

Live Stock at the Provincial Exhibition.

(Continued from October Number.)

In the sheep department the show of Cotswolds was very good. There were 153 entries, and there must have been more animals on the ground than there were entries, a number being brought for sale and not for exhibition, and, therefore, were not all entered. The animals exhibited were of very superior quality and the competition for the awards was keen.

Mr. James Russell, of Richmond Hill, Ontario, had on exhibition twenty-three head, consisting of six rams and seventeen ewes of various ages, the majority of them being imported. The entire lot were well fitted for show. His aged ram was an exceedingly large and heavily-wooled animal with a good constitution. He won 1st prize in his class this year and the same last year. Mr. Russell's aged ewes were also very good and have been prize winners in England and three times successful competitors at the Ontario Provincial, including this year, when they won 1st and 2nd in their section; his yearling ewes won 2nd. On a yearling ram he won 1st. This animal was recently imported from England and his feet and legs were somewhat sore from the voyage. From this cause he did not appear to advantage. He is an exceedingly good animal—large, handsome and well-wooled, was bred by Mr. Swanwick, of Gloucester, England, and was recently imported by Mr. Arthur Johnston, of Greenwood, Ont., who sold him to Mr. Russell for \$275. Mr. Russell's flock won two flock prizes (all that were offered in this class).

James Main, of Trafalgar, also exhibited seven very choice animals, all of which had recently been imported from England. The lot consisted of two yearling rams, both of which were prize-winners; three ram lambs, which won 1st and 4th; six yearling ewes, which won 1st and 3rd; two aged ewes; and four ewe lambs which were awarded second and third prizes.

Mr. Thos. Teesdale, of Concord, Ont., exhibited seven head, all lambs, and though the number was not large they amply made up for their lack in this respect by their superior quality. Seven as good lambs from one flock are seldom seen. An expert might pick the country over, visiting all the best flocks in it, and we feel doubtful if as many lambs of equal quality would be forthcoming. They were very large and the quality of their wool was excellent. At the time the show was held some of them would weigh quite 200 pounds and none of them much less. They were bred by the exhibitor on his farm in York county, and we may therefore claim them as a Canadian product. They were successful in the show ring.

Mr. J. Franks, of Dorchester, Ont., had on exhibition fourteen head, which were not highly fed, but were a very useful lot. All, with one exception, were home-bred.

Mr. P. McLavie, of Jarvis, Ont., made a good display of fifteen head, and won a few prizes.

Mr. John C. Ross, also of Jarvis, exhibited fourteen head, some of which were imported. This flock was not highly fitted for exhibition, but was in that condition which is most profitable to the general farmer. Mr. Ross' entire exhibit was good, but especially worthy of mention were his yearling rams and ram lambs.

Messrs. F. & H. Shore, of White Oak, Ont., had fourteen head on exhibition, five of which were imported from England, and the remainder were bred by themselves. This lot was also in what is known to breeders as a half-fitted condition, and was, like Mr. Ross', a very profitable kind of sheep for farmers who are dealing in long-wools to buy.

Mr. H. Rawlings, of Ravenswood, Ont., exhibited fourteen, and Mr. Humphrey Snell, of Clinton, Ont., six, all of which were nice animals, but not fitted for exhibition.

LEICESTERS AND LINCOLNS.

Why these sheep are divided into two classes we fail to see. Some tell us that the Lincolns are a larger, coarser and better-wooled sheep than the Leicesters. This is a general supposition among the farmers, and in reality it is true; but in this country the two breeds have become so much alike that in many cases at our shows it is impossible for a person who does not know to whom the sheep belong to tell whether the owner calls them Lincolns or Leicesters. So much alike are they that some exhibitors, who have but one flock of sheep, enter in both classes, and show their coarser sheep as Lincolns and the finer ones as

Leicesters. Some even go further and exhibit in the class where there is the best chance to win a prize. We believe that if there were but one class in place of the two which now exist, the Association would effect a saving and the country lose nothing. This year there were entered 184 Leicesters and 153 Lincolns. A number of very choice animals were shown in the two classes, being better in quality and perhaps more in number than usual.

Mr. Andrew Murray, of Clanbrassil, Ont., had on exhibition twenty-seven choice Lincolns and won fifteen prizes, including the flock prize. They were well prepared for the exhibition, and considering the large number, this was one of the best flocks of any breed at the exhibition.

Mr. John Kelly, of Shakspeare, Ont., exhibited nineteen Border Leicesters, two of which were imported and the remainder home-bred. This flock won eight prizes, including the prize for the best flock of Leicesters.

Mr. Wm. Whitlaw, of Guelph, Ont., displayed fourteen Leicesters of the same family and won nine prizes. The last two flocks were very much alike in appearance and were a credit to their breeders and to the province. The aged sheep were large enough, of good symmetry, and carried very nice fleeces. The yearlings and lambs were large and well-matured. Like Mr. Murray's they were also among the best flocks on the ground.

Mr. Wm. Somers, of St. Marys, exhibited twenty-one large, strong sheep and took seven prizes.

Mr. W. Walker, of London, Ont., had a very nice flock of seventeen, and was a prize-winner. This flock was also well fitted for competition and made a very good display.

Mr. Henry Hammond, of Brantford, Ont., exhibited twenty head. They were useful sheep, but in rather lean condition.

Mr. H. Snell, of Clinton, exhibited six head. Mr. Humphrey, four; Mr. Hall, of London, three; Wm. Wadham, of Yarmouth; seventeen; and a few others made a creditable display, but their sheep were not highly fed.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Mr. John Jackson, of Abbington, Ont., exhibited twenty-five head, five of which were imported from England, and the remainder Canadian bred. This exhibit was very fine, several of the animals were of exceptional excellence. Mr. Jackson's flock took four first, three second and two third prizes, including the special prize known as "The Prince of Wales' Prize," which was this year given for the best flock of Southdowns consisting of ten animals of various ages.

Mr. H. H. Spencer, of Brooklin, Ont., made a display of twenty Southdowns, fifteen of which were imported and the remainder bred by the exhibitor. Mr. Spencer's herd made a very fine appearance, and won three first, one second and three third prizes.

Mr. D. Perley, of Paris, Ont., exhibited a flock which numbered twenty-four; all of them Canadian bred. They made a very nice appearance. Though not in high condition, they won a share of the awards.

Mr. T. W. Stone, of Guelph, Ont., exhibited two, and Joseph Salkeld, of Stratford, Ont., twelve head, all of which were rather nice but not in proper condition to be successful in the show ring.

SHROPSHIRE AND OXFORD.

The Shropshires and Oxfords were shown in one class, and although the Board were made aware of the injustice of this course they could not be induced to make other arrangements at all acceptable to the breeders. It seems rather strange in cases where separate classes are not really needed the Association should be so conservative as to maintain them for years after their usefulness is gone, and when new classes are needed they should be so slow to act.

Messrs. Beatty & Miller, of Clarmont, Ont., exhibited twenty-nine head, the majority of which were Oxfords and the remainder Shropshires. This flock won the greater part of the prizes awarded to this class. Their exhibit was very good, especially their Oxfords, which were very large and of superior quality. The entire lot arrived from England but a short time before the show.

Mr. H. H. Spencer, of Brooklin, Ont., exhibited a flock of fourteen Shropshires, all of which were also recently imported from England, and like the above flock, all the animals were very good, especially his yearling ewes, yearling ram and aged ram.

Mr. Hodgson, of London, Ont., had four very good Shropshires on exhibition.

Never at an Ontario Provincial were there

so many Downs exhibited or so many change hands, and we may safely say that those shown were much superior to anything heretofore seen at any Canadian fair. The number of entries were—Southdowns, 107; Shropshires and Oxfords, 55. Although the Down exhibit was in every way superior, the flocks of some of the old and prominent breeders were conspicuous by their absence. prominent among those was the flock of Mr. Robt. Marsh, of Richmond Hill, Ont. Mr. Marsh, like many others, objected to so long an absence from home.

MERINOS.

The published prize list this year contained no class for these sheep, but, as a number of them were brought to the show, the Directors allowed a special class to be made. Twenty-six entries were made. Rock Bailey, of Union, Ont., was the principal exhibitor, his flock numbering twenty-three. As most of our readers know, these sheep are small and produce a fleece of fine, short, oily wool. Mr. Bailey claims that his entire flock will average 12 lbs. of unwashed or 8 lbs. of washed wool per head, for which he receives the highest market price. For a long time the Merino breeders have claimed heavy fleeces. Mr. B. is no exception, he says that his breeding ram last spring clipped 28 lbs. of unwashed wool, and in the spring of 1880 24 lbs., which was only eleven months' growth.

Mr. Langton, of Sparta, and Geo. Hood, of Guelph, were also exhibitors in this class. Mr. Hood exhibited an imported French Merino ram, which was no doubt the best sheep of the breed on the ground.

The show of fat sheep was very good and Mr. Geo. Hood was the principal exhibitor. His flock numbered twenty; and included seven Cotswolds, three grade Oxford-downs, four Southdowns and one pure Oxford-down, and two grade Leicesters. A few other exhibitors showed some very fine Cotswolds and Southdowns. We were pleased to see representatives from so many breeds competing in this class.

In the section for aged wethers a pair of pure Cotswolds won 1st and a pair of Southdowns 2nd. The 1st and 2nd prizes for yearling wethers were awarded to Oxford-down grades; the 3rd to a pair of Longwools. The sweepstake prize for four best fat sheep was won by three Southdowns and an Oxford-down.

HOGS.

The number of hogs exhibited was not as large as in previous years, but the quality was excellent. Especially was this the case in the Berkshire and small white classes. Among the large white hogs there were several fine ones, but there were also some of inferior quality. The Poland Chinas, which to many Canadian farmers are a new breed, were pretty well represented; but the majority of those shown were not in high condition and did not make as good an appearance as they would have done had they been properly prepared for exhibition. In the Berkshire class there were 125 entries; small white class, 105; Poland Chinas, 56; Essex, 50; Yorkshires and other large breeds, 48.

The curculio of plum weevil is one of the aborigines of America. Dr. Fitch, formerly entomologist for New York, says it is unknown in Europe. Before the era of cultivated fruits it subsisted on wild plums, crabs and thorn apples, but it now attacks nearly all tree fruits, and in addition makes them a depository for its eggs where its young are bred. The wound it makes for feeding purposes will heal on most fruits when the fruit is small, but when approaching maturity it causes the tender sorts to rot, plums particularly, and where plums touch each other this rot is infectious. This explains why some fruits rot so rapidly when nearly ripe.

The "Chicago Herald" mentions a strange horse disease which exists in Illinois it resembles lock-jaw. The muscles of the horses neck become rigid, accompanied by a discharge of mucus from the nose. There is little or no fever, and a total inability to swallow. In making the attempt to do so the animals attacked will thrust their heads up to the eyes in water. Several horses have died.

An agriculturalist says that there is no substance that can be applied with so small a cost to a worn-out orchard as lime. It promotes flowering and fruiting by the influence it exerts in evaporating and concentrating the sap, and that when lime will not bring an old orchard into bearing again the probabilities are that nothing will do so.