

of the Great Western Railway he was instrumental in securing the G. W. R. and Ontario car shops for London, as well as the London, Huron & Bruce Railway for this district, and many years later he was the chief factor in bringing the Canadian Pacific Railway to that city. It will be remembered that as Minister of Agriculture in the Local Legislature he established the first Experimental Farm in Canada, selecting Mimico, near Toronto, as the site. Subsequently his successor in office changed the site to Guelph. While Commissioner of Public Works he directed the building of the London Insane Asylum, Belleville Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, and the Brantford Asylum for the Blind. More recently he secured the Military School for London. He also carried out the extensive scheme of drainage which rendered so large a section of the western peninsula of Ontario fit for settlement, and at the same time opened up the free grant lands of Muskoka. He was the first to have grants of money set apart for Mechanics' Institutes, and the Fruit Growers' and Entomological Societies. In his capacity as Dominion Minister of Agriculture he has reared a monument to his memory in the far-reaching and splendidly equipped system of Experimental Farms. They will live and be useful when Mr. Carling and his political associates have passed away from the scene of action. In conclusion, it may be remarked that Mr. Carling, in his private life, has exhibited all those qualities of generosity, of unchanging affability, and devotion to friendship, which makes the very brightest complement to a useful and industrious public life. Long may his generous and useful life be spared and devoted to his native country.

Sir Ollard of Aaggie.

Several parties are hard at work, each trying to obtain the required number of names to secure the young Holstein bull we offer as a subscription prize. On page 25, is offered a number of other valuable animals as subscription prizes. Read this page carefully.

Our February Issue.

From lack of space we have been compelled to lay over a number of very valuable articles, among which is one of great merit by Prof. J. W. Robertson.

A report of the year's work at the "Indian Head Experimental Farm," by one of our staff.

An article on "Cheshire Hogs," by Mr. J. J. Payne.

Notes and comments on the "New Agricultural Text Book," by Mr. John Dearness.

"Tuberculosis in Cattle and the Koch Discovery," by Mr. David McCrae.

An article on "Fat Stock Shows," by Mr. J. C. Snell. Also an admirable article on "Agricultural Seeds and the Seedsmen's Position," by Mr. John S. Pearce; also a full review of several noted Kentucky studs. All of the above articles, and many more, will be published in our next issue.

The February number will be illustrated with a wood engraving of the Clydesdale stallion, Eastfield Laddie, the property of Messrs. Robert Beith & Co., Bowmanville, Ont. With this illustration will appear a full review of their famous stud. The portrait itself is one of the best ever produced in Canada, showing the horse and surroundings true to life, and in a most perfect manner.

Stock.

Clydesdales.

For some years past, about this season, the candid friends of the Clydesdale come into evidence, and a variety of statements are made regarding him which, in many cases, are not without their value. This season is no exception to the rule, and the columns of the leading agricultural papers have lately borne witness to the industry of these gentlemen. Amongst those who have lately been enlightening the public with their views, are professors of agriculture and sundry branches of veterinary science; an eminent breeder in the north of Scotland, Mr. David Walker, Coullie, Udny, the breeder of your Canadian champion, The Granite City; the editor of the North British Agriculturist, who contrives to be an authority on an immense number of greatly diversified topics; and a writer, who signs himself "Eric," in the London Live Stock Journal, but who, I am somewhat suspicious, was in time past in the same columns known as "Melville Moray," and was not unknown in Glasgow. The first named learned gentlemen have been criticising some of the methods of the Scottish show system, and advocating the addition of a veterinary expert as indispensable to the judging bench. There is a good deal to be said in favor of this, but, unfortunately, both gentlemen have somewhat weakened their case by making sweeping statements which scarcely give an accurate description of the present state of the breed in respect of soundness. It is easy making rash generalization and unfavorable contrasts between breeds in a matter of this kind. There are exceptions to all rules, and no true lover of the Clydesdale will maintain that there are no unsound animals amongst the representatives of the breed that one meets in a great showyard like that of the Highland and Agricultural Society. But all who have made a comparative study of European draught breeds will at once agree that taking an equal number of representatives of all draught breeds, picked up at random in a breeding district, the proportion of unsound animals will be very much less amongst Clydesdales than amongst any other breed that could be named. The one disease, as it seems to me, that Clydesdale breeders really have to fear is springhalt; but, strange to say, they seem to be alone in their fearing this disease, as the Shire Horse Society do not include it amongst the diseases that disqualify for receiving premiums at their show, and neither Canadian nor American buyers seem to treat it seriously. However, in a city like Glasgow, where there is so much backing of heavy lorries (drawn by only one horse) into narrow lanes, a horse with this disease is practically useless, and breeders in Scotland generally give it a wide berth.

Mr. Walker's contribution was in the form of a thoughtful paper, read before a Farmers' Club in Aberdeenshire. He advocated the adoption, by Clydesdale breeders in Aberdeenshire, of the principles followed by the Cruickshanks Brothers in breeding Shorthorns. In other words, he called on them to discard fancy ideas, and breed for practical purposes. The street is the final test of the horse, and hence, Mr. Walker sought to have the requirements of the street paramount. This naturally led him to discuss the question of size amongst Clydes-

dales, and on this he made certain good points. The difficulty, however, at present, is not the absence of big horses amongst Clydesdales, but the fact that the show taste, as a rule, seems to be in favor of a "sweet" horse in preference. A great many of our leading horses are mammoth animals, but Mr. Walker insists that our typical champion Prince of Albion (6178), is not one of these. There is a measure of truth in this, no doubt, and there is something feminine in some of the Prince's points; but it has been remarked that a horse of such well-balanced proportions as this is never conveys the same impression to the eye as a big, overgrown rough horse, and a request has been made that the measurements of the Prince should be published. Neither the City of Paris nor the City of New York look as big as several of their competitors in the Atlantic race, but they are the "leviathans" of the Ocean, although the fineness of their lines obscures the fact, and it is the same in any other department. Molly Millicent, the champion Shorthorn cow of Great Britain, is an animal of wonderful sweetness, and does not seem a wonder in size; but when pulled alongside others, that when standing alone appear bigger, it is at once seen how unequalled she is. This is the result of "quality" wherever it is found, and so much is "quality" valued amongst Clydesdale breeders that, while papers like that of Mr. Walker are distinctly valuable, and will always be read with interest, they are not likely to bring about any great change in the standard of showyard judging.

The articles that "Eric" is writing for the Live Stock Journal deal with the early history of draught horse breeding in Great Britain, but what their issue is to be is not quite clear at this stage. I have an impression, however, that it is not intended to be favorable to the Clydesdale. The Clydesdale Horse Society will shortly publish a monograph by Mr. T. Dykes, dealing with something of the same character, and the well-known ability of the writer, with his instinctive love of a good horse wherever found, leads one to expect that his work will be eminently readable and interesting.

One of the statements to which currency was lately given in the Scottish Agriculturist was to the effect that the maternal granddams of both Prince of Wales and Darnley were Shire mares. Of course this assertion, as regards Prince of Wales, is not new, and the point is an open one amongst Clydesdale breeders. My own view is that it is not proved that the mare that was maternal granddam of Prince of Wales was a Shire mare, and there were circumstances connected with the origin, and issue of certain documents purporting to prove that she was, which first saw the light about two years ago, i. e., thirty years after the events happened, which cause me to attach little importance to them. As regards the maternal granddam of Darnley, however, there is no doubt whatever. She was bred by Mr. James Holm, of Auchincloch, Renfrewshire, and was got by Farmer's Fancy 298. Her dam was bred by Mr. Holm or his father, on the farm of Sclates, Kilmalcolm, Renfrewshire, and the breed were reared on that farm from the beginning of the present century at least. Mr. Holm is still alive and resides at Netherwood, Kilmalcolm, and the facts as to the breeding of Darnley's dam, and all her ancestry in the female line, are common property in Renfrewshire.

Great activity is being manifested by district societies, and many horses of the best classes are hired for 1891. Good prices are being paid for promising foals, and on every hand, in spite of a slackened foreign demand, there is an easy feeling amongst Clydesdale breeders.

SCOTLAND YET.