

by Winfield Scott, and now stunted to Mambrino Rattler, and Tony Maid, by Mambrino Rattler and out of Lydia. This is a very breedy, racy looking mare, now four years old and heavy in foal to Superior, to whose cover she last year dropped a fine black filly. A full brother to this mare is the bay stallion Red Bird, now rising five years old, a rangy, upstanding fellow, with a capital set of legs. Although never trained, this horse shows a wonderfully good gait, and Mr. Vansicle expects him to make a record of 2.30 or better before long. To show how much the Mambrino Patchen blood is valued by our neighbors across the line, we might mention that a full brother to Red Bird, Sensation, owned by Messrs. J. A. & H. F. Stenabaugh, of Jerseyville, has made two seasons in Michigan at \$20 service fee. His services, however, we are glad to hear, will this year be at the disposal of Canadian breeders. Mr. Vansicle's advertisement will be found in our columns, and parties having mares suitable to breed to road horses should write him for his stallion circular, as we can guarantee them the best of treatment at Mr. Vansicle's hands.

TWO WELL-BRED SIRES.

Three miles from Ancaster village is the town of Dundas, and here we found another ardent admirer of trotting bred horses in the person of Mr. Willoughby Cowper, one of the leading citizens of this thriving little town. Mr. Cowper places with us this month his advertisement of trotting stallions, and a glance at their pedigrees will show them to be royally bred. Leotard (7742), being by Walsingham, a son of Geo. Wilkes, and out of Ladoga, by Mambrino Patchen, a full sister to Mambrino Ring, 2nd dam by Edwin Forest. Leotard stands 15.2½ hands high, and weighs 1,050 pounds, being in every sense a big little horse, beautifully proportioned, with a marvellous wealth of muscle, and a finished appearance all over that instantly takes the eye. Issachar (5145), by Princeps, sire of Trinket 2.14, and out of Agnes, by Mambrino Star, dam of Star Wilkes, the sire of three in the 2.30 list, is a rich dark bay horse, standing 16½ hands high, showing tremendous size and muscular development combined. When we consider that Princeps has six performers in the 20 list, and twenty-four in the 30, it will be seen that Issachar is a horse of exceptionally fine breeding. Mr. Cowper will be glad to send his stallion circular to all who desire it.

W. G. PETTIT'S SHROPSHIRE.

Commencing with the purchase of some ewes from the flock of Mr. R. J. Phin, of Hespeler, Mr. Pettit, who is well known to our readers as a Shorthorn breeder, determined last year to increase his flock by the addition of some of the best Shropshires to be obtained in Canada, and with this view he purchased from R. Miller, of Brougham, the ram lamb that won first last fall at Toronto, and also a choice pair of ewe lambs. This ram lamb, imported from the well-known flock of Mr. Wm. Thomas, and a prize-winner at several leading English shows, was used last fall with the gratifying result that seven ewes had produced and raised at the time of our visit twelve lambs, and a nice, even, well-woolled lot of lambs they were. The two ewe lambs selected by Mr. Miller from the noted Bradburne flock have done uncommonly well, having grown into a pair of shearlings that are hard to beat, one of them being, we think, the best woolled shearling

we have ever seen. The shearling ewes of Mr. Pettit's own breeding are also a very useful lot of ewes, and when bred to such a ram as now heads the flock should produce a crop of lambs that will do their breeder credit. Besides the shearling ewes, Mr. Pettit has a few nice rams, and some very choice ram lambs for sale, as will be seen by his advertisement in another column.

MR. BROWN'S VICTORIAS.

One of the first breeders of these famous American white hogs in Canada is Mr. Charles Brown, of Drumquin P. O., in the county Halton. Mr. Brown's herd is at present headed by the boar Victor, winner of second in a very large class open to Chester Whites and other large white breeds at Toronto last fall. Victor is a very large, strong-boned hog with capital hams. That he is a good stock getter we had ample proof in the litter we saw by him and out of one of Mr. Brown's registered sows. Although there are not many breeders of these pigs in Canada, they are very popular in the U. S., where they originated, and it is claimed for them that they are very early maturing and easily kept. Certainly the litter we refer to looked as if they were capital thrivers.

Besides pure-bred hogs, Mr. Brown keeps a large stock of bees, and has every year a number of hives for sale, while in his stable we saw what we did not hesitate to pronounce the prettiest trio of grade Jerseys in the county, two of them of Mr. Brown's own breeding. Mr. Brown's card advertising young pigs for sale will be found in our columns, and we would advise any of our readers who intend trying these pigs to give him a call.

Judges and Judging at Our Fairs.

BY J. JACKSON.

Among the many difficulties which fair managers and exhibitors have to contend with, the question of judges and judging is ever first. Each year yields its crop of errors and complaints. That the present system of judging is susceptible of great improvement is quite among the possibilities, not that we ever expect to attain perfection or to silence the "chronic kicker," but we do think that errors in awards at our shows might and should be reduced to a minimum. Now the question is, How can this be done? With my experience of over twenty-five years exhibiting at large and small shows, I am fully convinced that to improve our present system we must get out of the old ruts,—we must let go the line we have held so long. We must make the position of judge a responsible position, an honorable one, and, if possible, a remunerative one. His reputation must be at stake, and if he dishonors his position let him stand without a cloak to hide himself under. The picked-up committee of three must go, they have outlived their usefulness. If three distinct breeds of animals were competing in the same class there might be some excuse for having each breed represented on the committee, but not otherwise. How often have we seen men accepting the position on a committee of three when they themselves knew they were incapable, and would not on any account have accepted were they to take the responsibility of making the awards. They accept, expecting the other two are qualified, and all they expect to do is to endorse their decisions. It sometimes happens that there are three of a kind, and when they go in the ring and find a superior lot of animals before them they seem amazed at their excellence, feel quite out of their latitude, but may think they can't go wrong as they are all so good, while an experienced man would have

no difficulty in pointing out the finer points and placing the awards as they should be. These are the kind of judges (for it is only the ignorant) that are well qualified to favor a friend in the ring.

Too much care cannot be exercised in the selection of judges. Good ones are *jewels* that are not scattered over the land in profusion; indeed, they are so scarce that we should be content with one for a class.

Broken-down breeders should be avoided. The fact that a man may have had good animals by paying high prices for them, and perhaps won a number of prizes with them, if he has failed to make a success of breeding them, and on that account got left and gone out of the business, is ample proof that he is not qualified to judge for others. Sometimes a man is selected out of respect as a friend, merely to pay him a compliment; this is doing him a great injustice, exposing him to the ridicule of the public. A man may hide his good judgment, but his ignorance he cannot hide. Let a man go in a ring to judge a class of sheep, and before he has made his first award the experienced eye has detected whether he is a judge or not. Some have a sort of mania for butchers as judges. This is a great mistake; they are not what is wanted to judge breeding stock. The fully ripe animal will, in most cases, take their eye, and be preferred to a much superior one for the purposes of the breeder,—it may be all very well in a fat-stock show. Again, if there was no difficulty in securing three good men to act, does it not seem a wanton waste of material to see three able-bodied men deciding between two samples of grain, roots, fruit, or as the case may be, when one could do it equally as well in one-half the time.

At the largest shows in England, including the Royal, the general practice there is a committee of two, this is better than three; two competent men will usually agree, and if they don't, they must show their colors and call in a third man to decide between them, which seldom occurs. The next improvement on this is the one judge; he must be a man of experience, one who has been a success in some particular line, honest in purpose, full of self-confidence, one that will not be influenced by remarks from outsiders; there are just such men, and they value their reputation, and when placed in such a position they feel and know that the whole responsibility rests on them alone, and will be more careful in the discharge of their duties. The one man is more sure to put in his appearance when he has accepted the appointment, and, as a matter of economy, one has the advantage. Nearly all the large shows in the Western States have adopted the single judge, which has given general satisfaction. It would be hard to induce them to again return to the old committee of three. There is no reason why an observing man, although only a breeder of one class of cattle, may not be able to judge a number of breeds, or that another may not be competent to pass on several breeds of sheep and give general satisfaction. I have seen one man judge all the mutton breeds of sheep at a large show, and when he was done the exhibitors all seemed happy. This is not always so when the awards are made by a committee of three. With the system we now adopt of naming men we have confidence in to act as judges, I think it would be well to give the single judge a trial on the sheep, for once at least.