

## MEETING OF SHORT HORN BREEDERS.

A meeting called by a few Short Horn breeders in King's, Cumberland and Pictou Counties, was held lately in the Province Building, Halifax, the object being to consider the propriety of forming a company to organize a select register on the lines of the British American one. Mr. Baker of Athol occupied the chair, and Mr. O. Chase acted as secretary. The opinions expressed being diverse, and several of the leading Short Horn breeders of the Province not being present, it was arranged to defer final action to a future meeting, to be held during the sitting of the legislature. Hon. Mr. Ferguson, of Prince Edward Island, was present and detailed very fully the action that had been taken in Prince Edward Island to bring the registry—which was kept by a private gentleman—up to the Canadian standard. Mr. Gregory was opposed to any change. Mr. McKay was doubtful whether our breeders should not seek registry in the British American register instead of organizing a new one. Mr. Jacques thought there were reasons why a Nova Scotia register might be better, as a low standard kept purchasers from the other provinces coming here to buy. The chairman thought the matter was one of great importance to Short Horn men, as, without a high standard register such as exists in Ontario, the commercial value of our thoroughbred cattle would be kept down. Prices in Nova Scotia were now about a third of what the same animals would bring in Ontario if registered there. Mr. Chase advocated a high standard Nova Scotia register, which would not necessarily interfere in any way with the present register kept by the Government. The new register would be under the charge of a company of breeders who could make their own regulations. Professor Lawson suggested the propriety of considering whether, by the concentrated action of the Maritime Provinces, the very desirable object now under consideration, of uniting the British American and Canadian registers into one, might not be promoted and probably accomplished, and that a standard might be adopted for the Canadian Herd Books uniform with that of the American and English Herd Books, so that there should exist for the whole world three Short Horn Registers, the pedigrees of which would all be uniform and pass current in all countries as of equal value.

The following is from the London *Morning Post* of 24th November:—

Last week two very important displays of colonial produce were made in London. The first was a highly interesting show

of apples grown in Nova Scotia, which was held at the Crystal Palace. To the growing importation of fruit from this colony we have in these columns frequently called attention, but we were hardly prepared for the marvellous exhibition which has just been held. This was projected by Messrs. Northard and Lowe, and consisted of three classes. In Class 1, the competition consisted of collections of Nova Scotian or Canadian apples of from 70 to 90 varieties. The first three prizes went to Nova Scotia, the growers being Messrs. T. E. Smith, E. M'Latchy, and R. W. Starr—all the fruit shown by these being very fine—the Gravensteins, King of Tompkins, Blenheim Orange, Ribston Pippin, Fallawater, King of Pippins, and the various russets being of great size and high color. The fourth prize went to Canada (to Mr. Nicoll), but the apples were not so good as the Nova Scotians, and were poor when placed beside them. Class 2 was for 24 dishes, and here again the Nova Scotian apples were incomparably the superior ones, taking all the prizes. The entries here were large, and the show interesting. Class 3 was for the best packing, and here again the prizes were won by Nova Scotian growers. The show was noteworthy as showing what a small place like this has been able to do in a very short time in this matter. The authorities of the province saw some 10 years ago that there was an opening for the growth of really first-class apples, well packed, and sent to England and America. The third class in this show ought to have been seen by English growers, for it was a capital example of how to send to market. Only so long ago as 1881 but few apples were sent to this country, now Messrs. Northard and Lowe receive something like 10,000 barrels a year. Both in New York and London a market has been created, and for these splendid and well-packed fruit the highest prices are obtainable. There was a great lesson to the English farmer and promelogist in this show.

The other exhibit was also Canadian, and was on view for a few days at the offices of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Cannon-street. It consisted of a collection of agricultural produce and fruits, grown in various parts of the Canadian North-west, which have been brought back to this country by Mr. Alexander Begg. It will be on view at the Birmingham and Smithfield Shows, and will certainly cause some of our agriculturists to stare with astonishment. There is a collection of 42 varieties of potatoes grown at Stonewall, Manitoba. Here such varieties as Beauty of Hebron, White Elephant, Early Rose, &c., are perfect in shape and size, while there are others containing single potatoes weigh-

ing from 2½lb. to 3lb. each. These are the largest potatoes the writer has ever seen. There was a splendid lot of Swede turnips, no giants, but all firm and useful; onions of perfect shape; radishes weighing 1lb. each; tomatoes grown in the open over 300 miles west of Winnipeg; peppers, plums, apricots, parsnips, and beet, all of large size and perfect. But it is the summer squashes, one of which is 2½ft. in length and over 2ft. in circumference, the citron melons, water melons, vegetable marrows, and pumpkins that will form the curious features of the exhibit. All are of large size and well ripened. The produce and fruits have been brought home as an answer to the recent statements as to the climate of Manitoba, and each lot is marked with the name of the grower and the parish in which grown. All come from places from 300 to 640 miles west of Winnipeg.

At Keeling and Hunt's auction of Nova Scotian, Canadian and American apples in London on 8th December, one lot of Nova Scotian Ribston Pippins brought the top price of the sale, viz. 26s. 6d., equal to about \$6.50. Other prices realized for Nova Scotian fruit were as follows:

Ribstons, 15s. 6d. 11s. 6d. 16s.  
Greenings, 10s. 6d., 10s.  
Russets, 10s.  
Baldwins, 10s., 15s.  
King Tompkins, 12s., 7s., 15s., 9s. 6d., 13s., 15s.  
C. Permain, 8s.  
Mammoth Russet, 10s.  
Talmou Sweet, 10s. 6d., 9s.  
Seek-no-further, 11s. 6d.  
Greening, 11s., 10s. 9d.  
M. Russet, 8s. 6d.  
Vandevers, 10s.  
Spitz, 12., 10s.  
Blenheim Pippin, 15s.  
Newton Pippin, 10s.

The highest prices obtained for the Canadian and American fruit were:

Newton Pippins 24s. 6d. Russets, 19s. 6d. Golden Russet, 17s. Twenty ounce, 18s. 6d. Many lots ran down to 15s. 10s. and some even under the 10s.

In the little German village of Offenburg, on the borders of the Black Forest, there is a huge monument. On the pedestal stands the figure of a man in dress of the Elizabethan courtier. On the projecting base there is a splendid carving in stone of a large loose pile of potatoes. It is a monument to Sir Francis Drake, who, in the carved figure, holds a potato plant in his hand. On the four sides of the pedestal are inscriptions expressing the gratitude of a great people for the blessing that the Creator had seen pleased to bestow upon them in time of famine.