

Stock.

Stock at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition.

(Concluded from October No.)

Among the Pigs, the pens were not above 3-4 filled, yet those exhibited were of superior quality. The Berkshires were not numerous, but those shown were very good, John Snell & Sons showing 8, some of which were imported, and succeeded in carrying off several important prizes. Jas. French also makes a large and fine exhibit. H. Shorby and John Hower show some fine animals; there were a number of other exhibitors showing some choice specimens. The small white breeds made an imposing exhibit, being out in large numbers, and were uniformly very good. James Main and Joseph Featherstone each making very fine exhibits, and carrying off a large number of the prizes. Several other exhibitors display some very fine animals, including Robert Dorsey, who won several premiums. The large white breeds were not as plentiful, nor as high in quality as the last mentioned class, though there were some very good specimens. J. & J. Leslie and Joseph Featherstone each carried off a large number of premiums. Thomas Boyington also makes a fine display, and wins several prizes. The Essex breed were out in moderate numbers, but those shown were very good. Joseph Featherstone won a large number of prizes in this class also, being closely followed by Mr. Hower and Sharp Butterfield, each of whom took a number of prizes, as did James Anderson.

Cattle.—In the Durham class the exhibit was not as large as in some former years, but some good animals were shown. J. & W. Watt and J. & R. Hunter each had fine exhibits, and contested keenly for some of the leading honors, Messrs. Watt winning first herd prize, J. & R. Hunter, 2nd. Messrs. Petit and Fottergill also had a fine exhibit, and won several honors in the prize list. John S. Armstrong also showed several. Beside these exhibitors there were a number of breeders who each showed a few very good animals, among whom were George Miller, Jr., who won 1st on yearling bull, also W. C. Heron of Ashburn, who showed a few very nice animals. Specially worthy of note in this class was Mr. Watts' two year old bull, Royal Barmpton, bred by John Dryden, M. P. P. of Brooklyn, Ont., which won 1st in his class, and diploma for best bull of this breed of any age. He also headed the winning herd, and we have no doubt that Messrs. Watt will give him all the credit for winning the herd prize, as Messrs. Hunter's cows were considered equal to theirs by several of the judges, and by some preference were given to Messrs. Hunter's cows, which were certainly very good. Herefords.—In this class there were 28 animals exhibited, and though not in high condition, they were a nice lot. F. W. Stone and C. C. Bridges were the only exhibitors in this class. Mr. Stone took a large proportion of the prizes. Devons were represented by 25 beasts; though not in large numbers, the quality of those shown was very good. Mr. Geo. Rudd took a large proportion of the prizes in this class, the remainder of the honors being evenly divided between Mr. Wm. Curtice and G. & A. Wood. Galloways were not in large numbers, only 23 being on the ground. The breeders of this variety of cattle in Ontario are not numerous, and the most of those shown were thin in flesh, but had a hardy, rugged appearance; between them and the smooth, sleek Shorthorn, Devon or Hereford, there is a striking difference. They have shaggy, glossy, black coats, and appear to have excellent constitutions. In size they are large, and their beef is said to be of a superior quality. We consider them well adapted for roughing it in a rugged section of the country, while at the same time they are found profitable among the rich arable lands. Mr. McRae and Mr. Develin were the only exhibitors in this class, Mr. McRae taking the larger share of the premiums, though some important ones were taken by Mr. Develin. Ayrshires were out in large numbers, and were said to have been the best exhibit ever made in the province. The judges in their report speak very

highly of them, and stated they found it very difficult in many classes to decide the awards. All the honors in this class excepting four were pretty evenly divided between Messrs. Jardine & Son and Mr. Thomas Guy, Messrs. Jardine & Son taking somewhat the lead. Three of the four remaining premiums were given to J. B. Bessy, and one to G. D. Morien. Jersey.—In this class there were 21 shown, of superior quality, and the judges in this class also had difficulty in deciding. Wm. Rolph won the larger part of all the premiums offered, the remainder of the honors being pretty evenly divided between David Duncan and H. G. Charlesworth. Grades.—The exhibit in this class was large, and those shown were good. The prizes were pretty evenly divided between a number of exhibitors. Fat cattle were well represented, the animals being large and of good quality. By many experienced breeders it was considered the best exhibit ever held in the province. Several of the animals weighed considerable over 2,000 each, and were smooth and neat in form. A noticeable feature in the show was that all were Shorthorns or Shorthorn Grades, with the exception of two Devons, owned by Mr. Rudd. The animal in this class which attracted the most attention was the Grand White Steer, owned and fed by Jas. Russell. His weight is 2,854 lbs. Mr. Russell has recently sold him to Mr. Wordley, for \$450.00. This animal has for several months been attracting public attention, and large numbers crowded around him whenever he was taken out of his stall at the exhibition. This is one of the pair of steers of which notice has been given from time to time in the stock notes of the ADVOCATE, first in the January number of this year. Though there were several other very fine cattle exhibited, this one seemed to draw the crowd.

The Horses in all classes were exceedingly good, and in most classes numerous. Thoroughbreds.—In this class there were 27 entries, and although the numbers were small, the quality of the animals shown was high. The roadsters, carriage horses, hunters, saddle horses and general purpose, exclusive of Clydesdales and Suffolks, were all numerous and of superior quality. The premiums awarded for walking horses drew out a large number of fine animals. In the Clydesdale class, the entire horses were very numerous, and of superior quality, several breeders declaring it to be the best exhibit ever made in the province. The mares of this class were not so numerous, but were excellent, a Clydesdale mare winning the special premium for best mare of any age or breed. A thoroughbred stallion won the special prize for the best stallion of any age or breed. We would have dealt with the horses more fully, but found it very difficult, as they were not classified with any regularity in their stalls, but even if they had been the difficulty would not have been overcome, as the greater number of the stalls were locked and the attendants away much of the time, so that we can only give a general outline of each class.

The Poultry exhibit was one of the best ever held in the province; nearly all the various kinds of poultry were well represented, and the pigeons were out in large numbers.

The Ontario Agr'l College, of Guelph, had on view a number of animals, none of which competed for prizes, but were merely brought for public inspection. The collection consisted of three Polled Angus, one Galloway cow, Ayrshire cow and bull, pair of Herefords, Shorthorn cow and bull, one white hog of the Windsor breed, pair of Berkshires, one pair of Leicester sheep, pair of Cotswolds, two Southdowns and two Oxforddowns. Some of the animals in this exhibit were rather nice, while others were quite ordinary.

Any hog, and especially a sow in pig, should have, at least three times a week, a small quantity of charcoal. This helps to correct acidity of, and arrests fermentation in the stomach, which is a source of diarrhea. A little sulphur is excellent and coal ashes with the cinders are good. Pigs will pick out all the charred bits, and they act as correctives. All of the above are important if not necessary to keep a pig in a healthy condition. The best and handiest plan is to throw a bucketful of coal ashes and charcoal in one corner of the pen and let the pig help itself. The sulphur and salt may also be placed in another spot, and if they will not get wasted by mixing with the litter of the pen, several handfuls may be put in at a time, with no fear that any more will be eaten than is required. No harm will ever come on account of a bountiful supply of sulphur, salt, charcoal, or coal ashes.—[Ex.]

Value of an Improved Animal.

The American Agriculturist thus refers to the value of an improved animal to the farmer:—

"In a farmer's yard we noticed a good Shorthorn bull, two years old last spring, thorough-bred, registered, that cost \$150 we believe. He was kept for the double purpose of improving the stock of the farm and of the neighborhood as well, and for the latter purpose was let at the low rate of \$2 per service. His progeny for the present year will number at least 60, yielding say \$120, though a considerable number of these will be in the home herd. A little figuring will show the value of such an animal. The calves will be worth to \$10 each at one day old from high bred cows, while the ordinary 'native' sell for only \$1 each when dropped—an increase of \$7 to \$9 each. Call the increased value only \$5 each, a very low estimate, and the increased value of the 60 calves will be \$300, or twice the cost of the bull. But look ahead a little: The expenses of raising 60 animals to three years old will be about the same for natives or good grades; but at that age the improved animals will sell for at least \$25 more per head—equivalent for the 60 animals of this one year's get, to at least \$1,500. Let it be kept in mind that this result will surely come from keeping this one \$150 animal a single season, while his value a year hence will be quite as large as now. And this result may be depended upon annually for half a dozen years. There is no doubt that the above figures will be fully realized. Query: Why are not more such breeding animals introduced into every neighborhood where farm stock is kept? Similar figures apply to horses, swine, sheep, etc. A multitude—indeed the great mass—of farmers do not hesitate to graft their native apple trees with improved cions, yet they are satisfied to keep on raising, caring for, and using 'scrub' animals, when every dollar expended in improved blood is speedily returned many fold!"

Ventilation and Disease.

Close, ill ventilated stables are injurious to the health of animals, for air which has been taken into the lungs and expelled from them, becomes deprived of its oxygen, and is then positively injurious to health.

Stock of all kinds should have abundance of pure air, and it is to the want of it that many of those epidemic diseases which have been fatal to European cattle, may be attributed. Sometimes European farmers of the poorer classes confine their cattle in close dark houses or sheds. These places not being properly ventilated, frequently occasion those contagious disorders which sometimes devastate whole kingdoms, and require all the energies of the authorities to arrest their progress.

Some years ago the Board of Health of the city of Paris made a report on the epidemic and epizootic diseases which affect the cows in the numerous dairies around Paris. On examination it was ascertained that this epizootic was only a chronic disease, a true pulmonary phthisis, and by this the greater number of cows which fill the stalls of Paris and its environs had been attacked.

The Council stated that the principal cause of the disease was the improper treatment to which the animals were subjected.

Diseases which arise from a want of ventilation are sometimes perfectly cured and entirely removed by the addition of a plentiful supply of fresh air. A few years ago there was a great mortality among the horses of the British cavalry in some of the large barracks near London. On investigation it was discovered that the disease which proved so fatal was caused by imperfect ventilation.

Professor Johnston relates the following incident which is worthy of attention: An agriculturist had a number of sheep housed and fed on mangel-wurtzel, but several of them sickened and died, and he declared that it was the food that had killed them. A veterinary surgeon, however, who happened to be aware of the consequences of defective ventilation, pointed out the remedy, a better ventilation for the sheep, which were over-crowded. The defect was then remedied—the sickness and mortality ceased—the sheep ate the mangel-wurtzel and thrived well upon it.