

Class 15.—Hamburgs.

Golden Spangled, F. Sturdy, \$5; 2nd L. R. Day, \$3; 3rd F. Sturdy. Silver Spangled, John Bogue, \$5; 2nd H. M. Thomas, \$3; 3rd James Feasant. Golden Pencilled, D. Melt. Kay, \$5; 2nd Joseph Dobbin, \$3. Silver Pencilled, 2nd John Bogue, \$3; 3rd H. M. Thomas. Black, D. Melt. Kay.

Class 16.—Hamburg Chickens.

Golden Spangled F. Sturdy, \$5; 2nd Samuel Shaw, \$3; 3rd H. M. Thomas, \$1. Silver Spangled, H. M. Thomas, \$5; 2nd Jas. Feasant, \$3; 3rd do., \$1. Golden Pencilled, Joseph Dobbin, \$5; 2nd do., \$3. 3rd D. Melt. Kay, \$1. Silver Pencilled, 2nd Joseph Dobbin, \$3. Black, 2nd D. Melt. Kay, \$3; 3rd Jos Fullerton, \$1.

Class 17.—Houdans.

John Bogue, \$5; 2nd H. M. Thomas, \$3; 3rd Lot Dean, \$1.

Class 18.—Houdan Chickens.

Lot Dean, \$5; 2nd John Bogue, \$3; 3rd H. M. Thomas, \$1.

Class 19.—Crevecœur.

1st H. M. Thomas, \$5.

Class 20.—Crevecœur Chickens.

J. Aldhouse, \$5; 2nd H. M. Thomas, \$3.

Class 21.—Bantams.

Golden Sebright, H. M. Thomas; 2nd J. W. Bussell; 3rd D. Allan. Silver Sebright, 3rd R. Balkwill. Black Breasted Red Game, D. Allan; 2nd H. M. Thomas; 3rd D. Allan. Duckwing Game, D. Allan; 2nd D. Melt. Kay; 3rd do.

Class 22.—Turkeys.

Bronze, J. W. Bussell, \$5; 2nd do., \$3; 3rd Jos. Anderson, \$1. Black, Chas. Head.

Class 23.—Geese.

Toulouse, F. Sturdy, \$5. Bremen, F. W. Stone \$5; 2nd T. S. Henry, \$3; 3rd H. M. Thomas, \$1. China, (small) T. S. Henry \$5; 2nd do., \$3; 3rd do., \$1. Wild, T. S. Henry, \$5.

Class 24.—Ducks.

Aylesbury, John Bogue, \$5; 2nd F. Sturdy, \$3; 3rd do., \$1. Rowen, F. Sturdy, \$5; 2nd D. Allan, \$3; 3rd F. Sturdy, \$1.

Class 25.—Rabbits.

Angora, 3rd H. M. Thomas, \$1.

Class 26.—Pigeons.

A Goebel, Mitchell, \$3; 2nd H. B. B. Alley, London, \$2. Blue Pied Pouters, A. Goebel, \$3; 2nd H. B. B. Alley, \$2. Almond Tumblers, Joseph McGrath Toronto. Any other variety Tumblers, A. Goebel \$3; 2nd H. B. B. Alley, \$2. White Fantails, T. S. Henry, Oshawa, \$3; 2nd Westley Henry, \$2. Blue Fantails, A. Goebel, \$3. Jacobins, A. Goebel, \$3. 2nd H. B. B. Alley, \$2. Carriers, black, H. B. B. Alley, \$3; 2nd A. Goebel, \$2. Carriers, any other color, A. Goebel, \$3; 2nd do., \$2.

Class 28.—Song Birds.

Cock Canary, G. Bookless, Guelph, \$2; 2nd W. Burgess, Guelph, \$1. Hen Canary, A. Suddeby, \$2. 2nd do., \$1. Goldfinch, English, A. Suddeby, Guelph, \$2; 2nd J. B. Allan, Malton, \$1.

Class 29.—Guinea Fowl.

J. W. Bussell, Hornby, \$3.

In class 30, "any other Ornamental Gallinaceous Fowls not provided for elsewhere, and deemed worthy," a first prize was given to D. Allan for a black African bantam cock. Second prizes were given to P. Breiding for Black Cochins; Geo. Balkwill, for Quails; Geo. Balkwill, for American Grosbeak; John Fry, for White Top-knot Ducks; P. H. Gibbs, large White Geese; T. S. Henry, Oshawa Buff Geese; John Bogue, London, colored geese Samuel Barber, Guelph, received a third prize for a pair of geese. Mr. Daniel Allan's bantam pyle game-cock was highly commended.

Extras.

First prizes were given to Mr. A. Goebel for the following birds:—Black barb pigeons, chequered pouters, ice pigeons, yellow trumpeters, blue-winged turbits, black fantails, Calcutta fantails; and his yellow fantails were highly commended.

A SHROPSHIRE RAM was rented for the season in England for \$1,000, gold.

Just as we go to press the unwelcome news arrives that the noted \$40,000 cow gave birth prematurely to a dead calf, and that the cow also is dead.—*Live Stock Journal*.

NEW SHEEP SHEARS.—A new patent on sheep shears has been taken out in England, which embraces the comb principle. The lower blade is toothed like a comb, which gathers up the wool closely, without loss, and also avoids danger of cutting the skin. It answers for either long or short wool.

Breeder and Grazier.

Does Ergot Produce Abortion in Cows?

The explanation of the cause of abortion in cows, which is so increasingly prevalent in dairies, and which is so mysterious, may possibly be somewhat resisted by the following facts, related by a correspondent of the London *Mark Lane Express*: "Observing the letter of 'H. C. C.' in your impression of the 5th, on the subject of ergot, I beg to call your attention to the circumstance of its having been very largely developed in this district during the past and preceding summers, and to its baneful effects in causing abortion in cow stock. I endeavor to maintain my pastures in the highest possible state of cultivation, having to keep a large herd of Jersey cattle, besides yielding a quantity of hay for winter use. My cows went on all well until July, when they commenced slipping their calves in the most extraordinary manner, without any perceptible cause to account for the mischief, the whole place being kept in a state of the greatest cleanliness, and no unusual excitement existing among the herd. By the 31st of October, ten or twelve mishaps had taken place when, almost in despair, I applied to my medical attendant, who at once suggested ergot as the probable cause of all the loss and annoyance. Knowing that my fields had been sown over with 'renovating grass seeds,' supplied by one of the principal firms, and *colium perenne*, or perennial rye-grass, entered largely into their mixtures, I at once sallied out into the fields, and the very first stem of rye-grass I found had no less than seventy ergot on it, while almost every one was affected, some to a greater, others to a less extent. The parasite is of a black color, and resembles the well-known ergot of rye, only much smaller in size, and I have no doubt but that its presence in such quantity was the cause of the great loss I sustained both in 1872 and 1873, the mischief commencing about the same period in each year.

In Morton's *Cyclopædia of Agriculture* the following passage occurs under the head of 'Abortion': 'The ergot of rye as a medical agent has a very exciting effect on the uterus, and as rye-grass as well as grain is subject to the same disease, it has, with much reason, been considered that the unusual presence of this poisonous matter in the grasses was foremost among the causes of abortion. The idea is in keeping with the fact that a wet season is conducive to ergot.' In Wheeler's little pamphlet on grasses there is a caution to their friends on this same point, but which, with the notice by Morton, I had not seen until too late.

I would suggest that the most parasite growth exercising, as it does, so powerful an effect, may in some measure account for the trouble one frequently experiences, especially during the late summer months, in getting one's cows to stand. From the first July to the 31st October, not more than one in twelve of my cows became in calf; since that date with only one or two exceptions, all have become pregnant."

What I know of Berkshires.

The Americans consume more pounds of pork per head than the people of any other country, and, therefore, it stands them in hand to produce this staple article of diet at the lowest rate. I do not wish to be considered ultra in my predilections in favor of any breed, for there are several breeds entitled to cultivation; but I think the tendency toward moderate sized hogs, now fast growing into favor, even with pork-packers, entitles Berkshires to special consideration. I have raised them for several years, and find them, so far as I am able to compare with others, the most economical pork-producing breed. The Poland-China has many good points, and when hogs of 500 lbs. weight were sought after, they were entitled to stand at the head with the corn-producing West, for eighteen months to two years would put them beyond this weight, and it is not so easy to bring the Berkshires up to it. The Berkshire, by long breeding pure, has a remarkable prepotency, and produces its like with so great certainty, that any number of them may be produced, with the same food and care, differing little in shape or weight at a given age. A pig that will give the best return for the food consumed during the first ten months of its life, is just the one wanted. I will not undertake to say that the Berkshire is that pig; but I can say that it is the best one I have tried. There is no practical difficulty in reaching a weight of 300 lbs. at ten months, and that is the most profitable weight for market.

The following is a part of the characteristics of

this breed, given at the Swine Breeders' convention: "face short, fine and well dished, broad between the eyes, ears generally erect, but sometimes inclining forward with advancing age, small, thin, soft, and showing veins; jaw, full; neck short and thick; shoulders, short from neck, to middling deep from back down; back, broad and straight, or a very little arched. Ribs—long ribs, well sprung, giving rotundity of body; short ribs, good length, giving breadth and levelness of loins; hips, good length from point of hip to rump; hams, thick, round and deep, holding their thickness well back and down to the hock; all, fine and small, set on high up; legs, short and ine, but straight and very strong, with hoofs erect, legs set wide apart; size, medium; length, medium; bone, fine and compact; ossal, very light."

This is a terse description of this concentrated machinery for working up food into pork. When the Berkshire is expanded into a 300 pound hog, at ten months, it is the perfection of swinish beauty. What could you add to improve its proportions or increase the value of its make-up? The food all goes to lay on valuable flesh. From comparative tests I can freely say that 100 pounds of Berkshire pork can be made from the same food that is required to grow 200 pounds upon the scrubs generally fed.—*Cor. Live Stock Journal*.

Sunlight in the Stable.

At this season of the year when our animals must be kept in the barn the greater part of the time, how important it becomes that they should have their quarters made as pleasant and as comfortable as possible. Not only should the boarding of the stables be tight enough to keep out the snow and cold winds, but the light of the sun should be brought in as much as is practicable. Most barns are too dark for the health of the animals or convenience of attendants. Many could be pointed out that have not a single pane of glass about the whole building.

While doing the "chores," the doors must be left open to let in the light, and during cold driving snow storms, the barn gets ventilated a great deal more than is necessary. It would make a wonderful change in the inside appearance of thousands of old barns, to just put in a few sashes on the south side and let in the warm sunshine. We do not believe that cattle can long be perfectly healthy when constantly tied in dark stables. The sunlight was made to live in, and the more of it we can get inside of our buildings, the better will it be for ourselves and animals. After getting in the light you will find it necessary to use the broom. The cobwebs and dust didn't show before, and if you will spread a coat of whitewash over all the inside walls of the cattle rooms, you will find the light will seem to stay after it once gets in. A light barn promotes habits of neatness, while a dark one tends to carelessness and slovenly ways.

For the sake of affording ventilation in warm weather, it would be better to have the windows put in so they could slide, but if they are put in solid it will be just as well as far as light is concerned.

A cheap way of setting a sash in the wall of a single boarding, is to cut out a hole about one inch smaller than the sash on all sides except the bottom. Use an inch board four inches wide for a stool on which the sash will rest in the inside of the boarding. Then screw the sash tight to the boards all around. A strip nailed on the stool at the bottom of the window, makes all tight. We also like to see good sized sashes set in the barn doors so the feeding and other work on the barn floor can be done without opening the doors to the storm without.

There has been a great improvement in this respect within a few years. Many of the modern stables are pleasanter and more comfortable than were the dwelling houses of half a century ago. It is nothing very uncommon now to see barns in our villages with blinds on all the windows, and we are not sure but it would pay to use them, especially on stable windows in hot weather. We can't have too much sunshine in winter, but in summer it may sometimes be too much of a good thing.

Study the comfort of the animals. It will pay to do so. Now is a good time to put in the windows and whitewash the stables. You have no idea what a change it will make in the general appearance of the premises. It will seem strange that you had not done it before.—*N. E. Farmer*.

THE CHRONO BUSINESS is degenerating. A Pennsylvania farmer now offers one to every person who buys a load of potatoes from him.

THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND owns a three-year-old ox which weighs 2,500 pounds, and measures in girth nine feet one inch. It was recently on exhibition in Inverness, Scotland, and attracted much attention.