

### English Notes.

Since my last notes there have taken place a considerable number of important sales of pedigree cattle, of which the following may be taken as the more important. I make no reference to the Scotch sales, as these have been dealt with by your correspondent in that country. The first sale that calls for notice is that which Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall conducted on behalf of Messrs. Chatterton, at Stenigot, Lincoln, on the 17th October, of a portion of their noted herd of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn cattle. Lord Heneage presided at the luncheon, when about 300 or 400 breeders sat down. The herd, which was shown in grand condition, excited very strong competition, and the average disclosed in the prepared tabulated form will give a good general idea of the prices realized for what was certainly one of the best lots of this breed of cattle that have been offered for sale this season.

Space will not permit full details of each lot being given, therefore we give the buyers of some of the higher-priced lots:

Cows—45 gns. to Mr. J. Searby, 33 gns. and 36 gns. to Mr. A. Smith. Three-year-old heifers—47 gns. and 30 gns. to Mr. Blow and 31 gns. to Lord Heneage. Two-year-old heifers—52 gns. to W. J. Atkinson, 45 and 38 gns. to Lord Heneage and 30 gns. to Mr. Blow. Heifer calves—37 gns. to Mr. Marriott and 20 gns. to W. J. Atkinson. Yearling bulls—110 gns. to T. Bett, 55 gns. to Mr. W. Nainby, 36 gns. to Mr. J. C. Mountain, 35 gns. to J. W. Davy, 30 gns. to J. Byron and 27 gns. to Sir W. Cooke and Messrs. Needham and J. Evans, respectively.

The feature of the sale was the great demand and high values realized for the young stock, and it was a notable feature of the sale that the whole of this year's crop of bull calves were included therein, and were all sold. Eighty-nine head were sold at an average of £34 6s., 15 bulls averaging £36, and 39 cows and calves together, £42 14s. each.

The dispersion sale of Mr. John Price's herd of Hereford cattle was another very notable sale and one that clearly shows how high the values for the pick of pedigree herds of England are. There were sixty-nine cows and sixty-five calves sold, and the average of these was £72 19s. 8d., the highest-priced cow being £220 10s., to Mr. C. Pulley; the top price for heifer calves, £50 8s., to Col. Dicie; and the top price for bull calves was 126 gns., for the bull calf out of Lavender, who was purchased by Mr. Faber, this grand calf being secured by Mr. Lawton for the Agricultural College, Canada. Mr. G. Leigh, of the U. S., was a purchaser of several cows, amongst those he secured being: Gretchen, at 37 gns.; Alix, at 45 gns.; Laburnham, at 36 gns.; Apology, at 65 gns.; Siren, at 27 gns.; Augusta, at 40 gns., and Lucilla, at 36 gns. Other notable prices were: Albertha, at 120 gns., to Mr. Foster, and Leila, to Mr. P. Coates, for 100 gns.; Pinafore, to W. Thomas, 74 gns.; Frolic, to Mr. Foster, 72 gns.; Sunbeam, the same buyer, at 75 gns. Mr. J. Tudge got a fine bull calf for 105 gns., W. Dew one for 95 gns., Dr. Williams one for 62 gns., Mr. Purdon one for 48 gns., etc. The thirty-two-year-old heifers averaged £64 1s., the best prices being 210 gns. to Mr. P. Coates, 180 gns. to G. D. Faber, 100 gns. to C. Pulley, 95 gns. to Sir John Cotterill, 66 gns. to Mr. C. Pulley, 65 gns. twice to H. M. the King; and Mr. G. Leigh, of the U. S., who also got another one at 55 gns., and another at 58 gns.; Mr. H. Yeld got two, also for the States, at 60 gns. and 40 gns. The twenty-six yearling heifers averaged £37 8s. 8d., their best prices being 100 gns., to Mr. C. Pulley, and 70 gns., to the same buyer.

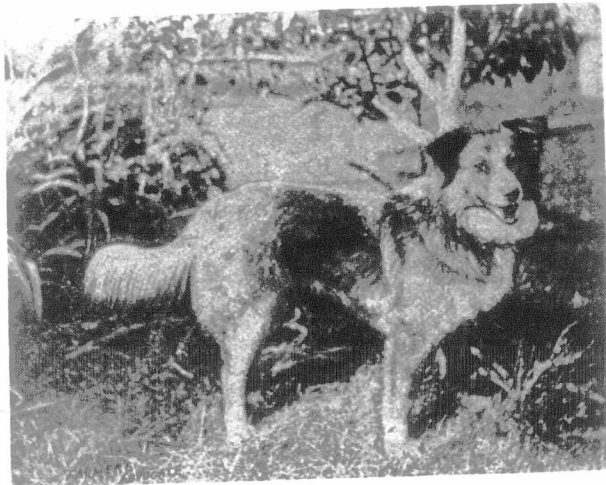
The bulls made an average of £94 3s. for thirteen, their best prices being 400 gns. to Mr. P. Coates and 260 gns. to Mr. G. D. Faber. The whole of the animals offered in the sale, 203 head, made the remarkable average of £41 5s.

Mr. F. Crisp's Shire horse sale was one of considerable importance, and the prices made were high, but it must be stated that the quality was correspondingly good. The twenty-seven brood mares and foals averaged £130. Southgate Charm, to Mr. Victor Cavendish, made 875 gns.; Aurea, 550 gns., to Mr. A. Henderson, M. P.; Hitchin Buttercup, to Lord Llangattock, for 110 gns. For the colt foal out of Southgate Charm, Lord Rothschild gave 240 gns., and Mr. Phillips gave 105 gns. for a filly foal. The eight stallions averaged £372 1s. 10d., the top price being 1,550 gns. for Hendre Champion, to Mr. Salomans; 380 gns. for Mormear of Batsford, to Mr. Freeman Mitford; 280 gns. for Marmion 2nd, 350 gns. for Gorton Chieftain, to Messrs. Thompson, and 120 gns. for Gorton Chief. The three-year-old fillies averaged £182 14s., the prices being for the three: 210 gns. for Gorton Starlight; 150 gns. for Wilcott Bounce, and 62 gns. for Bonny Brown. The two-year-olds for two averaged £118 2s. 6d., the three yearling fillies averaged £135 9s., £185 being paid for Moulton Una. The forty-five head made an average for the whole lot of £174 11s.

Mr. A. Hiscock, of Manor Farm, Motcombe, has during the past month held a sale of the celebrated Berkshire and Large White pigs that he is such a noted breeder of, with the most satis-

factory results. Of both breeds, there were offered 105 head, and the average of the whole lot works out well over £10 per head, a remarkable average and one that has not been equalled for some considerable time past. There were 60 head of Berkshires, and these averaged £9 14s. 6d. each, the best prices being 31 gns. for Manor Sunflower, to Lord Canarvon; 29 gns. for Manor Faithful, to R. W. Hudson; 25 gns. for First Frank F., to Hon. C. Portman; 22 gns. for Manor Grand Duke, to S. Hill, and 20 gns. for Barbara 3rd, to Lord Arlington. The Large Yorkshires and other white breeds numbered 45 head, and these averaged £10, the best prices being 31 gns. for Smithfield Queen, to Mr. E. J. Morant, who also took Manor Betsy at 19 gns. At 20 gns. Manor Countess went to the Hon. C. Portman, Manor Patchwork making one guinea more to Mr. Lywood.

The general result of the ram sale season is one that brings little comfort to the breeder, for there has not been a worse season than the one that has just concluded for some long time past. The main reason for this unsatisfactory state of affairs has been the stoppage of the South American demand and the consequent large supply thrown on the home market. Mr. Henry Dudding has, however, about cleared out, though he has some real good rams left, waiting for the expected opening of the Argentine ports; for whenever this does come there will be a strong reaction, and we may probably see prices rushed up to even a higher level, for it is quite certain that the supply for the ensuing season will be very much smaller than was the case with that one just concluded. It is very satisfactory to be able to note that the country is once again clear of foot-and-mouth disease, and also that the infernal pest, sheep scab, has been got into the narrowest limits it has been in for many years past.



DONALD.  
A Scotch Collie.

### Collie Dog Trials at New Cumnock.

For the eighth successive year competitive working trials of collie dogs were held on Brocklochhill, about four miles from New Cumnock, Scotland, on Oct. 5th. The day was a tempestuous one. Rain fell heavily, with only short intervals, and varied by several smart hail-showers; and it was driven along the hillside by a keen, biting wind. It was indeed a matter for serious consideration whether the trials should proceed in view of conditions which made it very difficult for the shepherds properly to direct their dogs working at a distance. The shepherd whose dog was under trial took his stand on the hillside at a point marked by a couple of flags, having the dog at heel. On the opposite hillside, at a slightly greater altitude, and half a mile distant, was a pen of Blackface ewes, of which, at a flag signal, four were turned out. The shepherd then directed his dog, which could not see them, to go for the sheep and to bring them to him along a course marked by occasional flag posts. Driving the sheep along the face of the hill, the dog had to keep them on the upper side of a flag; to drive them between a pair of poles set 15 yards apart, through a second similar set of poles; then to take them in a diagonal line down the hill through a set of poles rather wider apart, through a small burn, and up to the second hill, to the point where his master was standing; to pass them there through a fourth pair of poles; finally to help his master to "shed" them into two lots of two each, and bring them together again to be penned. Twelve minutes were allowed for the whole performance, from the time the dog left his master's heel until he had the sheep ready for penning. The wind made it often very difficult to hear the whistle or word of command, and at times the driving rain obscured the directing wave of the arm. It was not surprising, therefore, that seven failed in the earlier stages of the trial. It was, indeed, in the circumstances, a small proportion out of the twenty-four entries. It was surprising to observe the alacrity with which, as a rule, the dogs obeyed the whistle

which called them to halt and attention; and the shouted directions—"Away yont them!" "Come to me!" "Come near them!" and other phrases of dog language—or answered to the wave of the arm like a ship to her helm. The judging proceeded on a scale of points, the total number being 50. Eight points were assigned for "running out," preference being given, of course, to the dog which goes off most speedily and finds the sheep most promptly, needing least directions. Much importance is attached to the manner in which the dog approaches the sheep and takes possession of them, as it were. He should make a judicious circuit, and get on good terms with his charge, avoiding frightening and hustling them at the start. So 12 points were assigned for a good "first turn." For "bringing" them through the posts a maximum of 10 points was allowed; for excellence of "general work" 8. Readiness in obeying command, of course, was placed high in the scale of good qualities, 12 marks being allotted to it. Twelve cash prizes, running from £6 for the first down to 5 shillings for the twelfth, were paid, and, notwithstanding the inclement weather, about 200 people witnessed the trials.—(Scottish Farmer.

### Buying Feeding Cattle.

In reply to an enquiry, by "A Beginner," published in the Nov. 1st issue of the "Farmer's Advocate," page 713, the appended answers from experienced feeders have been received. The question reads: "Providing fat cattle are sold for May 1st delivery at 5 cents per pound, live weight, at what price should they be bought in November to make the transaction fairly profitable to the feeder, it being understood that cattle of a good beef type are purchased and fed according to approved methods?"

Feeding cattle should be bought in November for 4 cents per pound, and would have to be a good beef type to make fairly good profit.  
Ontario Co., Ont. JAMES LEASK.

Stockers costing from 2½ to 3 cents per pound, live weight, in feeder's stable should show him a profit, after feeding for 150 days, of from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per head if they put on an average gain of 300 pounds each. This does not include manure. It costs from \$28.00 to \$30.00 per head to fatten a steer in 150 days—that is, to put an average gain of 300 pounds on 100-head lots and when labor is reduced to the minimum and concentrated food is bought by the car-load.  
Glengarry Co., Ont. A. S. McBEAN.

A farmer having plenty of coarse grain and roots, etc., might pay as high as 4 cents per pound for thrifty cattle. A feeder having to buy a quantity of his feed should not pay more than 3½ cents per pound.  
Middlesex Co., Ont. L. J. SHIPLEY.

Cattle to be sold at 5 cents the first of May should be bought for 4 cents in November, and we think 1,100-lb. cattle of right quality is about right weight to buy. They should make a gain of 300 pounds or over, which makes a difference between the buying and selling price of \$26.00. The manure they leave would amply repay labor of feeding and interest on stock.  
Elgin Co., Ont. A. & D. BROWN.

I have found, in my experience, that cattle fed till the 1st of May should be bought at from 3½ to 3½ cents to be sold at 5 cents per pound on the 1st of May. Of course, it depends a good deal on the price of coarse grain, but it is rather long to feed cattle from November till May. I generally sell in February or March, with good results. I do not think that there is any margin left for the feeder in feeding cattle till May for less than 1½ or 1½ cents per pound over the cost price. Some years when grain is very low in price one can feed cheaper, but I certainly would not recommend any one to go into cattle feeding very extensively for any smaller margin than I have mentioned. This is all based on good quality of cattle and good practical feeding—as nothing else pays. My method of feeding cattle has generally been to buy a load of good 1,200-lb. steers; stable on November 1st and sell in February, and make a gain of 200 lbs per head; cost price, 4½ cents; selling price, 5½ cents. This is only a short time to feed, and quick returns are most satisfactory.  
Wellington Co., Ont. ISRAEL GROFF.

Lieut.-Col. Dent, whose Canada headquarters are at Montreal, states that up to November 4, 6,697 horses had been shipped from Canada for the use of the British troops in South Africa. Of this number, 6,048 went from Montreal. Last year 3,785 mounts were shipped. He states that it is becoming very difficult to purchase suitable mounts in this country.