

in the vicinity of Glasgow and the railway managers, relative to the transport of the same to and from Aberdeen. The consequence was that these important classes were but very indifferently represented here, and a show was got up in Glasgow on one of the same days as the Highland, a circumstance liable to an unfavourable interpretation, and in every way likely to be regretted. I am informed by a gentleman who was present that quite a number of animals of very excellent quality was got together at Glasgow, and prizes awarded of equal value to those of the national society. Considering this drawback and the character of the season, the Aberdeen show must be regarded by its friends and patrons with no small degree of satisfaction, if not of pride. About fifteen acres of the "Links," a large undulating space between the city and the sea, were walled in, and it was found only just large enough to comfortably accommodate exhibitors and visitors. The judging commenced on Tuesday morning, and was got through with by two in the afternoon. The public were admitted during the period of judging on the payment of ten shillings; the remainder of the day and the next day, the fee was reduced to half a crown, and to one shilling on the third and last day. By these arrangements there was no overcrowding, and all classes had an opportunity of inspecting comfortably and fully each department of the show.

I could not, perhaps, give your readers so adequate an idea of the exhibition as by stating the aggregate number of animals entered in each class:—

Short-horn Bulls.....	42
" Cows.....	30
" Heifers.....	43
Aberdeen or Angus Polled Bulls.....	40
" Cows.....	21
" Heifers.....	25
" Oxen.....	9
Galloways, Polled Bulls.....	7
" Cows.....	4
" Heifers.....	11
West Highland Bulls.....	14
" Cows.....	17
" Heifers.....	10
" Oxen.....	9
Ayrshire Bulls.....	8
" Heifers.....	6
" Dairy Cows.....	17
" Fat Oxen.....	24
" Fat Heifers.....	11
" Crosses.....	8
Total.....	373
Horses.....	153
Sheep.....	632
Swine.....	57
Poultry.....	480
Grand total.....	1611

The number of machines and implements, and other articles included in that department, amounted to 1158. As the exhibition was open to competitors from all parts of the United Kingdom, the implement department comprised seventy-eight Scotch, twenty-nine English, and two Irish exhibitors; making a total of 106. The number of exhibitors in the live stock departments was 285, and these, with very few exceptions, were Scotch. The distance of Aberdeen, coupled with the fact of the show being held so soon after that at Leicester, will sufficiently account for the small number of English exhibitors.

In a communication of this kind space will not admit of many particulars, most of which would not possess much, if any, interest to your readers. The Short-horns were not only comparatively numerous, but of excellent quality; the bulls particularly, it was said, had never been excelled. Mr. Cruikshank, of Sittytton, in this county, who it is said has the most extensive herd of Short-horns in the United Kingdom, exhibited a splendid old bull, "Forth," the finest handler I ever met with, though I heard it stated by several parties who had watched his career, that his symmetry was less perfect than formerly, and that high feeding and preparing for shows had produced a deteriorating effect upon him, as it has often

done on too many of our choicest animals. Mr. Barclay's fine bull, "Heir of Englishman," which I saw at Leicester, where it attracted general attention and received from the judges a highly commended, here obtained the first prize. The two-year old bulls, as a class, perhaps were not in point of symmetry equal to the aged class, Mr. Cruikshank's "Grand Prince" was placed first, and a finer looking animal one seldom sees. The yearling bulls were unexceptionably good. Of the cows and heifers it may be said, with some few exceptions, that they contained specimens rarely excelled—all the leading points well and harmoniously developed, that characterize the modern Short-horn. Mr. Ainslie's "Thistledown," two years, a faultless animal, won the first prize. Several eminent Short-horn breeders in the Lothians were absent; but the young stock in particular was of a high character, indicating progress in the future.

The Polled Angus, or Aberdeen, was after all the breed that gave a decided character to the show. All I can say myself, not having any experience of this breed, is that they are very beautiful animals, having the expression and points that indicate a distinct type. Those who have a practical knowledge of the breed spoke of the specimens exhibited as surpassing all former occasions. In this north-eastern section the Polled Angus has for many years received special attention, and here, if anywhere, perfection, or something approaching it, may be reasonably looked for. Mr. McCrombie, of Tillyfour, whose farm I hope to have the pleasure of inspecting before leaving the country, took a prominent position in this class; his herd is thought to be unsurpassed, both as regards extent and character. The Polled Galloways did not muster in great numbers, and as a class were considered to fall below the Angus, yet there were some very fine specimens of this valuable breed. To the ordinary observer the Angus and Galloway will appear almost identically the same, but the practical eye detects the difference. The former usually attain a greater size, have a less shaggy coat, and are better adapted to a dry climate, like that of the east coast of Scotland. The Galloway is found well suited to the soils and climate of Canada; few have yet tried the Angus, which I have little doubt would be found to endure our dry cold of winter very well. As beef cattle, both breeds are held in very high reputation in Britain, and command high prices.

I naturally felt much interest in the Highland class, a type of animal so very different to the larger breeds one has all along been accustomed to. The West Highlanders, I was assured by competent judges, were quite up to the mark, and they certainly have all the characteristics of a distinct breed, specially adapted to the soil, climate and exposure of the bleak and mountainous parts of the country. The Duke of Argyll showed several beautiful specimens, as also did others of less note. As the beef of this hardy race fetches from eight pence to ten pence a stone more than that of the larger breeds, in London and other great markets, more attention has of late years been paid by hill farmers to the breeding, feeding and protection (at least to some extent) of the Highland cattle, the consequences are greater size, earlier maturity, and a more thorough intermixture of fat and lean in the flesh, which becomes thereby greatly improved.

The Ayrshires, for reasons already stated, were poorly represented. There were a few specimens of decidedly superior animals, denoting strict attention to breeding and good management. In Canada they would be considered rather small. While looking at this class, I accidentally fell in with Mr. Laurie, of Scarborough, Ontario, who was inspecting the show yard with a view to procuring something to take back with him. All really good animals for breeding, whether horses, cattle, sheep, or swine, are held at very high prices.

I was not prepared, especially during such hot weather, to find so large and good a display of fat

cattle. The Short horn in weight certainly excelled but the Polled Angus came well up to it, and most animals one need not care to see. The Short-horn bull is commonly employed to cross with the Polled, and even the West Highlanders, and the result is, I am informed, a very satisfactory, for slaughter of course not for breeding from. Not a single specimen of a Devon or Hereford was on exhibition, these breeds being hardly known in Scotland.

The show of horses was not equal to former years, mostly in consequence of the large number of Clydesdales from the south-west not putting in an appearance. The cart horses would be considered too heavy in Canada, though some, both mares and stallions, evinced good action in connection with great muscular power. The truth is, heavy horses are only suited for drawing great weights at a certain and comparatively slow pace, and to combine the two opposite conditions of great weight and quickness of action in the same animal is physically impossible. There were some good specimens of thorough-breds, roadsters and ponies; some of the former seemed excellently adapted for breeding saddle and carriage horses. As the roads in the United Kingdom have of late years been brought into so smooth and perfect a state, carriages of all descriptions have become lighter than formerly, and consequently horses for locomotive purposes are less massy.

The display of sheep was not so extensive as I had expected, particularly in the mountain breeds. The Leicesters, on the whole, were decidedly good, the best it is said that have ever been seen north of the Tay. The few Southdowns exhibited indicated a coarseness not pleasing to a Southern eye. They were, no doubt, large and strong constituted animals, well adapted perhaps to the situations in which they were located. The Shropshire Downs were good, and this useful breed seems to be extending in every direction. Both the Cheviots and black-faced sheep were very limited in number, a fault which their superior quality, in great measure, made up. The heather sheep of the mountains I regard as the prettiest specimen that can be found among the various British breeds, and their practical management among the hills and narrow valleys of the Highlands is a most interesting study to a lowland farmer. Their flesh is peculiarly delicate, and commands the highest price. These sheep, like the West Highland cattle, have been much improved of late years by more attention being paid to breeding, feeding and shelter; though yet, I am told, it continues widely the practice to let them in great measure forage for and take care of themselves.

The swine department was also restricted as regards number, which I am told is usually the case in most of the Scottish shows. For quality, however, I never saw better anywhere. Mr. Duckering, of Lincolnshire, and Mr. Findley, of Glasgow, with others that could be mentioned, exhibited a number of animals that could not well be excelled.

In poultry the competition was not great, but there were specimens of high merit in several of the breeds. Some of the ducks were superior, and the Grey Dorking was represented, and is, I should infer, a favourite barnyard fowl in Scotland.

The implement department was much larger than at any show heretofore so far north. The articles were in great measure precisely the same as were shown in very much greater number at the recent English show at Leicester. Fowler's traction engine and ploughing apparatus was exhibited by a Kincardine Company. The machinery was put in motion, but there was no opportunity of doing real work, nor any testing of implements in the field.

At these national shows no grains, fruits, &c., are exhibited; a want that has very long been felt has been partially met, both in England and Scotland, by holding an horticultural exhibition during the same time and adjoining the show yard of the agricultural show. The Royal Horticultural Society of Aberdeen accordingly held a very successful show of flowers and fruits in a capacious tent, and wooden shedding. I was not prepared to see so extensive and fine a display in the various branches of horticulture. The floral tent had a magnificent appearance, and the vegetables and fruits, considering the unfavourable character of the season, were really excellent. Late