

averaged 21 lbs. in a week; but these are only private tests, and are discredited by breeders of other breeds. But let us take a glance at the public tests, and see what position the Holstein-Friesian takes there. In 1883, competing for the Challenge Silver Cup offered by the Breeders' Gazette, of Chicago, for cow producing most butter in 30 days (competition open to all breeds and the world), the Holstein-Friesian cow Mercedes won, beating the celebrated Jersey cow, Mary Ann of St. Lambert. At Minnesota State Fair, 1886, all the prizes for producing most butter were won by Holstein cows. At the great New York Dairy and Cattle show in 1887 the Holsteins won 1st and 2nd prize for producing most butter in 24 hours (Jerseys and Guernseys competing). At the Ohio State Fair, 1887, the Holsteins won. At Iowa State Fair, 1888; at Bay State Fair, 1888; at Dakota Territory Fair, 1888, Holstein-Friesians won all first prizes; in every instance competing with the special butter breeds.

I could give you a great deal more such evidence; but let this be sufficient. These facts should be convincing; they clearly prove that as a profitable milk and butter-producer, the Holstein-Friesian cow stands unrivalled and alone.

The Royal Show for 1889.

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

This, the Jubilee Show of the Royal Agricultural Society, which marks its semi-centennial, was looked forward to as a very important event by lovers of improved stock especially, and great expectations were entertained as to its success. It has come and gone, and has undoubtedly proved to be all that was expected, and more. The time as well as the place of its being held were both interesting, and an extra effort was made to ensure the greatest live-stock show that has ever been held in Britain; and, now that it is over, and as it progressed, the opinion has been repeated by very many of those who have attended most of the shows of the Society since its inception that there never was such a show before, while many are rash enough to venture the prediction that there never will be such another till the Centenary Exhibition is held.

The vastness of the show is liable to have the effect at first sight, upon a mind not perfectly collected, of bewilderment; but to one who has resolved to be cool, and to study the arrangement and plans of the show-yard and its contents, it soon becomes clear that a master mind has been at the helm, and that method and system has been observed in all the details of arrangement; and a study of the map and plan provided in the catalogue of exhibits makes it comparatively plain sailing for the visitor.

The show was held in Windsor Park, and enclosed an area of 127 acres. This great Park is said to be twenty-one miles in circumference, and the show-yard is approached by the grand avenue of mighty elms more than two miles in length, which runs out from the front entrance of Windsor Castle. A more suitable place could hardly have been found, and considering that the buildings were all of a temporary character, it was wonderful what a happy effect was produced by these tasteful arrangements. They were generally of uniform size and appearance, all having double roofs covered with waterproof canvas, and, for a wonder for once, waterproofs were superfluous, as the weather was what is called Queen's weather in England, clear, bright, and warm as a Canadian summer week.

The catalogue of entries in this case, a bulky volume of over 450 pages, is a masterpiece of carefully prepared references, easily understood, and thoroughly reliable, sold for a shilling, with the officially corrected printed list of awards given free on the second day to those who have purchased the catalogues. Fortified with this guide to the show the visitor feels at home, without it he is considerably at sea. Of such paramount importance do we regard this adjunct to the show, the catalogue, that we are tempted to again enlarge upon its benefits; but having explained it at length, and urged its importance

in our notes of the Exeter Show, we forbear to repeat it, but content ourselves with the expression of a hope that our Canadian Fair managers may soon wake up to the importance and the real necessity of such a provision. A brief summary of the entries may be of interest, as showing the extent of the Exhibition, which, by the way, is not its most interesting feature, for, unlike our own shows, it is not usual to find any one exhibitor making more than half a dozen entries, and probably a majority of them have not more than two, and a very large proportion go up with their one best animal. The total entries of horses is 972; cattle, 1,637; sheep, 1,069; pigs, 265; poultry, 862—making the total head of stock on exhibition only thirty short of 5,000. To give an idea of the comparative entries of the different breeds we quote for the classes of horses:—Hunters, 258; Hackney, 148; Shire, 167; Clyde, 93; Coach, 57. Of cattle—Shorthorns, 222; Hereford, 121; Jerseys, 434; Guernseys, 141; other breeds below 100 each. Of sheep—Shropshire, 212; South-down, 123; Oxford-down, 82; Cotswold, 60; Leicester, 41; Hampshire, 67. Pigs—All white breeds, 81; Berkshire, 96; other blacks and Tamworth, 88. The number of breeds of cattle and sheep represented is a surprise to the visitor. Of cattle there are fifteen distinct breeds. Of sheep twenty-three, for all of which prizes of equal amount were offered and awarded. The breeds of pigs are only few in comparison, and are classified as large white, middle white, small white, Berkshire, any other black breed, and Tamworth, from which classification it will be observed that only two breeds, the Berkshire and the Tamworth, are necessarily pure breeds in order to compete, as any variation from the orthodox color in these would be fatal to their success in the awards of the judges. The Tamworth is a red breed, whose principal claim to favor is that they produce a large proportion of lean meat, a feature which no one would think of denying them, their long, flat forms, narrow visage and elongated snout being a safe index of their qualifications to fill the bill.

HORSES.

The most striking feature of the horse show in England, to a Canadian, is the superior excellence of the lighter classes, viz., thoroughbreds, hunters, Hackneys, cobs and coach horses. There are no prizes offered for thoroughbreds at this summer meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, but at their Spring Show held in London annually, what are called Queen's premiums of £200 each (and which are supplemented by three premiums of £200 each by the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding), are offered for the three best stallions, whose owners agree to stand them for service for the season in one of seven districts designated by the Society. This gives the Society the distribution of the services of twenty-one first-class stallions for the improvement of the stock of the country, and it is stipulated that these twenty-one horses shall be on exhibition in one stable at the summer meeting of the Royal. This is a very interesting department of the show to horsemen. The horses in this stable average much larger than the thoroughbred stallion seen in Canada. They are really grand animals, and we could not but wish some one having the means would make the venture of taking some of them over to our country.

The classes of Hackneys and cobs are models of beauty in form and style, full of life and vim, easy, graceful movers, yet with good tempers, and evidently easily controlled. They are grand drivers on the smooth, hard roads of this country, are good feeders, with strong constitution and great endurance.

The Cleveland Bays and coach horses are classed together, an undesirable thing in our opinion, as they are of somewhat dissimilar type, a fact which evidently causes the judges much difficulty in coming to a decision. The Cleveland Bay as seen here in its purity, or at least as nearly so as it is possible to find them, is a magnificent type of a carriage horse. A perfect model of a horse for his purpose is Mr. Burdett-Coutts's Sultan at five years old, winner of the first prize, and the champion gold medal for best stallion in the class. He has won the first prize at the Royal for three years in succession, and is said to improve every year. His action leaves

nothing to be desired. His beautiful outline would please the most critical connoisseur, and, while his temper is perfect, he shows any amount of spirit and animation. "A rare one for a funeral," was the joking remark of his groom, as the model horse danced to the music of the band. The younger horses, and the mares and fillies of this class, showed fine character and breeding, and we wished again that Canada shared more of such.

Of the heavy horses at the Royal the Shires made very much the best show, both as to numbers and excellence. We had never so much noticed the difference in size and weight between the Shires and Clydes as on this occasion, the former being very much the larger, though we think the latter are large enough for anything; but for grandeur of appearance, for style and substance, combined with constitution and good bone, one could not but admire such splendid specimens as Lord Wantage's Prince William, by William the Conqueror, in his six-year-old form, and the equally notable Harold, by Lincolnshire Lad II., shown by Mr. A. C. Duncombe, of Ashbourne, Derby. Both of these have been champions at the London Shire Horse Show, and are considered a close match at any time, but by the grace of the judges, William has proved the conqueror at the Jubilee Show, and carries with him the champion gold medal.

Clydesdale stallions were not out in strong force, especially in the older classes, which is accounted for by the fact that the show is earlier this year than usual, and occurs in the middle of the Scottish season, so that the best horses could not leave their stables; but in the younger classes of stallions, and those of mares and fillies, the competition was strong, and the quality superb; and here, while we were somewhat disappointed in the size of the animals, we could not but admire the great improvement made in a few years in the quality of bone, and in the action, which in itself is power. Only three aged stallions appeared in the ring, but they were three capital horses, and Mr. David Riddell's Grand National, a black, foaled in 1885, a son of Young Lorne (997), out of Black Peggy, by Briton (94), was placed first, while the Duke of Portland's Macaulay (5187), a brown 4-year-old, with more style, was given second place, and Mr. Hodgson's Sir Hildebrand, by Belted Knight, came third. The strongest card, however, in the Clydesdale show, was the grand 3-year-old Prince of Albion (6178), by Prince of Wales (673), out of Mysie, by Darnley, a beautiful bay, shown by Mr. John Gilmour, of Leven, Fifeshire, which easily carried off the Queen's champion gold medal, and has thus made himself a record which may prove a veritable goldmine to his fortunate owner. In a long list of magnificent mares of matchless merit, the Sonnie "Sunrise," a bonnie bay three years old, by Darnley (222), dam by Old Times (579), shown by Mr. David Riddle, was decorated with the red, white and blue, as winner of the champion gold medal, as best female in her class, Mr. Gilmour's Primrose, another daughter of Darnley, and a grand one, having won second place in the section for 3-year-olds.

CATTLE.

The display of cattle at Windsor was simply immense. It was a full day's work to see them, even casually. To inspect and note each one individually, would be a week's work. There were over 1,600 on exhibition. To look across the sheds, which were all open above the height of the cattle's heads, was bewildering. There were miles and miles of sheds filled with cattle, representatives of fifteen distinct breeds; and there were few that were not first-class in their breed. The cosmopolitan Shorthorn comes first in the catalogue, and to these we pay our respects first. From the small entry of these at the earlier shows of the season, their friends were led to fear the representation at Windsor would not be strong in numbers; but two hundred and twenty-two entries by about one hundred exhibitors is a respectable turn-out, and one that speaks encouragingly for the present and the future of the breed—a contrast, truly, to the twenty-six which appeared at the first Royal Show, just fifty years ago. To attempt a criticism of only the prize animals in all the cattle classes, would take more space than we dare claim. To wade through