

of a type which would not be looked at to-day, although in the previous year, 1878, he was considered good enough to beat the famous Druid 1120, which won first at the H. & A. S. Dumfries in 1878, and at the R. A. S. E. at Kilburn in 1879. I am not sure that even Druid himself would count for much to-day in spite of the fact that he was of great depth and weight. He was rather round in bone, and lacking in quality of limbs. Still we could do with more of his type in so far as formation of top and quarters is concerned. In the three-year-old class in 1879 the winner was James Johnston's Roderick Dhu, a dark brown colt which had won first at the H. & A. S. Dumfries in the previous year. His breeding was never disclosed to Mr. Johnston, who bought him at the Merryton sale in April, 1878. His dam was a mare named Boosie which Lawrence Drew brought out of Derbyshire when in foal with what became Roderick Dhu. In after years Boosie, in the hands of the late Peter Brown, Craigton, Bishopton, had a colt foal by Sanquhar 2393. This colt foal became known as The King, and was awarded the Glasgow prize as a three-year-old. Roderick Dhu had a stiff fight for first place at the 1879 show with Mr. Riddell's Rosebery, a light bay colt bred by Mr. Drew, and got by Prince of Wales 673, out of an English mare named Ruby. Rosebery was a nice quality horse with good feet and legs, and I rather think that according to the standards of to-day the relative merits of Roderick Dhu and Rosebery would not have been arguable. However, that is idle speculation. Roderick Dhu won but he never travelled the district, nor did Bonnie Breastknot. The latter died at the beginning of the season, and the former was exported to Australia by a noted dealer of those far-off days called John Trestrail.

In 1879 and up to 1892 the Glasgow premiums of £100 were the blue ribbons of the Clydesdale world. In 1892 the first competition for the Cawdor Cup took place, and increasingly since that time the Cawdor Cup has been the crowning trophy, except when the winner of the Cup is defeated by the winner of the Brydon Challenge Shield, competition for which is restricted to horses three years old and upwards. This is what happened this year. The first prize aged horse was Falconer L. Wallace's seven-year-old Dunure Refiner 17872, which was bought at the Dunure Mains dispersion on January 14 for 3,500 guineas. He won the Cawdor Cup when a two-year-old in 1914, and was then the champion of the Show. This year the winner of the Cawdor Cup was George A. Ferguson's four-year-old Ardenale 18993, which stood second in his class to Dunure Refiner. When, therefore, the horses came against one another for the Brydon Shield the issue had already been decided. Dunure Refiner is a beautifully balanced horse, very true to Clydesdale type. He has sweet-quality limbs and close action. His top and quarters are well formed and he has deep ribs. Ardenale, on the other hand, is of the more upstanding order, is not so deep in rib, and does not give quite the same impression of power in the fore limbs as Dunure Refiner. Of course, he is three years younger and if he thickens and grows down in rib he will be a much heavier horse than his successful rival on this occasion. Dunure Refiner is by Dunure Footprint, and Ardenale is by Bonnie Buchlyvie, both sires being by Baron of Buchlyvie 11263. The third-prize aged horse was James Gray's Botha 19026, of the same age as Ardenale but more after the type of Dunure Refiner. He has been a remarkable winner and promises well as a sire. His own sire was Baron of Buchlyvie. An extraordinarily good type of draft horse was fourth in Hiawatha Again 18765, a six-year-old son of the renowned Hiawatha 10067, and one of the best horses alive to-day. He is owned by Mrs. Kinloch, Ardoch Farm, Cardross, and is highly popular with horse-breeding societies, being hired three seasons ahead. John Samson's Drumcross Radiant 18323 which won both Cawdor Cup and Brydon Shield in 1915 was fifth. He was got by Hiawatha's son, Apukwa 14567 and is a beautifully topped horse with exceptionally good hind action. The sixth horse was William Kerr's Drexel 16548, by Revelanta 11876, and the highest-priced horse at the Banks dispersion in March 1918. The seventh, Mr. Pollock's Royal Fern 18078, a notable son of Bonnie Buchlyvie with the best of feet and legs. We have seldom seen a finer class of age horses. In quality, combined with weight and size, the seven named would be very hard to beat.

The leading three-year-old was Dunure Obligation 19426, a black colt by Dunure Footprint 15203, which has the great record of having been first at this Stallion Show as a yearling, two-year-old and three-year-old. He is now owned by John Johnston, Carbrook Mains, Larbert, and was reserve for the Cawdor Cup. Second to him stood James Gray's great colt, Birkenwood 19350, of his own breeding, and got by Dunure Birkenwood 18327, out of the beautiful prize mare Molly of Birkenwood 41028, by Bonnie Buchlyvie 14032. She was first prize brood mare at the R. A. S. E. Manchester in 1916, with Birkenwood a foal at foot. This colt has been hired for the ensuing season to the Donside district of Aberdeenshire. His terms are £8 at service and £10 additional for each mare proving in foal. That means that he can win about £500 in his first season. He is also hired for 1920 to Turriff district of Aberdeenshire. The third prize colt was George Bean's Royal Footprint 19539, a beautiful colt with the best of feet and legs, a fine short back and good long quarters. He was first in the following week at Aberdeen. Two extraordinarily good colts were first and second in the two-year-old class at Glasgow. These were Thomas Clark's Rising Star 19836, from Pitlandie, Perth, and George A. Ferguson's black colt, Passchendale 19815, from Turradale, Elgin. There was a tie between these colts as there had been a year earlier when they first met at Aberdeen. The same question arises between

them as between Dunure Refiner and Ardenale. Rising Star is a thick, deep-ribbed colt, with good top, and very good feet and legs. Passchendale is more of the upstanding, gay type. He was got by Phillipine 18044, for which Mr. Ferguson paid 2,400 guineas at the Seaham Harbor dispersion, out of Celia 43282, by Dunure Footprint 15203, and Rising Star is by Dunure Footprint out of Wells Mayflower 44057, by Star o' Doon 16103, an H. & A. S. first-prize colt in his time. Robert Graham, Kairnflatt, Kelso, was third, with Border Ensign 19631, a "slashing" big colt by Dunure Footprint.

In a fine class of colts foaled in 1918, colts by Apukwa 14567 were first and fourth, and colts by Dunure Footprint were second and third. The third has been named Dunmore Refiner 19897 and has been exported to Boston, Mass., by Mr. Grant. His price is quoted at £3,000. The fourth was sold in Aberdeen show-yard last week for £1,500. The latter price I can testify to as I was present when it was being paid. The colt which is named Alacrity was exhibited by James Gray, Crawfordstone, Kippen Station, and his buyer was James Kilpatrick, Craigie Mains, Kilmarnock, the new President of the Clydesdale Horse Society.

The Aberdeen Show.

The Aberdeen Show was held a week later. Its chief feature was the remarkable display of young stock, especially yearling fillies. The senior championship went to G. S. Ferguson's Passchendale, which had won in the two-year-old class. The reserve was Mr. Gray's Botha, which stood second in the aged class. Mr. Ferguson's Dunure Kaleidoscope 18335 which he purchased at the Dunure Mains dispersion for 4,100 guineas was first in the aged class, but did not compete for the championship, on account of the rule that a horse must be at least six months in an owner's possession. George Bean's Royal Footprint 19539 was the first prize three-year-old. The junior championship which is confined to the winners in the two classes of yearling and two-year-old fillies, and the class of yearling colts, was won by Stephen Mitchell's first-prize yearling filly, got by Apukwa, out of Boquhan Jean 41590, by Dunure Footprint. The reserve was James Gray's first-prize two-year-old filly, Senga, own sister to his first-prize yearling colt, Risque, which occupied that place both at Glasgow and at Aberdeen, and uterine sister to Birkenwood, already referred to. The Aberdeen Spring Show is now one of the best in the country for young stock, and several of the largest Clydesdale studs are now located in Aberdeen and Elgin. Recently George A. Ferguson paraded fifty stallions to a

managed milk-record herds were tabulated. The average for the fourteen herds over a normal lactation period was 533 gallons per cow. There is urgent need to eliminate the bad sire—not in the dairy breeds alone, but in all breeds. In Great Britain we have too great a difference between the high merit of our pedigree herds and the average merit of the commercial stock of the country. Recently Alfred Mansell, Shrewsbury, read a paper to the Farmers' Club, London, in which he advocated the elimination of the inferior or bad sire. He did not, however, define the term, while he condemned the animal. So far as horses are concerned the worst kind of sire is the animal that is almost, if not altogether, sterile. The Clydesdale Horse Society means to take steps to prevent the exportation of such. Possibly the end in view can hardly be attained without the co-operation of breed societies overseas.

Some Long-Lived Clydesdales.

In connection with the presence of overseas men at the recent Stallion Show, a lecture was delivered by the writer of this letter in one of the halls in Glasgow. It was well attended by the men for whom it was designed and many others. Over sixty photos were shown upon the screen, of famous horses and mares of the breed, and it is noteworthy that at the Show there was exhibited the Clydesdale stallion, Montrave Mac 9958, foaled on April 23, 1893, and therefore almost twenty-six years of age. He was looking remarkably fresh and fit, with clean, flat bones, and he went round the ring like a three-year-old. His sire was the famous Macgregor 1487, which lived to be over twenty-two years old, and his dam was Montrave Maud 11786, whose sire Prince of Wales 673, died when he had completed his season in 1888, that is when he was rising twenty-three years old, and her dam, Moss Rose 6203, died when she was twenty-eight years old.

LIVE STOCK.

Care of the Flock Header Throughout the Season.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The use of a good pure-bred ram in the flock is essential to obtain the best results. The care of the ram during breeding season and after is also of due importance to insure the best results from mating and to prolong his usefulness. The breeder usually purchases the ram early in the season that he may get a good selection but does not take delivery till the breeding season. He is then turned with the ewes at once. This saves the trouble of caring for the ram during the summer and fall until desired for service. The care of the ram during the mating season will depend to a certain extent upon his condition and to a greater extent upon the number of ewes to be bred. The breed of the ram also plays an important part in the number of ewes that will be bred. If a show ram is to be used, he must be used moderately and then only with supplementary feed. A ram in field condition will handle twenty to thirty ewes without extra feed and care if the ewes are running on fair pasture. Over this number, it is advisable, with the average ram, to give feeds of grain night and morning. If there are over fifty ewes, keep the ram in during the day and feed moderately on grain with plenty of green feed and good clover or alfalfa hay and then turn with the ewe at night, or turn the ram with the ewes night and morning and put each ewe out as she is mated. After sixteen days the mated ewes must be tried again to insure that none are returning. When the ram is handled in this way he will do excessive service without impairing his vitality and pulling him down in flesh. The prepotency of a sire varies to a certain extent according to his vitality and constitutional vigor.

When the breeding season is over allow the ram to run with the ewes, if he is in strong flesh, as he will then hold up fairly well. It is not a good policy to try to fatten the sire up quickly if he has lost flesh but rather to keep him only in strong working flesh acquired with plenty of exercise. Before the ewes start to lamb, take the ram away and either confine him alone or better still turn in with some other rams or wethers. Many rams become very restless and irritable when alone and this should be avoided. A ram that has become cross when with the ewes may be cured by turning him with other rams—providing the other rams do not use him too roughly. A good stock ram should not be fitted for shows and at the same time used for service.

In the summer time the ram may be turned with the ewes and lambs on pasture and will generally do well enough on whatever pasture the ewes are given—both before and after the lambs are weaned. When any of the ewes are coming in season in the fall, the ram must be taken from the flock, unless early lambs are desired,



Pride of Nullmills.

A champion at Perth, and sold for 3,100 gs.

crowd of overseas men who were touring the North inspecting the leading Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus herds and Highland cattle folds, with the Clydesdale studs.

Ayrshire Activities.

At the Boreland of Balmagtrie sale of Ayrshires recently, 92 head of all ages made an average of £46 4s and 70 Ayrshire cows made an average of £53 16s. 3d. Great interest is being taken in milk records, and there is undoubtedly much room for improvement in these. Great advances have been made where the system has been in operation for about twenty years, but there is still great room for improvement. The Ayrshire Herd Book Association and the Ayrshire Agricultural Association have resolved to adopt a scale of points in show-yard judging, which gives thirty-five per cent. to the authenticated milk yield in the case of a cow, or thirty-five per cent. for authenticated milking pedigree in the case of bulls and younger females. The other items recommended are thirty per cent. for form, symmetry and constitution, and thirty-five per cent. for mammary development, which phrase is to include size of teats, shape of udder, and milk veins. Should this scale be adhered to, it will undoubtedly modify, if not wholly annul, the method of judging which put about seventy-five per cent. on the shape of the udder and hang of the teats, and took next to no account of conformation and constitution. That all this is commendable reform is evident from such a fact as this. Recently in connection with a Government inquiry the authenticated milk yields of fourteen of the best

and turn him if they are not Middlesex

W.C.

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