

Stock Department.

Notes on Canadian Herds.

NO. 2.

Situated near Hornby Village, in Trafalgar township, five miles from Milton, the county town of Halton, is a picturesque farm of 300 acres, belonging to John White, Esq., M.P. It is well watered, and kept in excellent order. The soil is a rich loamy clay, and the main dependence is on grass and stock-raising, a good many acres of roots being grown. Blood horses, Cotswold and Leicester sheep, form the chief items; but quite a number of short-horn cattle are also kept. Mr. White was from home, attending to his Parliamentary duties, when we visited the farm, and the manager had but recently taken charge, and could not give us much information. A large number of the cattle are grades, but of Herd Book Short-horns we saw several. A red roan cow, "Mercy," by "Ethelbert," [234], out of "Florence," by "Hero," [343], now 11 years old, with a red and white heifer calf by "Duke of Marlborough," 5587, red cow "Phoebe," 8 years old, by "Ethelbert," out of "Daisy Spot," by "Victor," [767] with a red and white heifer calf to Tuck's bull; red and white cow, "Duchess Bloom," by "Garibaldi," [258], out of "Duchess," of unknown pedigree, a rather nice-looking cow, with a bull calf to "Duke of Marlborough;" red cow "Young Duchess," by "Butterfly 2nd," [91], out of "Duchess;" white heifer, "White Rose," by "Butterfly 2nd," out of "Mirth," by "Ethelbert;" roan heifer "Butterfly Bloom," by "Butterfly 2nd," out of "Dairy Maid," by "Garibaldi;" red heifer "Virtue," by "Butterfly 2nd," out of "Countess 1st," by "Butterfly 2nd."

We did not see any bulls, and the manager said the above were all the thoroughbred Short-horns they had. A good many of the young stock had been sold off during the last fall and winter.

Three miles to the north of Milton, in Esqueving township, and thirteen miles from Bronte station, on the Great Western Railway, lives a tenant farmer, now getting somewhat famous as a breeder of Short-horns. His name is Joseph Kirby, for ten years the manager to F. W. Stone, of Moreton Lodge, Guelph. For the last five years he has been hard at work on a farm of 130 acres, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, capable of carrying over forty head of cattle,

besides a large number of very choice Leicester and Cotswold sheep. He grows some grain; but most of the farm, which is a rather heavy, though rich clay, is in grass and roots; and while we were there, seventeen acres were being prepared for rape, a crop unknown to most of our farmers, though largely grown in Britain for feeding to stock in the fall and early winter. Being a working farmer, he looks after all his stock himself, and takes a lively interest in their welfare, sparing no pains to obtain the best animals he can. He owned the celebrated bull "Butterfly 2nd," [91], which has proved so prolific a stock-getter, and helped to fill the pages of the Canadian Herd Book. This bull went to the butcher last fall. Two years ago, Mr. Kirby bought the bull "Duke of Marlborough," 5587, from J. O. Sheldon, of Geneva, at a high figure, but he has proved almost worthless, as he has got but about a dozen calves since he came into Mr. Kirby's hands. We do not admire this animal, for though he has a good pedigree, with several crosses of the Duchess and Gwynne blood, he is not nice-looking, and has a savage disposition. His stock have, however, proved to be fine animals so far. In consequence of this bull not being of much use, he last year obtained the services of a pure-bred short-horn bull named "Breadalbane," the pedigree of which we did not learn. He has some most excellent Herd Book cows, most of them with calves at foot. "Flora," red and white, by "Ethelbert," [234] out of "Snowbird," by "Halton," [333] 556, now 9 years old, with a roan bull calf to "Duke of Marlborough;" "Florence," red and white, a fine cow by "Hero," 574, out of "Countess," by "Halton," now in her 13th year, and in high condition; "Mary," 9 years, red, by "Ethelbert," out of "Duchess;" "Mountain Dairy," roan and white, by "Garibaldi," [283], out of "Iris," by "Ethelbert," with a light roan bull calf to "Duke of Marlborough;" "Dairy Maid," red and white, by "Garibaldi," out of "Iris," with a red bull calf to "Breadalbane;" "Iris," roan, by "Ethelbert," out of "Wildame 4th," by "Duke of Wellington," (3654), with a roan bull calf to "Breadalbane;" "Buttercup," light roan, by "Butterfly 2nd," out of "Marchioness" by "Garibaldi," with white heifer calf to "Breadalbane;" "Magnet," roan and white, by "Garibaldi," out of "Mercy" by "Ethelbert," a good milker, with roan heifer calf to "Breadalbane;" "Darling," red and white, by "Ethelbert," out of "Britannia" by "Victor," [767]. 10 years old,

with red and white bull calf to "Breadalbane;" "Young Countess," red and white, by "Garibaldi" out of "Mary," by "Ethelbert;" "Countess 1st," roan, by "Butterfly 2nd" out of "Mary;" "Diamond" roan, by "Butterfly 2nd" out of "Darling;" "Louisa," light roan, by "Garibaldi" out of "Darling;" "Memory," roan and white, by "Butterfly 2nd" out of "Miss Miller;" "Miss Miller," red and white, by "Garibaldi" out of "Darling"—the last six mostly heifers in calf to "Breadalbane" or "Duke of Marlborough." Besides these, we noticed about half a dozen young heifers not yet named, and several very fair grade cows kept for the dairy, the thoroughbreds requiring all the milk they have for their own calves, which they are allowed to suckle.

This and Mr. White's herd are mostly from early importations, and more adapted to the butcher than the dairy. They are principally descended from the well known cow "Beauty," by "Snowball," (2647).

Sale of Short-horn Bulls.

A sale by auction of as fine a lot of young Short-horn bulls as has ever been offered by a single breeder in Canada, took place at the farm of Hon. David Christie, "The Plains," near Paris, on the 10th June. The day was cool and pleasant, though heavy clouds drifted across the sky from time to time, but no rain fell till about 4.30 p.m. There was a very large attendance, but although the hour named to begin was 1 p.m., it was past three before the sale commenced.

J. R. Page, of New York State, well known as a first-rate judge of Short-horns, acted as auctioneer.

The first animal brought out was "Pilot," a red bull 16 months old, got by "Crown Prince of Athelstane" (21512), out of "Placida"—a very nice-looking animal, with large horns, after his dam. After being led round for some time, he was taken back unsold, no one appearing to be willing to venture a bid high enough to come up to his real value. Next came "Prince Imperial," a roan, aged 16 months, by "Crown Prince," out of "May Queen," a cow of Mr. Stone's "Sanspareil" tribe. He finally went to Mr. John Snell for \$150. "Hopeful," another roan, aged 18 months, by "Crown Prince" out of "Joyful," a "Josephine" cow bred in Kentucky, went to David Henderson for \$185. Then came another of the "Sanspareil" tribe: "Prince of the Wood," white, aged 28 months, got by "Crown Prince" out of "May Queen." He sold for \$175 to J. W. Farr, of Michigan. "Knight of the Garter," white, another of the "Josephine" tribe, by "Crown Prince," out of "Beauty," aged 12 months, went out without a bid. A little 6 months old roan, got by "Prince of the Realm" out of "Rose of Athelstane," and