

Roy, Young Ebor and Earl of Surrey, one of which is for sale. Among other breeders mention may be made of James Clark, Tatamagouche; the late Edmund C. Munro, of Onslow; Albert Flemming of Truro; and, though perhaps never a breeder of pure stock, from the great interest he took for many years in aiding and encouraging the agricultural society in his district to keep no bull but pedigree Durhams, Francis R. Parker, of Shubenacadie may be said to have done much towards raising the cattle of that part of the country to the Durham standard. There are doubtless others whose names should be given in this connection. There is one however, who, though but a short time in the country, having taken the place John B. Fraser formerly occupied—the leading breeder of Durhams in Colchester,—whose name must not be omitted. Indeed, the excellent herd of Arthur F. Gurney, and his mode of farming, at Wick House, Onslow, deserve more than a passing notice. We gladly furnish the following particulars for our closing note upon a breed of cattle that occupies a very large place in the estimation of farmers all over the world, and which, for beef purposes, has never been excelled.

BULL—King Arthur, bred by C. C. Gregory, Antigonish, dam Daisy Dean, a splendid imported cow, sire Earl Goodwin. King Arthur has taken two prizes at district exhibitions, and also took prizes at provincial and Dominion exhibitions in 1883. He is now thirty-three months old.

Cows:—(1) Rose Gwynne 4th, of the well known Gwynne tribe; (2) Sarah; (3) Cherry, a prize winner, bred by Colonel W. M. Blair, M. P. P.; (4) Lady Mary 2nd, dam Lady Mary, a magnificent cow imported from England, of very high pedigree, probably the best Durham cow in the provinces, and a prize winner.

HEIFERS—(1) Beauty; (2) Lorna Doone; and (4) Lady Mary 3rd, all very promising and of good pedigree.

HEIFER CALVES—(1) Cherry Blossom, dam Cherry; (2) Belle of Wick, dam Sarah. Both sired by King Arthur.

BULL CALF, heir of Gwynne, dam Rose Gwynne 5th, sire King Arthur.

Also two YOUNG BULLS for sale, viz: (1) Earl of Onslow, twenty months old; dam Cherry, sire Jock, a first prize winner at provincial exhibition, 1883; (2) Island Chieftain, fifteen months old, bred at government stock farm, P. E. Island, of high pedigree and good promise.

Mr. Gurney intends to carry out the system which he partially adopted last summer, of keeping his herd of short horns tied up under cover and feeding them on green crops sown in rotation,

viz, fall rye, peas, oats and vetches, and fodder corn. He also purposes sowing fourteen acres of oats and trifolium to cut green for winter fodder. Mr. Gurney has now been settled in this province about two years. He engages in all the work of the farm himself, and is well satisfied with Nova Scotia as a field for English farmers. A young gentleman from England has just joined him to learn farming, with a view to settling ultimately on a farm of his own. At the district exhibition, held at Amherst last fall, Mr. Gurney exhibited short horn Durhams, pigs, vegetables, &c., and won fifteen prizes—one being for the best collection of roots and vegetables. We are glad to learn that there seems every probability of more English gentlemen of capital settling as farmers in Nova Scotia. Three have recently come, through Mr. Gurney's efforts. One of them has acquired a large farm, where he is doing well, having last winter hauled some three thousand loads of kelp on to his land, and prepared for extensive farming operations this year.

II.—THE AYRSHIRE CATTLE OF COLCHESTER.

LORNDAL, Truro, May 2.—To Hiram Hyde, the leading stage proprietor in pre-railway times, belongs the credit of having brought the first pure bred Ayrshire bull into the county, and it is very much to be regretted that this, as well as some others of Mr. Hyde's numerous private enterprises, did not prove as beneficial to himself, as they became important to the province. About the year 1849 the late John Taylor, of Pictou, imported from Scotland a thoroughbred Ayrshire heifer in calf to a bull of that breed after the best milking stock in the land of Scott and Burns. The calf, to Mr. Taylor's disgust, turned out to be a bull, and he offered it for sale. Mr. Hyde, hearing that such an animal was in the market, asked three of his neighbour farmers to join him in the purchase, for the improvement of the dairy stock of Truro and vicinity. They assented to his proposal, and he paid a large price for the calf, as calves sold in those days, and brought him to Truro. After keeping him several months, Mr. Hyde requested his friends to contribute their share of his cost, and to take their turn in feeding him; but they had changed their minds; hay was a light crop that season, and they did think the investment would be profitable. The bull, however, did not suffer from loss of friends. Mr. Hyde kept him three or four years, *pro bono publico*, and then sold him for thirty dollars to Ebenezer Fulton of Middle Stewiacke, who, after keeping him for a short period, let James Page of Amherst have him for one hundred and

twenty dollars. Mr. Hyde entered him, when a yearling, at a county exhibition, but the judges did not consider him equal to the scrubs in competition. While they marched proudly home with first and second prize tickets on their necks, the only well bred animal in Colchester had to return, like "Little Bo Peep's sheep," unhonored and unsung. During Mr. Page's ownership, one day the bull was tethered in a field, when an old Scotch gentleman, in passing, was so astonished at seeing such a fine animal in America that he called upon the owner to ascertain his history. After obtaining the information sought, the Scotchman exclaimed, "Mon, ye dinna ken what ye hae got there; your bull is worth 300 guineas." The second Ayrshire bull owned inside the bounds of the then village and present town of Truro, was introduced by a syndicate of fifteen persons it fell to my lot to form in November, 1868. On the 20th of that month he was brought by William Bell from Maitland, in a scow across the Shubenacadie river to Black Rock, without any of the entangling consequences to the owners that resulted in the trial of the celebrated causes "Bullum vs. Boatman," "Boatman vs. Bullum." This bull is known as Reform No. 7 on the Nova Scotia Herd Register. He was purchased from the late Captain Charles Cox of Maitland, to whom he had been sent in one of his ships, a present from a relative in Scotland. The captain, knowing more about handling vessels than bulls, gladly disposed of him after two years acquaintance. Reform paid for his keep in Truro, till January, 1871, when he was sold to Isaac Blair, for the Tatamagouche agricultural society, and the members of the syndicate received a dividend of \$2.63 a-piece, and squared their account, by debiting the amount they were out of pocket against the improvements to the dairy stock from two years services of such an animal.

Any account of the breeding of Ayrshires in Colchester that does not make special reference to the incalculable benefits that have accrued, and are accruing to the dairy interest of Nova Scotia at the hands of Jonathan and Charles P. Blanchard, father and son, the former and present proprietor of Hillside farm, Truro, would be like presenting "Bradbury's Cantata of Esther," and omitting the queen and "Zeresh." The first introduction of thorough-bred stock upon this farm was a pair of Ayrshire calves—a male and female—purchased in 1854 from Mr. McPherson, at that time owner of the Mortimer farm, outside of Pictou town. No stock was raised from this pair, but the bull was used on the place and in the neighborhood for a few years with good results.