

Stock Department.

The First Prize Galloway Cow, "Queen of Beauty."

We present herewith an engraving of the above-named fine animal, winner of the first prize in the class of aged Galloway cows at the last Provincial Exhibition. She was bred by John Torrance, Esq., of Vaughan; was calved June 15th, 1858, and is consequently in her tenth year. Her sire was the celebrated "Black Jack," and her dam, the imported cow "Black Bess." "Queen of Beauty" is owned by Thomas McCrae, Esq., of Janesfield, Guelph, and has taken prizes whenever shown since she came into his possession. At the late Kingston Show, she took the first prize over the cows that took the first and second prizes at the Provincial Exhibition the previous year. Her present owner informs us that she improves as

Shams of the Show-yard.

MAISTER EDITOR,—It maybe disna become the likes o' me tao write tae a paper whaur sae muckle talent is shewn; but I hae ji-t been readin' yer able and enterteening paper on "Shams of the Show-yard," and I canna withstand the inclination tae say a word or twa upon them as weel. Ye hae struck exhibiturs geyan sair upon o'erfeedin, and sae I needna say nae mair aboot that than that I agree wi' every word ye hae written, and wad gang in for nae prizes whaur the beasts are spiled wi' bein' o'er fat. Ye haena spared the faermers wha hae used the shears for the the shapin' of sheep, and they re weel deservin' yer anger; but in my puir opinion this shapin' o' sheep isna sae bad as o'erfeedin', for o'erfeedin' is a burden and cruelty tae the animal, while shearin', in the way ye state, only deceives the public, and, wi' yer permission, it taks in a wheen o' the judges tae. But, besides "sheep sculpture," ye'll ken as weel as me

Canadian Natural History.

The Snow-Bird.

Fringilla hiemalis.

THE Snow-bird, the subject of the accompanying illustration, is familiar to every Canadian, being among the very few members of the feathered tribes that visit us during the winter, and enliven, by their presence, this inclement season. It arrives from more northern latitudes as soon as the frosty weather sets in, and leaves us again in early spring for colder regions, where it breeds during the summer. Perhaps there is no species of bird so numerous over the whole continent of North America as the Snow-bird, its range extending from the Arctic circle to the Gulf of Mexico. So well known is it to every Canadian, that it scarcely needs description, every child among us being familiar with its appearance.



she grows older, that she has dropped a calf every year since she began to breed, and that her stock though seemingly a little coarse when young, improved in fineness and other good qualities with age. Our engraving scarcely does justice to this excellent cow, from the disadvantage of the drawing being made from a photograph. Owing to her restlessness while being photographed, the neck shows thicker, and the head heavier, than life. The muzzle also is up in a somewhat unnatural position, on account of her being halter-held while being photographed. Barring these defects about the head and neck, the engraving is a very correct representation of this valuable cow. We congratulate Mr. McCrae on the success which has thus far crowned his efforts as a breeder of Galloways, and hope his herd will always maintain the high character it has attained at so early a period of its history.

THE Turf Field and Farm sums up the teeth of the horse as follows: 24 double or grinders; 12 front, called gatherers; 4 tushes, or single file teeth—or 40 teeth in all. Mares rarely have the tushes. The teeth of a horse are perfected at about eight years of age.

that sheep are jist as often o'erfed as nowt, and sae, as it were, there are twa faults in their case. But I didna mean tae hae said as muckle on what ye hae written as aboot a sham ye hae taen nae notice o', and this is Ayrshire milk-kye. How often are the puir beasts left wi' the milk ne'er drawn for twa or e'en three days at least afore a show. If ony is taen awa, it's merely tae square the udder a wee and mak it look the richt shape. Weel, ye ken how sair it is for a cow tae gang three or four hours byo her milking time, especially in the summer time, let alane for twa or three days. Gin the judges "wad set their faces against" this tae, nae doubt it could be altered. I micht hae mentioned the scrapin' o' kye's horns, and even pittin on fause horns and tails, and lots o' ither things; but as this disna harm the beast further than botherin' it whan it's doin, I'll let it pass.—*Cor. of the Farmer (Scottish).*

A PAIR OF HEAVY SREERS.—F. H. Hibbard, Cortland, N. Y., writes the *Rural New Yorker*:—"I take the liberty of sending the weight of my two-year-old steers, as weighed on the 11th of this month. The pair weighed 3,640 pounds. One was two years old in March, and weighed 1,915 pounds, and the other two years in April, and weighed 1,725 pounds. Both are thorough-bred Durhams and were bred and raised by me."

In systematic ornithology, its place is in the most extensive natural order, *Insessores* or *Perchers*, and the sub-order *Conorostres* (conical-beaked), in which it makes one of the numerous family of Finches, (*Tringilida*). The American goldfinch, or wild canary, belongs to the same genus, and the sparrows and buntings are nearly allied. The length of this bird is a little over six inches. The colour of the head, neck, the upper part of the breast, body and wings, is a deep slate, with a slight tinge of brown in the males, and more of the same colour in the female. Brown is also the prevailing colour of the young. In winter the slate tinge of the male especially is more marked and pure. The lower part of the breast, the whole of the belly and vent, are pure white; the three secondary quill feathers are edged with brown, and the primaries with white. The tail is dusky slate, a little forked, the two exterior feathers wholly white. These are fluffed out as it flies, and appear then very prominent. The colour of the bill is reddish; the eye is bluish-black; the legs are flesh-coloured.

Wilson, in his graphic descriptions of American ornithology, says of this bird that at first they are most generally seen on the borders of woods, among