

ham, to select for him in England. Last year he sent a competent man to Great Britain, who stopped there the entire winter to "spy out the land," and last spring when Mr. Miller arrived in England this gentleman knew just where suitable specimens could be procured. The flock shown in Chicago bears evidence of the care with which Mr. Miller made the final selection. The winnings were: Second on aged ram, "Blue Blood Yet," which was said to be the heaviest Shropshire on the grounds, weighing 350 lbs.; his girth by measure was twelve inches greater, and body five inches longer, and one and one-half inches nearer the ground, than any other exhibited. He was bred by Mr. Thomas, of England, and fed and imported by the exhibitor, and was for two years used in his flock. First on yearling ram, bred by Mr. T. S. Bradburn, imported by A. O. Fox and selected by Robt. Miller in 1893. This sheep won third at the Royal in a very large class; he was also winner at other English Exhibitions. First on ram lamb, bred by A. Bradburn, imported by A. O. Fox in 1893. He was also an English winner. Second on aged ewe, bred by Mr. Bach, imported by W. S. Hawkshaw, Glanworth, Ont. First on yearling ewe, Marchioness, bred by Mr. Fenn, Ludlow, England, selected by Mr. R. Miller. Second and fourth on ewe lambs, bred by Mr. Bradburn, selected by Robt. Miller. Sweepstakes, for best ewe any age, won by Marchioness. First for best three yearling ewes, Marchioness and her companions, bred by Mr. Farmer, selected by Robt. Miller. First on imported ram lambs. First on ewe lambs, bred by Mr. Bradburn. This flock was very even and good in every particular. The yearling ewes bred by the exhibitor were very good in character, type and fleece. Two yearling rams, also bred by the exhibitor, were of much the same type. The imported sheep, both aged and yearlings, were a royal lot in every particular. Mr. Fox is one of the largest importers and breeders of Shropshires in America. His home flock varies in size from 500 to 1000. At the present time he has 400 breeding ewes.

Geo. E. Breck, Paw-Paw, Mich., was another exhibitor and successful prize winner. He won 4th on three-year-old ram, Sir Thomas, bred by R. Thomas, of England, imported by owner; this is a large, strong sheep. 3rd and 4th on home-bred yearling rams, both good, useful sheep; 3rd on two-year-old ram, bred by Mr. Bach, a wonderfully thick sheep, but a little strong in the fleece, well covered beneath. His stable companion, bred by R. Brown, Shropshire, England, was especially good. 4th on three-year-old ewe, bred by R. Thomas, England. 3rd on five two-year-old ewes, bred by exhibitor; this was a good pen of sheep of the thick, short-legged type. 3rd on yearling ewes, bred by exhibitor; 3rd on three ewes and two rams under two years old, bred by exhibitor. This was a well-bred flock, possessed of much quality and very creditably brought out. The proprietor's home flock numbers five hundred registered Shropshires. Mr. Breck is a graduate of Michigan Agricultural College, and a lawyer by profession.

Messrs. Geo. Allen & Sons, Allerton, Ill., showed a flock that should open the eyes of Canadians. Heretofore we have supposed that our soil and climate were such that Americans could not rear sheep good enough to successfully compete with those reared and fed in Canada. This flock has dispelled that dream. As soon as Americans become as good flock-masters as Canadians, they will in many sections produce as good sheep. The best sheep in this class, although he did not win first money, was a yearling ram bred and fed by Messrs. Allen. The prizes won by this flock were as follows:—Third on aged ram, Proud Salopian, bred by J. L. Napper, imported by John L. Thompson in 1891. This is a wonderfully good old sheep in every particular. He has been a successful sire and noted prize winner, both in England and America. Mr. Allen also won fourth place in same class with a useful, well-covered sheep; also 2nd and 3rd on yearling rams. The one which won second money was the sheep referred to as being the best Shropshire on the grounds. As before stated, he was bred by Mr. Allen. His fleece is as good as it can be; in formation of body, in quality and type, he is all but perfect. He was in good condition, but not too highly fitted. The 3rd prize sheep was bred by Mr. Berry, England; imported by Mr. Allen. The 2nd prize ram lamb was also in this flock, as was the 1st prize three-year-old ewe, a grand specimen of the breed, bred and fed by the exhibitor. The 3rd prize two-year-old ewe had three companions of almost equal merit. They were bred by the exhibitor; got by Proud Salopian, as was also a yearling ram of excellent quality, sold to Mortimer Levering, Lafayette, Ind. The next pen, owned by Mr. Allen, contained the fourth prize yearling ewe, bred by the English breeder, F. S. Minton. She was even and well woolled; her three companions, bred by Mr. Allen, were very handsome, and of the same thickly-fleshed, well-wooled type, but larger and heavier. The remaining prizes won by this flock were third and fifth on ewe lambs; second on two rams and three ewes; second on five ewes bred by exhibitor; second on two rams and three ewes under two years, bred by exhibitor. Young Salopian, the yearling ram before mentioned, won the \$500 sweepstakes given as a prize to best ram bred in America.

I. J. Williams & Sons, Muncie, Ind., won 4th on ram lamb, an even fellow, thick and compact, weighing 160 lbs.; 3rd on three-year-old ewe, bred by Mr. Bradburn, England, imported and fed by exhibitor. This animal won second at the Royal Show in 1891. For the past two seasons she has been a winner at many of the state fairs. Although kept so long in high flesh, she is still even and good. Her stable companion was very good. Like the last mentioned, she is massive, close to the ground, and well woolled. Second on yearling ewe, bred by Mr. Knox, England, imported by the owners. This is a very good ewe of same type as the aged ewes; she had previously won 4th at the Royal, 1st at Indiana State Fair, and 1st at Columbus, Ohio. The ewe lambs in this flock were small, but of good quality. Messrs. Williams' breeding flock numbers 200, of which 120 are breeding ewes; all are recorded. It is quite evident these gentlemen are capable of producing superior Shropshires.

T. B. Bennington, Grafton, Ohio, was also an exhibitor in this class. All his sheep were bred in England, selected and sent out by Mr. Mansell, the well-known live stock auctioneer.

The Wisconsin Experimental Station exhibited, in pens adjoining the Shropshires, four sheep—one very common Merino ewe and three cross-breeds. A first cross, the get of a Shropshire ram, was a great improvement on the Merino dam in every particular, more resembling a Shropshire than a Merino. The second cross, that is two crosses of Shropshire ram on the common Merino ewe, produced a very tidy little ewe, to all intents and purposes a Shropshire, good in color and well covered. The third cross was a slight improvement on the second cross. This object lesson should open the eyes of many farmers who visited this great show.

#### THE OXFORDS

made a grand display. As a class they were better than ever before seen in America. We have frequently seen as good individual specimens shown at Canadian exhibitions, and as good flocks as the best shown here, but never so many good ones.

The two veteran Canadian Oxford breeders, Henry and Peter Arkell, were here; the first-named resides at Arkell, Ont., the latter at Teeswater. Peter Arkell's was the first Oxford flock we inspected; they numbered 25. The first pen contained a two-year-old ram of large size, weighing, we were told, 365 lbs. He was even and thick fleshed, and carried a heavy fleece. In the same pen was a ewe even deeper fleshed than the ram; she was one of the thickest fleshed sheep on the ground—very few approached her in this particular; beside her there were two three-year-old ewes in this pen of similar character, large, vigorous and active; all stood well on their feet and legs. In the next pen were four ewes, three of which were bred by the exhibitor, the other was imported by him; like the last pen, they were each large, of good quality and well fitted. The next pen contained a yearling ram and two yearling ewes, imported as lambs. They were a handsome lot and reflected great credit on the feeder. The pen of ewes two years old and under three were much like those above described, large, thick fleshed and showy. The four yearling ewes and the yearling rams bred by the exhibitor, and the ram and ewe lambs, were a grand even lot. This flock was very well brought out, and are in type and character unusually good. They were successful in winning several prizes, but not as many as they should have done. Mr. Arkell has what many breeders has not—a distinctive type in view, when buying or breeding sheep. His desire is to produce a large, showy, fleshy, active sheep, with a heavy fleece and a robust constitution. He has succeeded admirably in producing this sort. He claims that many breeders of Oxfords lose the profitable qualities of their flocks by seeking to shorten the length of the fleece. Mr. A. claims they not only get less wool, but less constitution, poorer feeding qualities, and a greater tendency to peel. The judge did not agree with him, but seemed to admire another type. Though we watched the judging very closely, we failed to discover the type the judge desired. In no class was the judging so irregular and so hard to follow, nor was any class handled in so peculiar a manner.

Mr. Henry Arkell was to the front with fifteen head. The prizes won by this flock were: Fourth on three-year-old ram, 3rd on ram two years old. This is a very handsome sheep, thick-fleshed and beautifully finished in all points; he is full of character, his head and fleece are all that could be desired. Mr. Arkell has used him two years and found him an impressive sire; he is now in his prime. He won first at the Royal in 1891, was winner at all Canadian shows in his class, and of the sweepstakes at Detroit, Toronto and Ottawa the same year. Fourth on yearling ram; this sheep won 2nd at Bath and West of England show and 1st at Toronto; he is a long-bodied, strong-boned sheep of good character, giving promise of much outcome. 3rd on ram lambs; this was a sheep of good quality throughout, a winner of the highest honors in England and Canada. 4th on Minnie Miles in the class for ewes three years and over; this is a massive ewe of superb quality; she has won many honors in the show ring each year since 1891, including 1st in her class, in 1892, at Detroit, and sweepstakes for best ewe any breed. Her companion in the show pens is Mabel Miles, a ewe of similar breeding and quality. 4th on two-year-

old ewe; this was also a winner at English and Canadian shows since 1891. Sixth and 7th places with yearling ewes. 1st on ewe lamb, a selection from the pen which won 1st at the Royal. The character and quality of this flock, and the manner in which they were brought out, was most creditable to the exhibitor and gratifying to Canadians.

Geo. McKerrow, Sussex, Wis., was a foeman of noble steel, and a right good fellow. His flock was a fine one and well fitted. He has been an extensive buyer in Canada and England for some years, but, unlike many American sheep owners, he seems to understand the art of breeding and feeding as well as buying. His flock won 1st on ram two-year-old, bred by A. Brassey, England, imported by exhibitor; this sheep won 1st at the Royal and other English shows in 1892. 1st on yearling ram imported by exhibitor; this is a sheep of rare quality, the winner of 1st and championship over all breeds at Oxford, England; 1st at the Bath and West of England; 1st at the Royal, and sweepstakes at Chicago. 2nd on three-year-old ewe, bred by J. C. Eady, imported by exhibitor. 1st on two-year-old ewe, bred by Bryan & Son, Oxford, England, imported by exhibitor; 1st on yearling ewe, bred by A. Brassey, England; 4th on ewe lamb, bred as last named. 1st on ram lambs of similar breeding; 1st on ram and three ewes over two years old, all imported. Also, as before mentioned, sweepstakes for best ram. A similar prize offered by Cooper and Nephews, Galveston, Texas, for best ram. Also cup given by the English Oxford Down Association, for best collection of Oxford sheep. If our memory serves us right, each of the animals shown by Mr. McKerrow was imported in 1892 and 1893, by Mr. Robert Miller, Brougham, Ont., for the present owner.

Stone & Harris, Stonington, Ill., faced the judge with a flock numbering twenty-four, and a good lot they were and well brought out, winning a fair share of the prizes, but not as many as Mr. Stone insisted that he was entitled to; but we think he did very well considering the competition. Like several other exhibitors in this class, he lost a prize or two he was, perhaps, entitled to, and received others which somebody else should have had. His prizes were:—Third on aged ram, bred by John Worley, Oxford, England. This sheep was seven years old, and was remarkably good in fleece and form for his age. 2nd on ram, two years old, bred by exhibitor; 2nd on yearling ram, bred by John Treadwell, England; 3rd on ram lamb, bred by W. H. Wilson, Oxford, England; 1st on three-year-old ewe, bred by John Treadwell, England. This ewe also won the sweepstakes as best female any age. 3rd on two-year-old ewe, also bred in England; 3rd on yearling ewe, imported; 1st on five American-bred ewes, bred by exhibitor; 2nd on ewe lamb, bred in England.

W. A. Shafar, Middletown, Ohio, the genial and capable secretary of the American Oxford Down Breeders' Association, showed a fine lot of animals, numbering seventeen. This gentleman has imported extensively from England for several years. His sheep were of uniform quality and large. He won 2nd on aged ram, bred by Geo. Adams, imported by exhibitor in 1893; this is a large, massive sheep, weighing 430 lbs. 4th on ram two years old, bred by Fred. Street, imported by exhibitor, July, 1893; this was a finer sheep than the last mentioned, possessing more quality. 3rd on yearling ram, bred by Geo. Adams, imported by exhibitor, July, 1893. 2nd on ewe, two years old; 2nd and 4th on yearling ewes; 3rd on ewe lamb—all bred by Geo. Adams, imported July, 1893; 4th on ram and three ewes over two years old.

Sid. Conger, Flat Rock, Ind., exhibited twenty head, and won 1st on ram three years old, bred by Mr. Treadwell, imported by Stone & Harris; 3rd on ewe same age; 4th on two rams and three ewes, bred by exhibitor. This was a strong, well-bred flock.

#### THE HAMPSHIRE

Were disappointing in quality, being very uneven. Among them were a few good specimens in fine condition, but the majority were a weedy lot. In England these are considered a useful and profitable sheep, but up to date they have not made a favorable impression on American or Canadian flock masters. Their heads are too large, their bones too raw. Their fleeces shown this side of the Atlantic, as a rule, are too uneven to suit American buyers. One Canadian only exhibited, viz., Mr. John Kelly, who showed some fairly good Canadian-bred sheep in this class.

#### SOUTHDOWNS.

All prominent sheep breeders, and others qualified to judge, agreed that the exhibit of Southdowns at the World's Fair was far ahead of anything ever before seen in America. This fact gives the little province of Ontario all the more reason to be proud of her success in competing with the great Republic. The total number of Southdowns here is 147, exhibited by the following ten firms:—

United States.—T. B. Bennington, Ohio; J. H. Potts & Son, Ill.; R. M. Fisher, Kentucky; F. A. Scott, Mo.; Billings Farm, Vermont; J. R. Harvey and W. E. Spicer, of Nebraska.

Ontario.—T. C. Douglas, J. Jackson & Son and D. J. Jackson.

The awards were made as follows:—Rams, 3 years old or over: 1st, to J. Jackson's noted ram, Norwich Beau; 2nd, to a Canadian-bred ram of Jackson's; 3rd, to T. C. Douglas; 4th, to T. B. Bennington. Ram, 2 years and under 3: 1st, Bennington;