

a summary of champion prizes awarded, extending over a period of sixty years. We could produce evidence showing the victories Southdowns have won at other large shows in England, in Canada and in this country, when placed in competition with other breeds, but we consider the results or awards at the Smithfield the most reliable and highest authority attainable.

At that greatest fat stock show in existence, where all the breeds are brought out in the very pink of condition, from the year 1832 to 1861 there was offered yearly a gold medal for the best pen of wethers in the short-wooled classes; from 1861 to 1873 a silver cup was substituted for the medal, making a period of forty-two consecutive years that a prize was offered for the best pen of wethers in the short-wooled classes. The result was Southdowns won it forty-one times. (In 1872 it was won by Hampshires.) The only wonder is that Southdowns should lose it once out of forty-two years. (Possibly an error of judgment.)

At the same show, in the year 1869 there was added another prize; this was a champion prize of the value of fifty pounds for the best pen of sheep in the show, of any age, breed or sex. This was continued, with the exception of the year 1874, up to 1889—a period of twenty years—and the result was, Southdowns won eleven times, Oxfords three times, Lincolns twice, Hampshires twice and Shropshires twice, so that Southdowns won more of these champion prizes than all other breeds combined. And this was done where the quality and value of the different breeds was well understood.

Now, with regard to that very valuable characteristic, "early maturity." It is generally admitted that the sheep that gives the most profit is the one that goes to the butcher under one year old. Breeders make claims for their favorite breed; none will dispute the quality of the Southdown. Some have said "he is rather small." Facts and figures are stubborn things, and comparisons are the best way to arrive at correct conclusions. In this case I will take for comparison two other breeds, a long-wool and a short-wool: First, the Leicester, because this breed was about the first to attract much attention by its being improved by Bakewell, and commanding very high figures in that early day; second, the Shropshire, being a nearer relative of the Southdown, and a sheep that of late years has gained more popularity in America, perhaps, than any other breed. We take our figures from the official catalogue of the Smithfield Show.

For this comparison I have taken the twelve heaviest lambs of each of the three breeds at the show, and find the average weight as follows:—In 1885, Shropshires 145 pounds, Leicesters 160 pounds, Southdowns 175 pounds; in 1887, Shropshires 142 pounds, Leicesters 160 pounds, Southdowns 166 pounds; in 1890, Shropshires 162 pounds, Leicesters 145 pounds, Southdowns 167 pounds—or for the three years, Shropshires averaged 149 pounds, Leicesters 158 pounds, Southdowns 169 pounds. This shows the Southdowns have the advantage in actual weight of twenty pounds per head over the Shropshires, notwithstanding he has been dubbed as "rather small."

Canadian Shorthorns at Chicago.

The Hon. H. H. Hinds, Commissioner in charge of the Shorthorn herd at the World's Fair dairy trials, in his official report makes the following reference of special interest to Canadians:—

"To our Canadian brethren I desire to express thanks. I wish they would move their country over and all become Yankees. They have rendered me substantial and valuable service. They sent to my barn, charges prepaid, five excellent cows. At the close of the contest I had three strapping calves ready for the feed-lot to accompany them. They took the eight head back to Canada at their own expense, I only sending a man with the cattle as far as the quarantine station. I need not commence calling names, but in connection with the Canadian contingent, Mr. Richard Gibson, who selected the cows, and Mr. H. Wade, Secretary of the Canadian Herd Book Association and of the Ontario Commission, have placed me under personal obligations. In contrast, I have received no aid or comfort from any State Commission. The Illinois Commission say they will some time pay the freight to Chicago on the three cows from that State participating in the tests. Some of the other State Commissions have intimated that they would pay something to the owners of these cows, but up to date no dividends in that direction have been declared. I have applied to all the State Commissions having animals in my herd for aid in this connection. I did not want them to feel offended because I had slighted them. I have not, however, seen the color of any of their coin. Did we sacrifice, injure, or impair any cattle to this Moloch, the Columbian dairy test? No. One cow was killed in transit by the railroads, and another died within a few hours of parturition. Both causes kill cattle in this country almost daily. Neither cow had any part in the contest. The other cattle placed in my charge have all reached their home or Canadian quarantine. All are in the best of thrift and condition, and all are carrying more 'cow meat' on their backs than when I first looked them in the face. Many desirable sales of Shorthorns have already been effected, traceable directly to the creditable work of our cattle in this contest."

Feeding Grain to Hogs.

Mr. John Cook, one of the most intelligent and progressive farmers in Mersea, claims that even at the present price of wheat the farmer can make a good profit by feeding it. From his experience, he estimates that if it is fed to hogs it can be made to net nearly, if not quite, one dollar per bushel. He makes up his profit and loss account from feeding coarse grains as follows:—

3,000 pounds shorts.....	\$ 22 50
160 bushels wheat at 60c.....	96 00
80 bushels rye.....	40 00
150 bushels peas.....	75 00
50 bushels peas and oats.....	25 00
325 bushels corn in the ear.....	190 00
	\$448 50
Live hogs sold, valued at.....	\$720 00
Lard.....	9 00
Pork used for home consumption.....	50 00
	\$779 00

Thus making a total profit on the operation of.....\$330 50

In addition to the above profit he has opened up a home market for his grain, and has been saved the cost of drawing it to market, and has made 70 per cent. on the value of the grain consumed. Another writer, after charging for his wheat \$1.25 per bushel, finds that he has still a slight profit left. In addition to the above, there is another gain in the manure which is left on the farm, for both science and practice agree that there is no surer way of impoverishing a farm than by selling wheat and other grains.

Chemical analysis place the amount of valuable plant food—nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash—in a ton of wheat or coarse grain as considerably above that in a ton of live swine. Now, if for the sake of illustration, we say that they are even, and take the calculations from the Ottawa Experimental Farm, which show that five pounds of frozen wheat will make a pound of pork—and good wheat should do better than this, but if we take this amount as the standard—then five tons of wheat will produce one ton of pork. Therefore, when we sell one ton of pork we keep the fertilizing material of four tons of wheat on the farm. Now analysts say that at the present price of fertilizers these four tons of wheat will take \$20 worth of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash from the soil.

From this it is easily seen, in feeding wheat to swine, that for a ton of live weight sold, the farmer saves in plant food that which, if he had to buy at current prices, would cost him \$20.00.

Each farmer should consider this question thoroughly and then decide for himself when everything is taken into account, whether it will pay him to sell his wheat to the dealer, or if at present prices it would not pay better to dispose of it to his hogs on his own farm, and thus save both the cost of marketing and the fertilizing material contained in the wheat.

We would like to have the experience of a few more intelligent and observant farmers. Why should not every farmer send in his experience in feeding hogs and other stock. We can all learn from the success or failure of others. Let us hear from you.

Chatty Stock Letter from the States.

FROM OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT.

The Christmas cattle sales are averaging better than a year ago, although the extreme top prices of last year have not been exceeded. In these so-called hard times the following prices for holiday beefs look quite encouraging: Fourteen Herefords, 1742 lbs., \$675; 31 Shorthorn, 1713 lbs., \$665; 30 Shorthorn, 1721 lbs., \$655; 15 Angus, 1467 lbs., \$650; 27 Angus and Shorthorn, 1740 lbs., \$625; 30 Angus, 1386 lbs., \$600; 27 Herefords, 1427 lbs., \$600. Distillery steers, 1376 lbs., sold during the week at \$5, and 1451-lb. distillery stags at \$4.65. Most of the cattle sold above \$5.90 were Shorthorns. Fifteen loads sold above \$6 and eighteen loads at \$6 in one week, showing a pretty good quality of offerings. Common 1327-lb. native steers sold at \$3.55, some choice 980-lb. steers at \$4.25, and 1373-lb. Herefords as high as \$5.70. Extra fine 1225-lb. steers sold at \$5.50, yearlings averaging only 1145 lbs. as high as \$5.50, and "double extra" 1056-lb. steers at \$5.25.

The hog market has jogged along on a \$5 and \$5.50 basis. The packers thought they had it all their own way but were somewhat mistaken at the small receipts. Farmers are selling hogs freely to raise cash, but the "visible" supply of hogs now ready for market is certainly small for this season of the year.

Supplies of sheep have been too heavy lately, and the market has been much depressed.

The Christmas Fat Stock Show consisted of about four carloads of cattle, one of hogs and one of sheep. Like the one held last year, it was merely a made shift, and was a "walk-away" for the few exhibitors represented. Something adequate in the live stock exposition line is expected to be presented by the Illinois State Board of Agriculture next year. The only Canadian was Wm. Rutherford & Son, of Roseville, Ont.

Prizes for sheep were awarded as follows: Pen Southdowns—First premium, J. H. Potts; second, William Rutherford. Shropshire—First premium, William Rutherford. Oxfords—First premium, William Rutherford. Cotswolds—First premium, William Newton & Son. Leicesters—First premium, William Newton & Son. Merinos—First premium, William Newton & Son. Cross-bred—First premium, William Newton & Son.

Clydesdale Meeting.

The Annual meeting of the American Clydesdale Association, as heretofore announced, was held at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, Tuesday evening, November 21st, 1893.

The membership in attendance, or represented by proxy, was about one hundred and fifty, which is less than one-half the number of stockholders. There was no lack of interest in the meeting on account of the limited attendance, and the enthusiasm resulting from Columbian victories was a marked feature in the proceedings.

President Clarke, in calling the meeting to order, congratulated the membership on the unusually large amount of new business transacted during the past year, and referred to the grand show of Clydesdale horses made at the World's Columbian Exposition.

The report of the Treasurer, William Moffatt, showed a balance in the treasury of \$2,933.83, after paying all the current expenses of the year, the publication of Volume 7 of the Stud Book, and the settling of the prizes for the Columbian Exhibit of Clydesdale horses, amounting to \$4,350.00.

The Clydesdale Association, since its organization, has given encouragement to the breeders of Canada and the United States by offer of premiums exceeding \$15,000, which unprecedented offer by a draught horse association has had much to do with the great and growing popularity of the Clydesdale horse. No better investment has been made by the Clydesdale Association than the liberal prizes, amounting to \$5,000, that brought to the Columbian Exposition the grandest lot of Clydesdale horses ever exhibited together.

The members in attendance at the late annual meeting decided upon a number of new and important measures that will doubtless encourage breeders to improve their stock, and in the near future increase the claims of the Clyde as a leading candidate for popular favor as a serviceable and attractive draught horse.

The unanimous adoption of the plan favoring advanced registry for superior specimens of the breed will do much to aid in directing the attention of breeders to the best class of stallions and mares.

The matter of advanced registry has been referred to a special committee, consisting of Robert Ogilvie, Madison, Wisconsin; Robert Holloway, Alexis, Illinois, and Robert Miller, Brougham, Ontario. The report of the committee giving an outline of the plan to be pursued in the selection of sires and dams worthy of admission to the approved class will be published hereafter.

The association voted to publish in Volume 8 and succeeding volumes of the American Clydesdale Stud Book, without charge to the owner, a list of the duly recorded Clydesdale stallions and mares awarded first prize at the leading agricultural exhibitions of the United States and Canada during the current and subsequent years.

Reference will be made hereafter to a number of new and popular features adopted by the association.

The following officers will serve the association during the ensuing year, viz.:—President, N. P. Clarke, St. Cloud, Minnesota; Vice-President, R. B. Ogilvie, Madison, Wisconsin; Secretary, Charles F. Mills, Springfield, Illinois; Treasurer, William Moffatt, Paw Paw, Illinois.

The officers named above and the following constitute the Board of Directors: Robert Holloway, Alexis, Illinois; L. B. Goodrich, State Centre, Iowa; and Robert Miller, Brougham, Ontario.

The Ontario Agricultural College Sale.

On Thursday afternoon, the second day of the Provincial Fat Stock Show, the authorities of the Ontario Agricultural College held their annual sale of surplus stock, comprising pure-bred cattle and swine.

Room had been allotted them in the Victoria Rink, the building in which the Fat Stock Show was held, and intending purchasers had ample opportunity to inspect all classes of cattle and swine before the sale began.

Some good things were offered and the stock generally was in better condition than at any of the previous sales. Good specimens were in demand both among the beef and dairy breeds of cattle, and pigs of all kinds sold well when fair representatives were offered.

The following is a summary of the prices realized:—

	Average.	Total.
Two Shorthorn bulls sold for \$90 and \$105, respectively.....	\$ 97 50	\$195 00
One Hereford bull.....	70 00	70 00
One Aberdeen-Angus bull.....	30 00	30 00
One Galloway bull.....	105 00	105 00
One Devon bull.....	36 00	36 00
Two Holsteins, one bull and one heifer, \$22 and \$35.....	28 50	57 00
Two Jersey bulls, \$31 and \$50.....	40 50	81 00
Three Ayrshires, two heifers and one bull, \$33 to \$290.....	89 33	268 00
Two Berkshires, farrowed Nov. 6, 1892, sold for \$30 and \$41.....	35 50	71 00
Nine Yorkshires farrowed March 28th, 1893, sold from \$12 to \$20.....	17 77	160 00
Five Yorkshires, farrowed May 24th, 1893, sold from \$8 to \$16.....	12 00	60 00
Eight Yorkshires, farrowed June 2nd, 1893, sold from \$10 to \$20.....	15 32	122 56
Five Yorkshires, farrowed June 30, 1893, sold from \$8 to \$14.....	11 40	57 00
Seven Yorkshires, farrowed Sept. 21st, 1893, sold from \$7 to \$12.....	9 71	67 97
Three Tamworths, farrowed April 19, sold from \$8 to \$24.....	13 33	40 00
Two Tamworths, farrowed Sept. 10, 1893, sold from \$9 to \$10.....	9 50	19 00
Two Tamworths, farrowed Sept. 20, 1893, sold from \$8 to \$10.....	9 00	18 00