

In 1858, an Ayrshire bull of the Jardine stock, was brought from St. John. This bull, named Napoleon, was a very neat and fine boned animal, but deficient in size. His stock, however, were medium sized and handsome, and the cows were good milkers. Between 1861 and 1869 three Alderney bulls of the Cunard breed were used, bringing good milking stock, commanding a ready sale. Up to this time no attempt had been made to keep the cattle pure, but it was now determined to confine the breeding entirely to Ayrshires, consequently a young cow and heifer imported by the Board of Agriculture were procured to start with. These were bred for a few years to the imported bulls "Reform" and "Young Prince of Wales," the latter being a superior animal. In the October number of the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, for the year 1869, the editor stated that "Jonathan Blanchard of Truro has lately secured a number of pure Ayrshires, and means to take the trouble to keep them pure. He has obtained some of the Gibb stock, imported two years ago by the Board of Agriculture, and likewise some of the Jardine stock, and, as one of the Fason bulls is located at Truro, he has now the material for a fair start. We have no doubt that in the course of a year or two Mr. Blanchard's herd will attract the attention of our farmers, and we hope that others who are in a favorable position will be induced to follow his example. We want a few enterprising men of intelligence and capital to enter upon the breeding of pure stock, in order, amongst other things, to kill the prevailing idea that nothing is good that is not brought from some other country."

The subsequent history of breeding cattle at Hillside farm, and the excellent reputation they have made for their owner as a leading breeder of the highest type of Ayrshires in Canada, more than verifies the hopeful predictions made by Doctor Lawson in 1869. In 1876 the cows "Blyth" and "Mary, Duchess," imported by the board, were sold at auction and purchased (prices \$200 and \$235 respectively.) They were splendid cows, and fine animals. The same year the bull "Bismarck," reputed the finest in Ontario, was obtained. He was kept for three seasons. His place was supplied by the bull "Lord Clyde," bred by N. S. Whitney, of Montreal. At the same time were purchased from Mr. Whitney two of his best cows—probably the finest specimens of Ayrshires ever brought into the province. One of them carried off first prize in her class at the Dominion exhibition at Halifax. Both were in the herd which took first prize, and all the other prizes for Ayrshire cows (four in number) were obtained by this herd. Two young bulls, "Buckingham 2nd" and

"Curtis," have since been purchased from Mr. Whitney, one of which is now the stock bull on the farm. Other purchases of females have occasionally been made when considered advisable. There have been sold altogether between seventy-five and eighty pure bred animals distributed chiefly through Nova Scotia, but a few have gone to New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Bermuda. There are now on the premises three males and sixteen females. The milking qualities of the cows have been tested occasionally and found to be good. Some have run as high as 55 lbs. per day. Indeed one cow now owned in Inverness County, but bred here, has made a record of 60 lbs. of milk per day, and has averaged during the summer 50 lbs. which gave over 2 lbs. butter. From 1st November, 1883, to 1st November, 1884, the Hillside farm herd, consisting of fourteen cows, yielded 90,525 lbs. of milk, being an average of 6,466 pounds to each for twelve months. A further idea of the great value of one of Mr. Blanchard's Ayrshire cows may be obtained from an obituary notice of a celebrated female of his splendid herd, that appeared in 1882 in the *Truro Guardian*:

"'Lady Franklin,' winner of first prize at Dominion exhibition, Halifax, 1881, over 30 other competitors. This cow had her first calf on the 4th Oct., 1881, and her last calf on the 20th of September, 1882. During the year she gave over 4,000 quarts of milk. When fresh in milk she gave 22½ quarts per day. She gave her own weight in twenty days. The milk was sold for the Halifax market at three cents per quart, and realized during the year over \$120."

The late John A. McCurdy of Brookside farm, Onslow, son of Hon. David McCurdy, whose untimely death two years since, was a public calamity, was a most successful breeder of Ayrshires, and his large and valuable herd, which contained many prize animals, was very nearly equal in merit to that of Hillside farm. These splendid animals have recently been sold at auction and scattered in different directions. It is to be hoped that some of them, in the hands of as intelligent, industrious and practical an agriculturist as their late owner, will form the beginning of as good a herd as the one that proved such an attraction to visitors at Brookside farm. Among other breeders of Ayrshires may be mentioned John W. McCurdy, of Onslow; William Sutherland, of Truro; Thomas B. Smith, of Clarkvale; and William A. and Alfred Hamilton, of Brookfield; nearly all of whom have several fine animals. This breed is now getting well established, and is much thought of by many of our leading farmers.

III.—THE JERSEY CATTLE OF COLCHESTER.

LORNDAL, TRURO, May 11.—The cattle of the island of Jersey, though of later introduction in their pure state than either the short horn Durham or Ayrshires breeds, have been favorably known in Colchester for many years, from high grade specimens after the importations of Collins, Cunard and Duffus. Animals of this stock, both male and female, have found their way, in times past, to different parts of the county, from the valley of the Stewiacke to the settlement of Economy. In Truro splendid samples may still be seen on the premises of Hiram Hyde, in the stables of ex-Governor Archibald; and, if the rich cream and gilt-edged butter one occasionally encounters at the hospitable board of Serivelshy Manor, are any criteria of good milkers, O. C. Cumming's cows, Bunchy and Sadie, are worthy representatives of the stock of the three Halifax gentlemen whose names are indelibly engraven upon the best dairy cattle of Nova Scotia. But, invaluable as high grade Jerseys are for domestic purposes, to the breeder of pure stock they have no special commercial value. For breeding purposes, pedigree animals are desired, and more especially those that are eligible for registration upon the American Jersey cattle club herd register. Registration alone however, is not everything. The best pedigrees are sought after, and animals whose relationship can be traced to the queen of American Jerseys, or the leading Canadian cow, are the most highly prized. To the old times slip shod farmer, who persists in keeping the meanest specimens of the old breed of cows (known as native cattle or scrub stock,) on the principle that a cow is a cow, an account of the butter record of these world famous Jerseys must prove very suggestive. If lost upon such a one, however, it may be cited as an incentive to good breeding for the encouragement of those who are now paying more or less attention to this breed, by whom it will no doubt be regarded as an attainable standard of excellence. The Breeders' Gazette, of Chicago, publishes a sketch of the imported Jersey cow, Princess 2nd, 8046, which has astonished Jersey circles by yielding 46 lbs. and 12½ ozs. salted butter for the week ending March 1. The test was made under the auspices of the American Jersey cattle club, and is therefore reliable. It beats the butter producing record of the celebrated Jersey 'Mary Anne St. Lambert,' 9770, which, on a test, produced 35 lbs. 12½ ozs. butter in 7 days. 'Princess' is the property of S. M. Shoemaker, of Stevenson, Maryland. She was dropped in 1877 and sold in New York in 1879, for \$4,800. She was tested first in 1884, for seven days, and during that test yielded 323