

ture rangers, and are under best conditions when on rough hillsides, where other breeds, with the exception of the Highland, Ayrshire, or Galloway, would have a hard struggle for mere existence. The high quality of their flesh is universally known, and this, in conjunction with the lightness of their offal, accounts for the favor shown them by the London West End butchers, as well as those of New York. Dickson, before referred to, says: "Their high reputation as feeders and the excellence of their beef have been acknowledged for ages, and Mr. Bakewell has paid them the highest compliment that they could possibly receive by declaring to an inquirer that the Devon cattle could not be improved by any cross with other breeds." The Devons, though they lay flesh on rapidly when placed in stall, are not early maturers, as it takes about four years for a steer to mature, and they take at least three years to build a frame necessary to carry a marketable quantity of flesh, and on this account, largely, they have not come in competition with the other recognized beefing breeds in the more fertile and level districts. There are many instances of Devons attaining to heavy weights. Barrister 281 weighed 634 pounds when eight months old, and 2275 when four years old; Felix 55 weighed 1530 at two years, and the Duke of Hampden 50 weighed 2030 when three years old. The bull Robin at four years of age weighed 2056 pounds. Golden Cup 2nd that captured first prize at the Smithfield Show, weighed, when four years old, 1867 pounds. These weights, though the best obtainable, yet show that the Devon will lay flesh on rapidly and that they may be fed to good weights. The average of good Devon steers may be said to be, when three years old, 1200 to 1400 pounds, while those of four years will average from 1500 to 1800 pounds.

As butter-givers the Devons have many friends, both on this and the other side of the ocean, to voice their praises. But facts and cited cases are more convincing than generalities, so we give a few of the records that have been made by cows of this breed. A writer as far back as 1803 mentions the case of a cow, Cherry 5157, that yielded in one day 33 pints of milk, from which was made 2 lbs. 5 ozs. of butter. This strikingly illustrates one of their most marked qualities, namely, the richness of their milk in cream. The flow is limited in quantity, but extra good in quality. Gem 1343 produced 215 pounds of butter in 95 days; and what is worthy of being noted, Beauty 506, when fourteen years old, produced 16 pounds of butter in one week. Baker's Fancy 1222, owned by Mr. Baker, of Wisconsin (who captured with his Devons the premium for best herd of milch cows, quantity and quality considered, at the Minnesota State Fair in 1882), produced 408 pounds in six months on pasture alone, and Banker's Bright Promise 724 made 20 lbs. 5 ozs. in seven days. Dr. J. C. Morns, of Philadelphia, has been making butter from his Devons for some fifteen years, and the yearly average, he states, has varied from 170 to 175 pounds per cow. An other American breeder, Mr. J. A. Fomeroy, with a dairy herd of 24 cows, testifies that his herd has averaged 230 pounds a year. Even allowing that some of these may be special cases, we may nevertheless place the average butter-yield of the Devon dairy cow between 200 to 300 pounds per annum.

The first Devons to reach America were sent out by Lord Leicester as a gift to Robert Paterson of Baltimore in 1817, and since that time they have made marked progress; and wherever they have found the rugged hills and undulating pasture of their native land, they have done well and given entire satisfaction in the United States, and in Canada as well, though here we know of but two herds, those of Mr. Samuel

Harper, of Cobourg, Ont., and Mr. W. J. Rudd, of Eden Mills, Ont.

### With the Stockmen.

THE COMMENTS OF A RAMBLER.

(Continued from last issue.)

MR. MACKIE'S HEREFORDS.

The Herefords of Mr. R. J. Mackie, Oshawa, are doing well on their native pastures, and reproduce their kind with an ever-recurring uniformity. You can find but few females in this herd which do not breed with an unfailing regularity. The show cows, Velvet and Albania, hold well their own, and carry to-day an ample load of flesh. The old Victoria cow, which proved a source of revenue to Mr. Mackie equal to a farm, is still in the herd, but she, now in her 16th year, begins to show the effects of wear of time. She is deserving of a box stall of her own, airy and warm, and food of the choicest nature as a recompense for the services of the past.

Calves are still thick in this herd, as they have always been. The old imp. stock bull Cecil 18469 (8385) is still smooth and low and broad and level, and might yet do good service in other herds. The young bull Commodore 32943, by Cassio, is now mostly used. He may not prove so compact as his sire, but is evidently a smooth and good bull. I had almost forgotten a bunch of some five heifers two years old, all but one having calves by their sides by Commodore 32943. The appearance of the young things augurs well for the future of Commodore as a useful sire.

MR. DREW'S HEREFORDS.

Mr. L. G. Drew has Herefords to the number of some twenty five head. Several of these are descended from Heatherbell, bought some years ago at the Experimental Farm, Guelph. The stock bull is Harmony Wilton, out of the dam Heatherbell 4th, and by the sire Conqueror, of the Experimental Farm. He is a good straight bull, long and level, with smooth outline, and a good deal of spirit and style, but is like a good many of the calves of Conqueror, just a little bit slack in the flank.

While looking at the nice smooth coats of the Herefords, with their well finished quarters, I could not but reflect as to the reasons why this easy keeping beefing breed is not extending more rapidly in the country. Three reasons presented themselves to the mind, and we give them. First, the Shorthorns have long been favorites with the farmers, who are slow to introduce changes at any time; second, many of the Hereford herds were introduced at a time when meat values began to decline; and third, the owners of them have not demonstrated to the farmers of Canada their value for producing shipping steers. If once the fields of the grazier were dotted with white faces intended for transatlantic shipment, the farmers on every side would want to know the reason why.

MR. GUY'S AYRSHIRES.

The Ayrshire herd of Mr. Thos. Guy, Oshawa, is in good shape. It numbers from some 50 to 60 head, and the individuality of the animals composing it stands high. If the herd fails to win so many first-prizes relatively, it is not because of any decline in the quality of its members but because of the increased opposition springing up in other sections, and largely from animals of Mr. Guy's breeding. Mr. Guy never has been an extensive importer, but rather a breeder who has enriched the country by giving it a large number of animals carefully bred on certain lines and carefully tended, hence the high average of excellence attained by the Ayrshires of this farm. Provincial

prize-winners are still thick in the herd. Violet, a five-year cow of fine smooth and well developed proportions, victorious in many a Provincial contest, and Lady Wallace 3rd, by the Model Farm imported bull Stoncalsey, also a Provincial prize-winner, were there. Amongst the yearlings were Lily Dale 2nd and Model 3rd, both first at leading fairs, and the nice prim, neat and well-developed calf Model 4th, which proved so attractive to Mr. McQueen, the excellent Scottish judge, in the Provincial show-ring at London. The "Auld Granny" of the herd, Perfection by name, is becoming very venerable looking. She is 17 years old and has produced 18 calves, on one occasion she produced twins, and she still looks fairly well. It has been found difficult sometimes to dry this matronly old cow, herself an indisputable example of the stamina of the breed she represents.

MR. KEOUGH'S GALLOWAYS.

The Galloways of Mr. Keough, of Owen Sound, are in fine shape. The stock bull, Claverhouse (4250), is a fine massive fellow; he was bred by Thos. Biggar & Sons, Chapleton, Dalbeattie, Scotland; he possesses general good development, including a most remarkable loin and quarter. The females of this herd deserve high praise. They are, taking them all in all, one of the evenest and best lots of females that I have yet seen in any of the herds of Ontario. Mr. Keough has, during the few years which he has been breeding Galloways, shown the best of judgment in his selections and breeding. The cows, three-year heifers, two-year heifers, yearlings and calves are uniformly good, and almost without any exception. If no mishap comes to the herd Mr. Keough will prove in future a very stiff competitor in any American showing.

I noticed some good Galloway grade yearlings in the herd, which gave evidence of fine growth and general development. The demonstration of the value of Galloway sires in this way is a very potent way to convince the farmer that Galloways are all that their admirers claim for them for beef-producing purposes.

THE SHORTHORNS OF MR. BRETHOUR.

Mr. J. E. Brethour, of Burford, has a herd of Shorthorns numbering some 16 or 18 head. The average of quality is high in this herd. The imported bull Provost heads the herd, a massive red of Kinellar breeding. His stock is proving very satisfactory.

Amongst the good animals our attention was drawn to a two-year heifer, Authoress = 16204 =, and a one-year, Landress = 16206 =, animals of much substance and quality and comely in shape.

Berkshires have proved very profitable in the past to Mr. Brethour, and he has a goodly supply, chiefly sows, on hand.

His latest love, however, is the Improved Yorkshire, of which several head were imported this year, notably three sows, which have bred nearly three dozen young pigs, and all three have been bred again. The offspring are all sold, and Mr. Brethour informs us that he might easily have sold twice as many more at good prices.

The Improved Yorkshires are not comely in appearance when young. The face is rather long and slightly Roman nosed, but as they grow older this assumes the dished shape with a pug nose. It is for length and depth of the sides that this breed is more especially prized, and for the intermixture of fat and lean in the meat.

THE BOW PARK SHORTHORNS.

Some old men tell us occasionally that they believe Shorthorns have deteriorated in size and quality during recent years, but those who speak thus cannot surely