finger slightly, and blood poisoning supervening he died. Another man is also suffering from blood poisoning. A carcass of a destroyed cow which had been buried was found the next morning to have been nearly exhumed by foxes.

The "special purpose" cow advocates claim that "theirs" produce so much more milk that they can afford to throw the carcass away when the cow's day as a milker is past; hence size and flesh do not count. On the other hand, the "general utility" men hold that exigencies often arise, and mishaps occur, making it necessary to convert a cow into beef, then their sort brings in a good round sum. Besides this, their "veals" and "steer calves" are worth so much more, all of which will make up for less milk. The conditions of farming vary so greatly that there is room for both kinds to do profitable service. We might add that few farmers nowadays can afford to throw a cow's carcass on the manure heap or "back lot."

T. L. Miller, the well-known American breeder of Herefords, announces a change of method in his herd for the future. The cows are to be hand milked, instead of sucked by the calves. In concluding a recent letter Mr. Miller claims that "the Herefords have a record for milk and for butter that will average with other breeds."