

Cattle.

The show of cattle was much better, on the whole, than that of horses. There were a number of western exhibitors, and the Quebec breeders came out also in force.

Ayrshires.—No show on the continent can equal Montreal for Ayrshires. This year the local men were not so fortunate as in the past, the herd of R. G. Steacy, Maple Grove Farm, Lyn, Ont., heading the list this year. A special feature of the Montreal show is the judging of the herds first, before any of the other classes are shown. Nine herds competed this year, against fourteen herds shown two years ago. It was a fine sight to see these nine herds drawn up in line. Judging the herds first puts a great deal of extra hard work on the judge, who, not having seen the individual animals before, has to start fresh to go over in detail the whole of the animals before him. In some ways this has its benefits. In the old style a judge is more or less tied down by his former awards, and is more apt to count prize tickets than to judge the herds on their merits. Mr. Steacy brought out a very uniform herd largely white in color, with only a few red spots—the now fashionable color for Ayrshires. In fact, in the whole line the predominant color was mostly white with red or brown spots—a change from the old type, in which dark colors flecked with white predominated. Three years ago Mr. Steacy was only fourth for the herd prize, and it is a singular fact that the three herds placed before him in 1894 were not represented at the exhibition of 1897. The second place was secured by Mr. Wylie, of Elm Shade Farm, Howick, Que., and third prize by Daniel Drummond, Burnside Farm, Petite Côte, Que. In the class for aged bulls, D. Drummond was able to secure both first and second prizes. First place was given to Glencairn, imported in dam from Hugh Pilkington, Cavens, Scotland. The second place went to Kelso Boy, a son of Silver King. R. G. Steacy was first for two-year-olds and first for bull calf under one year. Dawes & Co., of Lachine, had the best yearling, and Mr. Wylie the best young bull calf under six months. In the cows there was a close contest. The veteran winner, Nellie Osborne, the sweepstakes gold medal cow at Chicago in 1893, was here again, full of years and honors. She is owned by D. Drummond, and was imported by the late Thomas Brown from Scotland. She has proved a great breeder of prize bulls, the well-known Silver King being one of the most celebrated of her sons. She this year had a heifer calf, named Nellie Osborne 2nd, which has begun well by winning first in her class. The old cow was placed second to R. G. Steacy's May Queen, five years old, a very nice cow with much white, imported from Scotland, and bred by Hugh Drummond, Craighead. This cow, as well as being a splendid cow, with all the dairy points, is also a rare good milker. She was awarded the medal for best Ayrshire cow. Mr. Steacy also won first and second for three-year-old cows. For breeder's young herd D. Drummond was first, and he also won the gold medal for four young animals, the get of one sire, and was first in the yearling heifer class with Pride of Burnside. James Johnston, of Como, was first for two-year-old heifers, and also first for young heifer calf. He had a very nice lot of young stock on exhibition, as had also R. R. Ness, of Howick, who won second place for breeder's young herd. R. Robertson, Compton, showed some good animals, and won several prizes. This herd, which has held a high place for quality as well as for performance, is to be sold by auction, as the owner has accepted the management of the Government farm at Moncton, N.B., the position held until recently by Col. W. M. Blair, of Truro. Other exhibitors and prize-winners were J. N. Greenshields, Danville; Mrs. W. Black, Genoa; John Howden, St. Louis de Gonzague; Charlemagne Lumber Co.; and David Benning, Williamstown.

Altogether the exhibit of Ayrshires was one of the most pleasing features of the Exhibition. Quebec certainly is well to the front in this breed, and in fact the whole of the great dairy section of the Eastern Provinces and the eastern part of Ontario have shown by their actions a very marked preference for the Ayrshire as a dairy cow specially suited to cheese-making.

Holsteins.—This breed made a good display. They were mostly from Ontario, and C. J. Gilroy & Son, of Glen Buell, took the largest share of the prizes, A. & G. Rice, of Currie's Crossing, making a good second. Only a few minor prizes fell to any others. The black and white breed had a side show all to them-

selves, which contained a pair of huge oxen said to weigh 7,300 lbs., and they looked like the weight.

Jerseys. The Jerseys were well represented. B. H. Bull & Sons, of Brampton, Ont., won both the herd prizes and both the medals, and had several other first prizes. Second place fell to Dawes & Co., Lachine, who had several very good animals. First for aged bull went to L. S. Wetherall, Cookshire, Quebec, and he also got first for a heifer calf. The Brampton herd contained some very fine specimens of the breed.

Guernseys. This breed was out in force—five herds were represented. J. N. Greenshields, of Danville, got first place for their young herd, closely followed by Hon. Sydney Fisher, of Knowlton, Quebec, while for exhibitors herd Wm. Butler & Son, Dereham Centre, Ont., were first, followed by the above named herds in the same order. In yearlings and two-year-olds the Messrs. Butler had some good things, and won four firsts. J. N. Greenshields got first and medal for his aged bull. W. H. & C. H. McNish had the winner in the cow class, a fine big cow named Adelta of Eastfield, a typical wedge-shaped dairy cow, with fine top line, large milk veins, and well set udder. Hon. Sydney A. Fisher showed a very sweet heifer calf, winner in her class, and had several other prize winners.

Canadians.—There was a very good exhibit of the native Canadian cattle, descended from the old importations made in the early days by the Kings of France. These cattle came originally from Normandy and Brittany, in France, and were much like the old Jersey stock. Many of them are good milkers, and the breed is one that should have every encouragement from the Quebec breeders. Dr. Couture, of Quebec, has the herd book in charge, and already several herds are on record, and more interest is being taken by careful selection to improve the breed. The colors are fawns and blacks, and the latter have the preference. They have short horns black and tapering, and are said to be excellent dairy cattle. Already some herds of this breed have been established in the United States. There is no reason why this breed should not be made one of the leading dairy breeds in Canada. Careful selection of the best milkers for breeding will do much to improve and advance the breed.

Galloways.—Galloways were represented by the well-known herd owned by D. McCrae, of Guelph. These hardy border blackskins were represented by 18 head, which included some very good young heifers and the old bull Canadian Borderer. Mr. McCrae took all the first prizes.

Polled Angus.—This breed was represented by three herds, those of Walter Hall, Washington, Ont.; D. M. Wilson, Mue's River, Que.; and R. H. Pope, Compton, Que. The honors were with the first named, who won the herd prize and both medals. R. H. Pope had also several firsts, and got the breeder's prize.

Herefords. Herefords were not a large class, but some very fine animals were present. H. D. Smith, Compton, had his stuff out in good shape, a credit to his foreman. D. M. Wilson had first for calves, while Guy Carr, Compton, had a few minor prizes.

Shorthorns.—Unfortunately the Shorthorns were a small class, and while there were some excellent animals shown, others were not fitted to appear before the public. James and P. Crerar, Shakespeare, had a few nice things; a pair of young roan cows were specially good. W. C. Edwards & Co., Rockland, had a bunch of nice calves, with one of which he gained the medal for best bull of any age.

The beef breeds did not make such a good showing as did the dairy breeds. Fewer in number, they also contained specimens of inferior quality. If this exhibition be a fair sample, there is great need for an effort to have better beef cattle grown in this province. On the other hand, the dairy breeds, and more especially the Ayrshires, were most creditable, and evidenced the skill and care shown in their breeding and handling.

Sheep.

Sheep were a creditable exhibit, and while there were not nearly so many exhibitors from the west as in former years, the local men brought out some fairly good animals. In Cotswolds there was a small lot of ten fresh from the Royal Show of England. These were just out of quarantine, imported by Robert Miller, of Brougham, Ont., for A. I. Watson, Castlederg, Ont. They were two shearing rams and two ram lambs, two shearing ewes and four ewe lambs. In Leicesters a new exhibitor, W. A. Rennie, of Shakes-

peare, was out in force with some of the best of John Kelly's flock. He had a pair of shearing ewes of extra quality, and one of these the judge remarked was the best ewe he had ever seen of any breed. D. Baxter, North Georgetown, Que., was first for a very good aged ram. *Lamons* were well represented, as were also *Downs* by western exhibitors. In *Shropshire* there was a fine lot just from England, shown by Robert Miller, Brougham. His aged ram, Darlington, has several times been a winner in England, where he was first at the Royal in 1895. He is a very lengthy sheep, of splendid quality. *Southdowns* were good, and *Hampshires* shown by John Kelly, Shakespeare, were the best lot of the breed that have been seen in Canada for several years. There were only a few *Merrins*, and they of the old-fashioned "wrinkly" kind, the modern Delaines having no representatives.

Swine.

Swine made a large and an excellent exhibit. In no other branch of live stock was there such a decided improvement shown as in the hogs from the Province of Quebec. This show was the best ever seen on the Montreal grounds, and in some cases could not be beaten anywhere. In *Chester Whites* the American judge was amazed at the exhibit, and stated that the display would do credit to any state fair in the American Union. *Poland-Chinas* and *Duroc-Jerseys* were far behind the Chester Whites, both in numbers and quality. There was a large exhibit in *Yorkshires*, Joseph Featherston, M.P., of Streetsville, having 42 head on the grounds, the bulk of these Yorkshires. He was not able always to win against his French Canadian competitors, the Reverend Brothers, of the College of Saint Laurent having some excellent home-bred specimens. There were a few *Suffolks* and a pair or two of *Essex*, and a grand lot of *Be-Chartres*. Mr. Auclair, of St. Vincent de Paul, had a young sow of very extra quality, hard to equal anywhere. *Tamworths* were a large and fine exhibit. James Donaldson, Ormstown, Que., had a good exhibit of this breed.

Poultry.

The exhibit of poultry was large and very good—nearly 1,800 entries, about 500 more than ever before at a Quebec show. The show of pigeons and fancy fowl was especially large, the city of Montreal supplying the greater part of this magnificent exhibit. All the ornamental fowl were of good quality and out in large numbers.

In the more useful breeds the competition was strong, especially in Brahmas, Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, and Minorcas. Light Brahmas were especially excellent. The winners were well distributed, but Montreal got the larger share in these heavy classes. The White Rocks seem growing in favor to judge by the number of birds shown, and there were also a good many of the other varieties. In Wyandottes the new buffs were fine birds, and the Buff Leghorns, only a few years on exhibition, were large fine birds almost the size of Rocks, and very handsome birds. The exhibit of Indian Games was very good. Dr. Bell, of Toronto, had some very nice birds in Buff Cochins, as had also J. W. Neilson, Lyn, who was also strong in Silver Grey Dorkings. There were many exhibitors represented from Toronto, Kingston, Cornwall, Almonte, Brockville, as well as from many parts of the Province of Quebec.

Turkeys were not a large exhibit. The prizes were too small to pay express charges for any distance, being the same amounts as for ordinary poultry, but water fowl, both geese and ducks, were out in quantity. Unfortunately on the first night of the show from lack of care a number were killed by dogs, Mr. James Main, of Milton, who had a fine exhibit being one of the sufferers, losing several very fine ducks. The contents of seven or eight coops were destroyed.

Implements.

The contrast between the exhibits of implements at Montreal and at any of our large western shows was very marked. The facilities for a good exhibit were very limited, and those shown were often of a small, almost obsolete type. The old-fashioned dump-rake reapers are still being made for the Quebec trade, and seemed to be more in evidence than the modern self-binder. Other classes of tools for farming were much of this kind—small and old-fashioned. There was a fine display of carriages and sleighs, and those mostly of the most modern types. Hay presses of several different makes were shown, and it was evident that the export of hay is one of the leading industries of the Province.

Manufactures.

A very few of the many Montreal merchants made a display in the main building, and these few did not make any particular effort to call special attention to their goods. It was a display and nothing more. On the other hand very many small articles were well advertised, and the stands for baking powders, fancy soaps, cure all quack medicines, and other such articles took up a goodly part of the space. Amongst these were many vendors of the fakir sort, who had to be very careful in what they said to keep up their trade, and still keep out of the clutches of the law. Cheap flash jewellery vendors, cigar stands, wine counters, and kindred institutions were well represented. The wine stand sold small printed instructions and gave the beverage free. These were quite interesting to many, and gave a good deal of life to the main building, but are not considered a necessary part of a modern exhibition.

QUEBEC STOCK BREEDERS

The stock breeders of the Province of Quebec met in the exhibition grounds on the evening of August 24th in the directors' room. The secretary, Dr. Couture, of Quebec, presented the various reports, and gave the list of officers elected for the current year. The association has branches which include horses, cattle, sheep, and swine, with committees for each. The business was transacted in French, the chairman stating in English the motions before the voting on any question.

S. C. Stevenson, secretary of the Montreal Exhibition Company, was present, and gave an address on the work before the association. He mentioned the fact that the directors of the exhibition had been at great pains and at considerable expense to procure the very best judges in the different classes of live stock. He suggested that one or two evening meetings should be held during the time of the show, at which addresses would be delivered by these judges and by other men eminent in agriculture and stock breeding. By this means much valuable practical information might be imparted to the members of the Quebec Breeders' Association. If after the meetings, the proceedings and papers were published and circulated throughout the province much greater publicity would be given to the proceedings. This matter was referred to the Executive Committee.

The matter of the appointment of a Live Stock Commissioner for the Dominion was discussed, and the members urged to advocate the appointment by the Dominion Government of such an officer, who would be expected to do work for live stock interests similar to that done for the dairy interests by the Dairy Commissioner, Prof. J. W. Robertson. The Executive were instructed to give this matter early attention, and urge upon Hon. S. A. Fisher and the Government the great need of such an officer.

Reports were received from the Canadian Cattle committee, showing what had been done during the past year, and the recognition in several shows of the old breed of Lower Canada. Sales had been made to the United States, and one herd of these cattle had been exhibited at Atlanta, Georgia, and at other fairs in different States. A marked advance was noted in the care being taken by the breeders, and in the good specimens of the breed forward at this exhibition.

The chairman reported that steps had been taken to have representation on the Board of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association. Mr. F. W. Hodson, secretary, had been communicated with, and it was expected that this would be up before the Dominion Directors at their next meeting.

BOOKS AND BULLETINS.

Michigan State Farmers' Institutes. Winter of 1896-7. Containing reports, papers, discussions, etc., with full index. 184 pages. From Kenyon L. Butterfield, superintendent.

Year Book of the United States Department of Agriculture for 1896. Containing many important papers. Full index and many fine plates and illustrations. 686 pages. Published by the Department. 500,000 copies of this book are published for free distribution. There is no other publication like it. From the Department of Agriculture, Washington.