

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
Iowa Shorthorn Breeders' Association,

HELD AT
IOWA CITY, JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA,
DECEMBER 13, AND 14, 1898.

OFFICERS FOR 1898.

PRESIDENT.

W. W. VAUGHN..... Marlon

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

J. R. CRAWFORD..... Newton

J. P. MANATREY..... Fairfield

J. A. EVANS..... West Liberty

SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

C. W. NORTON..... Wilton

DIRECTORS.

C. S. BARCLAY..... West Liberty

R. J. JOHNSTON..... Humboldt

A. DAVIDSON..... Monticello

PROGRAM.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 2 P. M.

Address of welcome by Hon. E. F. Brockway.

Response by Prof. C. F. Curtiss.

President's address by W. W. Vaughn, of Marion.

Topic—Best type of Shorthorn to Meet Present Demands—H. D. Parsons, Newton; S. H. Thompson, Iowa City.

What was the Care and Feed of Prize Winning Grade Shorthorn Steers at the Omaha Exposition—Prof. C. F. Curtiss, Ames Agricultural College.

Appointment of committees.

TUESDAY, 7 P. M.

Topic—My Experience in Handling the Bull—Isaac Francis, Prophetstown, Ill.; W. P. Young, Thos. Westrope.

The Western Trade—Its Present and Future—C. S. Barclay, J. R. Crawford, J. R. Mansfield, of Wisner, Neb.

How to Conduct a Sale—C. B. Dustin, Summer Hill, Ill.; F. A. Edwards, Webster City, Iowa.

WEDNESDAY, 9 A. M.

The Shorthorn from a Farmer's Standpoint—J. I. Nichols, West Liberty; Mart Burge, River Junction.

The Shorthorn—The General Purpose Breed—W. S. Robbins, Horace, Ind.; E. C. Holland, Milton, Iowa.

"My Ideal" and How Made—Hon. W. F. Harriman, Hampton; C. F. Shafer, Hampton; A. Alexander, Morning Sun.

Uncle John Myers' experience as a Shorthorn breeder.

Messrs. Isaac M. Forbes, of Henry, Ill., and F. W. Harding, of Waukesha, Wis., have kindly consented to give our association papers on the Shorthorn, as they found them in England and Scotland in 1898.

Reports of committees.

Secretary's report.

IOWA SHORTHORN BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The eighteenth annual convention of the Iowa Shorthorn Breeders' association convened at Close hall, in Iowa City, Tuesday evening, December, 13, 1898, at 7 o'clock.

The meeting was called to order by B. L. Norton, of Wilton, who said:

"Owing to the absence of the president and vice-president, we will have to call a chairman. If there are no objections, I would call Mr. Barclay to the chair."

Mr. Barclay, after taking the chair, made the following remarks:

This is an honor I had not expected and do not desire. If I make some mistakes, I hope you will bear with me. I hope that every man present will take an interest in this meeting and try to make it pleasant and profitable. I have not yet found time to look at the program and do not know what it contains. The secretary has something that he wishes to read before proceeding with our business.

Mr. Norton read the following letter:

WILTON JUNCTION, Iowa, December 3, 1898.

To the Shorthorn Breeders of Iowa:

GENTLEMEN—I am now about to start for the "Sunny South"—to Texas. I very much regret the conflict in time of meetings of the Farmers' National congress at Fort Worth, Texas, on the 6th of December, and our Iowa Shorthorn and Improved Breeders' meetings on the 13th to 15th inst. The governor having appointed me one of the delegates, and having for many years wanted to make a trip to Houston, Galveston and the Gulf of Mexico, I have a mind to play "truant" and make the trip. I very much regret being absent from our meetings. I have never missed one of the Shorthorn meetings, nor one of our twenty-three general meetings. Both of the programs the present year I think are good, and especially the program of the Improved Breeders. Wishing your meeting a great success,

Yours truly,
C. W. NORTON,
Secretary.

"I move that Mr. B. L. Norton act as secretary."

Motion seconded and carried.

CHAIRMAN: I presume we will take up the program where it should have commenced this afternoon. The first thing on

the program is the address of welcome by Hon. E. F. Brockway.

Mr. Brockway addressed the association as follows:

GENTLEMEN—It is a pleasure to me to welcome you in the name of Iowa City—the city of education and culture that proudly claims the title of the “Athens of Iowa.”

We welcome you more gladly as we remember a visit here some years ago by your society. Your visit to our city, and to every city you have visited in the last twenty five years, has kindled a desire in the brain of every farmer that came in contact with your meetings for something better. Yours is a mission of education, not alone to each member of your society, but to the owners of the many beautiful farms for miles around each city where your meetings are held.

Some of the city people, judging from the price they have to pay for beef, think that it is descendants of the golden calf you have come to talk about, but that is a mistake. No; it is the little red calves at home, that have the richest and best pastures in summer, that in winter nestle in warm stables and straw beds. I think as beautiful a picture as I have ever seen have been groups of a dozen or twenty such calves as they have looked up with their large, bright, questioning eyes, as I would enter with a lantern, as much as to say, “Is breakfast ready?”

What you have come to talk about is how to grow these calves with profit and compete with the markets of the western plains, of Australia, of the hills of Scotland and the rich valleys of the Thames and lees of old England. We are glad to welcome you gentlemen as the representatives of a grand and noble interest. Yours is a profession, combining the highest science of art and nature. Many a noble herd has been ruined by a lack of wisdom or skill in breeding.

Yours is a life all might covet. You live close to nature. A millionaire might, at the expense of \$3,000, and the help of a Landseer or a Bonheur, hang on his walls a copy of one of your finest animals, but it is only a lifeless, motionless copy. I remember a flock of those red calves that came each year. They used to scamper over a broad lawn, and no picture or statuary was half as beautiful. There were action, beauty, life, that no brush could paint.

’Tis said: “He is a benefactor who makes two blades of grass grow, where one grew before.” If so, what can we say of him who produces the nuclei of 100 herds of the finest beeves on earth, that again produce other herds, that furnish the best people on earth with the best beef, and not only beef but milk, cream, butter and cheese, for the Shorthorn is a general purpose cow.

Show me a land where they raise such cattle and use such beef, and I will show you an honest intelligent, fearless people, a people that can raise an army and navy of 200,000 soldiers in six weeks—an army that can shoot straight; that can conquer an empire with an army of boys, and sink a navy for a breakfast spell, and then disband and let the boys come home in time to gather the corn and go to school in the fall.

It is not the custom of this city, as it is at West Liberty, Fairfield and some of the other great cities you have visited to meet our honored guests at the gate of the outer wall, with the golden keys on a silver tray, for the

outer gates and all doors are open to you. Our halls, our homes, our churches, our universities, with her museums and library, the State Historical society, all send greeting and bid you come, and with the wish that every hour spent here may be an hour of pleasure, and profit, I, in the name of the people of Iowa City, again bid you a hearty welcome.

CHAIRMAN: I fear that Mr. Brockway is not as well acquainted with this crowd as I am, or he would not have promised that all of the doors and gates were open to us. I see by the program that Professor Curtiss is to respond to this address of welcome. I see he is not present, but we have a friend who is with us, and who is always with us, and I will call on Mr. Baker to respond.

BAKER: I am sorry you called on me to respond to this address of welcome. You can see that I am getting old, and what will be left of me after this is over is more than I can say. Of one thing I am certain, and that is that almost any one of you here would be better fitted for this than I am. I thank you for the courtesy that you have extended to me, and if you wanted a war of words for ten minutes or more, perhaps, I might try, but I think it would be better if I would take my seat.

CHAIRMAN: This program calls for an address by the president. Mr. Vaughn is not here.

[Calls for Barclay.]

CHAIRMAN: I think the president will be on hand tomorrow, and I would not want to spoil his address. The next on the program is a paper entitled “The Best Type of Shorthorns to Meet Present Demands,” by Mr. Parsons. I see that the gentleman is not present, and we would like to hear from Mr. Thompson.

THOMPSON: I positively refuse to fill this place. You will have to excuse me. I am not prepared for it and cannot possibly fill it. I am young in the business, and would suggest that Mr. Lathrop fill in this place.

CHAIRMAN: I understand that Mr. Thompson got his experience along that line. He is full of it. All we need is to get him up.

THOMPSON: The subject is one that requires some thought to handle it in a manner that would be interesting to the crowd. I do not want to bore them. I think that Mr. Lathrop could give us something that would be more instructive than I could give. I do not know as I know the best type to meet present demands. Most every breeder has a type. I have mine. To give a description of the type that pleases me best would be a

matter of a very few words. In the first place I want him low to the ground. In the next place I want him large in the ribs, that his lung power may be free. I want the neck short. I want the hips to come out full with the rump, and I want the front part of the hip to fill in and not drop back. This is a vital point with me. I like the Shorthorn type. I believe it better than the Hereford type. Some of you may take issue with me on these points. I want them red because I can sell them, and I cannot sell the others. As far as the head is concerned, that is a secondary consideration. I want the eye mild and the disposition perfect. That is the greatest point in breeding. I have been a breeder sixteen years, and I never had a bull that was cross. I want them to have a disposition that is right. I do not know as I can say any more.

WALLACE: I would like to ask Mr. Thompson about color. Do you not think the color craze is dying out?

THOMPSON: I have not noticed that it was. I have never had but two calls for a roan animal. Parties tell me before they come that they would just as soon buy a roan as a red, but when they come they always pick out a red.

BARCLAY: Was it because your red were the best?

THOMPSON: No, they were not always the best.

MYERS: I would like to hear Mr. Barclay on this color question. It has gone too far. There was really never anything in this color craze.

BARCLAY: I am not here to speak. I am here to keep you straight. I am not in the speech-making business to-night, but this subject Mr. Thompson opened up is a good one for discussion and I will say a few words along that line. My first herd I tried to have a roan herd, but they came out spotted cattle. I could not get a uniform lot of cattle. I closed out my herd and bought ten head of thoroughbred recorded cattle, all red. I have had a red herd ever since and I like them better because they are uniform.

BAKER: I would like to say something about a breed of cattle that are scarce here. They are the Devonshires and they are the handsomest cattle that I ever saw. Their limbs are finer, their bodies are larger. They do not pull the scales like the Shorthorn cattle do, for they do not have so many patches of fat, but they are the handsomest cattle I ever saw in England. There is not a single flaw in them.

BARCLAY: There is a gentleman here from Indiana who has had some experience in breeding cattle. I would like to hear from Mr. Robbins on this subject of color.

ROBBINS: I do not know as I could say anything that would be of interest to you. I am not a member of this association. I suppose the reason that I have been called upon here is because some of my friends say I am a champion of roan cattle. That is a mistaken idea. I have no preference as to the color of an animal, but I have found that I can fit a roan animal better than a red one. He responds to feed more readily. The roans have been the champions in the show yards, I think. It may not have been due to the color. I was in Chicago in 1882, at a sale of imported bulls. I went over with the intention of buying a red one. I spent two days looking over the cattle and I discovered that the best cattle were not red. After considering the matter I thought I would let the color take care of itself. I went to Cascade to buy a red one and came back with a white one. I did not want a roan, especially, but when I came to buy I found the best animals were that color. We have red, white and roan.

LATHROP: When I commenced raising Shorthorns some years ago I settled down to this conclusion that whatever stock I got, that the milk pail and the butchers' block was at the end of it all. If pedigree got that, I would get them pedigreed. If it was color that got that, I would get the right color. I never saw the color get into the milk bucket and I never saw the color get into the butchers' block.

THOMPSON: I want to hear some more from Barclay about this color business.

BARCLAY: As far as color goes I have no preference. I am raising Shorthorns for the money in it. I am going to raise the kind that I can get the most money out of. I am too old to commence to combat a prejudice. There is a prejudice against the roan and I am going to raise red cattle. I can make money easier with the red cattle. There must be a reason why there are more roan show cattle than red. In the old country the most of the cattle are roan, and the most of the show cattle are imported cattle. The red color is a Yankee notion. My experience has been largely with the range trade, and if there is any trade in cattle I like, it is the range trade. I can sell a hundred head of bulls easier and quicker than I can sell them to farmers. It is the cattle that will make the most money

when they are sent in to Chicago that they want. They want a red bull because they can nearly always expect to get calves of the same color. The uniformity of color may cover up some deficiencies, and they sell better on that account. It is the money they are after. They are a wide-awake, bright lot of fellows, and they know what they are after. There is another thing in this range business that would be a good thing for all interested in Shorthorns to think of. A large majority of the sales I have made in the last few years have been made to men who used Hereford bulls; some of them used black bulls. I asked them why they got Shorthorns when they had been buying Herefords for the last ten years. They always answer: "It is the money I am after." I have no prejudice against breed. I am after a breed that will bring me the most money. I shipped last year a hundred head of bulls to Wyoming. These men had been using Hereford bulls. I asked the president of the company why he wanted to buy Shorthorn bulls. He said we have come to the point when we have got to buy them to make the business profitable. He said we will send them to Chicago and we will have from 100 to 200 pounds more weight from the Shorthorns than from the Hereford bulls. That is not the report of one man, but a dozen men. I think about all there is in the raising of cattle is the money we can get out of them. If there was more money in the sale of a roan bull I would use one. I use the red because I can sell them for the most money. I do not think we should condemn an animal because of the color. We have a good white cow. I am not prejudiced against her because she is white. We cannot afford to throw an animal away because of its color.

LATHROP: Is it not a fact that in the early history of the Shorthorns the solid red was a rarity?

BARCLAY: It was not so when I commenced. I guess it was the case, though.

ROBBINS: You said the reason why there were more winners among the roans was because there were more roans shown. I believe if you will think that over you will take it back. I think a large per cent were red cattle.

BARCLAY: I said that in the cattle shown the most of them were either imported cattle or direct descendants of imported cattle, and the majority of cattle in the old country are roan cattle. That being the case, in selecting cattle for importing

in the old country, you will get a better quality of roans than reds.

ROBBINS: I think this color craze has caused the reds to be kept for breeders. The weeding out process has put them to the front.

BROCKWAY: I think Mr. Robbins tries to keep his herd all roan and tries to keep a uniform herd. I would like to ask him if he does not have trouble in getting spotted cattle?

ROBBINS: We pay very little attention to color. We have all colors.

BROCKWAY: I tried to raise a roan herd, but could not raise a uniform one. I used roan males. One-half I got were spotted. The red cattle are uniform. It looks better to me.

ROBBINS: The uniformity that we have been looking for is what makes them sell. Another thing in regard to what Mr. Barclay says. Do we want to breed cattle for the range trade, or is there something higher in this association?

BARCLAY: I want to breed cattle for the range trade, and I will tell you why. I can sell them quicker, easier and get more money, and that is what I am after. The best customers I have are the range men.

LATHROP: We are not all raising stock for the range men. If we were we would soon overstock the market.

BARCLAY: That is a fact. We may not all be raising cattle for the range, but most all of us are raising cattle for the money that is in them.

ROBBINS: Take it for granted that we are breeding bulls for the range, what is going to become of the breeding interests of the country? Are we going to build up the Shorthorn breed, or just cater to the range men? How are we going to improve the breed? We may make money that way, but I think we have something more at stake. We must breed bulls for the pure breed herds of this country. We must go on improving the breed.

BARCLAY: Mr. Robbins and I do not look at these things through the same glasses. I believe that I have the Shorthorn business at heart as much as any one here. I am going to improve my herd just as much as I can and I am going to sell my cattle to the men who will pay me the most money, and I think the range men are the best buyers.

BRISBINE: I have bought Shorthorns from Mr. Barclay and I am a young breeder; what I want to know is where I can get the most money for my cattle. If the western men will give me more money, that is what I am after.

BROCKWAY: I think I can offer a solution for the whole matter. There is nothing to prevent everybody raising the best cattle they can. When you have raised the best cattle you can, sell them to the first party that comes along, no matter whether they are range men or not.

CHAIRMAN: We will now close the discussion and pass on to the next paper by Professor Curtiss. Professor Curtiss not being present, we will take up the next paper.

Mr. Francis not being present, his paper was read by Mr. Norton, as follows:

PROPHETSTOWN, Whiteside Co., Ill., December 10, 1898.

To the Officers and Members of the Iowa Shorthorn Breeders' Association:

My experience in handling the bull. I must say that my experience in handling the bull has been varied. I have tried a number of different ways, viz., keeping them in barn till cows were mostly served and then letting them run with cows the balance of the season. In handling in this way, they get unruly, more or less. I have also tried keeping them in stall with small yard to run in, and taking the cows to them to breed. This way of handling did not please me, they worrying more or less. Two years ago I fenced a lot of six acres for bull pasture, out of sight of the cows entirely, and have let my bull, Intruder 123927, run in that lot every day that it is fit for him to be out, giving him as company a few bull calves under one year old, or a few cows that are safe in calf, always taking him to where the cow is that I want to breed, giving one service, which is generally morning or evening. I then take him back to his stall in barn and give him his morning or evening feed of oats, corn and bran, mixed. After eating, I turn him out in his lot again, except in winter. In handling him in this way, he has never fretted a particle; he is as docile as one could wish, and very sure. He was two years old last spring. He has done a very heavy season's work, and has gained over 600 pounds in nine months. I never think of giving him a feed of any kind only in his own stall. I always aim to keep my breeding bull in real good condition, feeling that his get will pay for the little extra attention given the sire. I am satisfied that a bull to be healthy and sure must have a liberal amount of outdoor exercise.

Trusting that you will have a profitable meeting. I am very sorry that I could not attend. With best wishes to all the Shorthorn fraternity, I am
Respectfully,

ISAAC FRANCIS.

BARCLAY: I would like to hear from Mr. Burge on this subject.

BURGE: I am too young in the business. I would like to hear these older men talk.

LATHROP: How much exercise should a bull take daily?

BARCLAY: All that they will take in a good yard.

HAKES: I want my bull to have plenty of exercise. I am like most every man, I want my bull handled carefully. I have had very little trouble with them. I never had a cross bull in my life. I think plenty of food keeps them docile. I let my bull run in the yard. The one I have now is inclined to take on flesh. He shows no disposition to be cross. I think oats make growth and bone.

DUNN: I think plenty of exercise and oats is the best thing for an animal.

BAKER: Does not cruelty make a male animal vicious? The trouble is often with the man, and not with the beast.

HAKES: The way to make an animal cross is to treat it badly. If a man shows fear, they know it quickly. I think a great many bulls are made cross by abuse.

HULL: Can not an animal be made cross by too much petting?

HAKES: That has never been my experience.

BURGE: There is a difference in what we call petting. I think the best way is to scratch its back.

HULL: I had a half-blood Polled Angus. My man petted him a good deal and he got to be very cross. I think we ought not to go too far with petting them.

BURGE: I think scratching a bull on the head is like fooling with a gun that we did not know was loaded.

THOMPSON: I never had a bull on my farm that I could not go right up to and take hold of his ring. I never hurt them. I put the ring in, pet them a little and go off and leave them. You must not manifest any fear. I have had several old animals and I never had a cross one. I go right into the stall without any fear. I prefer to have them in the barn in a stall when they are not exercising. I turn them out in the yard in the summer time. I feed oats, but not all oats. I feed corn and bran. I want them kept in good high condition. Keep them fat and give them plenty of exercise.

The following paper was received from J. R. Mansfield, Wisner, Neb.:

THE WESTERN TRADE.

BY J. R. MANSFIELD.

In writing on the subject of "Western Trade," I shall assume that the subject is broad enough to include the buying of range steers at the leading markets, as Omaha and Kansas City and feeding same. Therefore, I will confine myself to this phase of the subject and leave to others the other lines of thought connected with the subject. I write from the standpoint of the ordinary farmer, that goes to the before-mentioned great markets to buy steers with which to feed up his corn crop.

On arriving at the market, he finds a wilderness of cattle of all kinds, good, bad, those showing Hereford, Shorthorn, Polled Angus, and Galloway blood, as well as Jersey and Holstein characteristics, and also many that are pure unadulterated rangers.

Of the breeding and antecedents of these cattle he knows absolutely nothing, his eye is all he has to guide him. He soon notices a large number of cattle with white faces and he concludes they are Herefords or they may be black hornless cattle and he calls them Polled Angus grades. He pays a fancy price and takes them home to his feed lot; he feeds and feeds but the cattle do not get fat. There is no spread to them; they fail to meet the expectation of the feeder and when sold fail to put money in his pocket.

It would seem that the Hereford has been bred so strong as to color that the white face crops out in his progeny, while beef characteristics are lacking; the same may be said of the Polled Angus.

With the Shorthorn the case is different. If a steer has enough of this blood in him to show in his color and make-up, he will make good use of his feed, and as a rule leave a profit for the feeder.

So well is this lack of feeding-quality among white-face range cattle known by feeders, men that care nothing for breeds, but want the best steers to be had for feeding purposes, that one hears them say continually, "Well I bought white faces or blacks, it was the best I could do; I wanted Shorthorns but I could not get them."

In my own experience of ten years as a feeder of range cattle, of all the three leading beef breeds, in making my selections for first shipments, topping the bunch, I have always chosen Shorthorns, as they were riper and fit for market first, and this without a single exception.

The reasons I have mentioned with many more that might be mentioned, are sufficient to convince me that the present very bright condition of the the western trade in Shorthorns will continue and improve as the years roll by.

CHAIRMAN: I think as it is getting late we had better pass on to the appointment of committees. I would appoint as committee on resolutions E. F. Brockway, B. H. Hakes and J. W.

Slemmons. Committee on election of officers and place of meeting, S. H. Thompson, M. D. Clark and J. N. Dunn.

BROCKWAY: I move we adjourn until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Motion seconded and carried.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 9:30 A. M.

Meeting called to order at 9:30 by the president.

CHAIRMAN: We skipped around last night, and did not follow out the regular program. I see that Professor Curtiss is with us this morning, and we will now have his paper on "What Was the Care and Feed of Prize Winning Grade Shorthorn Steers at the Omaha Exposition?"

CURTISS: I understand this subject was discussed last night, and I am at a loss to know where to begin. I may say in reference to this matter, however, that the steers referred to were grade and pure bred Shorthorn calves purchased in the fall of 1896. Some of them were raised on the college farm, and some of them were purchased from farmers near by and from Mr. Moninger, of Marshalltown. When we went to see Mr. Moninger, he declined to let us have red calves. He wanted them himself for the fat stock show. We paid \$15 to \$20 per head for the calves we bought from Mr. Moninger, and we valued those we raised on the college farm at \$20 per head. They were brought in in November and started in the 1st of December. The feed was separator skim milk. The calves were divided into four lots, and with the milk were fed grain rations, that is corn meal, oats and oil meal. The results have been quite uniform in giving better results from corn meal than from oil meal. That is reasonable when we consider it. A great majority of the farmers who give advice about raising calves will say to use oil meal with skim milk, but we have had better results from corn meal. The separator skim milk has had the fat taken out. When we add corn meal to the skim milk ration we are getting a product that adds fat. I am not condemning oil meal in feeding stock. I place a high estimate on it. It is one of the best feeds we have used, but when we are using separator skim milk we do not need to pay a high price for another nitrogenous character like oil meal. We have better gains from corn meal and it is cheaper. In one of our

experiments we ground the corn and added flax seed. This contained 35 per cent of fat. We only feed the calves a limited amount of pure fat. It disturbs the digestive organs. Then we have also ground the oats, and at the beginning we have sifted the coarse hulls out of the oat meal. Oats are not a satisfactory feed for young stock. When they grow older it is different. After the calves are six weeks old, the whole oats are as good as the ground oats. Since conducting these experiments we have been using whole shelled corn. I had some misgivings about it. We began feeding in a moderate way, and to my surprise and satisfaction we never had calves do better. We began at about ten days old and changing from whole milk to separator milk. Our calves did as well as any we ever raised. I do not think grinding the feed is necessary, unless you use oats, then it may be an advantage. We find that calves raised on separator skim milk will gain without interruption. We feed them on grass, and when the grass fails in August we put them on a grain ration. We do not feed them to their full capacity until in the summer. When we feed cattle to put on the market, we give five pounds of grain a day. We find that any sudden change interferes with gains. Change animals suddenly to different rations and there is often serious results. We carried our calves along through the summer, gradually increasing the feed. We gave them no grain until they were nine months old, and then we only fed ground grain. When the corn is like it is now, we do not consider it profitable to grind it. During the summer months, when the corn is dry and hard, it sometimes caused sore mouth. We ground the corn and added oats, bran or anything of a nitrogenous product to the corn ration. We carried them along in this way, gradually increasing the nitrogenous feed. The feeding of this bunch of steers was interrupted by showing them at Omaha. They were gone about a month. There was no grain when they came back. We had a hard time getting them out there, and the change of water, etc., put them about a month back. Since then we have fed them until last week. They were on the market Monday and sold for \$5.85. I think they would have brought \$6 if they had been as good as those we got from Mr. Moninger. The steers were exhibited at Omaha, and I presume a good many of you saw them. They were shown at the age of two years, weighing 1,425 pounds. One or two weighed 1,500 or a little over. They were from pure

bred Shorthorn cows. I think there will be a good, fair profit on these steers. Now, there may be some particular features about this that I have not touched upon. I make these remarks from memory. I think the great difficulty in raising calves successfully is the secret of moderate feeding. Nine-tenths of the trouble of calves raised by hand is overfeeding at the beginning. We reduced our ration fully one-half what we used to feed. We find the calves give better results when started on a moderate ration and gradually increased. We have fed them half a dozen times a day. We feed three or four pounds at a feed. I am satisfied that it is safer not to feed too heavy.

HALL: How soon do you add anything besides skim milk?

CURTISS: We begin giving them corn just as soon as we can. We keep fresh hay on hand at all times for them. We have had better results, all things considered, from corn and oats than from any other grain.

LATHROP: Do you have good results from feeding young calves grain? Do they not scour on shelled corn?

CURTISS: Yes, we have sometimes had them scour on shelled corn.

LATHROP: I can not feed my young calves from two to three months old on meal without scouring. I feed shelled corn and they do not scour.

CURTISS: They do not always scour from grain. It is not always corn or corn meal. I like corn meal alone for a young calf.

HAKES: If you had a dozen calves, how would you feed them to have one and all get enough?

CURTISS: We feed thirty-five calves. We give each calf its ration separately. The feeder goes to the stall with two pails of milk. Each calf gets what it is entitled to. When they are put in the yard in warm weather, we feed them from a stanchion. There is a box for each calf. They go up to it and a pail of milk is there for each one. They always get their grain before they go out. They stay there for half an hour and get their milk and grain.

BROCKWAY: A friend of mine had a cow that died and left a young calf. The calf never sucked. It bawled around for a few days and then began to nibble corn. By the next fall the calf weighed 800 pounds. This convinced me that shelled corn was a good thing for a calf. This calf never had any milk. It

lived on shelled corn and grew fat. I could not believe this until I tried it. I use shelled corn and oats.

BAKER: The teeth of a young calf are sharp enough to bring the blood from the fingers. They can easily masticate corn. When milk is denied them, they can subsist on grain.

CHAIRMAN: We will now close this discussion and listen to the report of the secretary.

The secretary read his report, as follows:

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

IOWA SHORTHORN BREEDERS TO C. W. NORTON, DEBTOR.

To balance December, 1897.....	\$18 20
To printing 400 programs and 400 envelopes.....	3 00
To postage on programs.....	2.00
To postage on proceedings.....	.80
To stenographer, 1898.....	5.00
To express on proceedings.....	.40
To railroad fare, return Wilton Junction to Iowa City.....	1.74
To hotel bill, Iowa City.....	1.50
Total.....	\$32.64

CHAIRMAN: We have a statement in regard to the cottage on the state fair grounds that we will now listen to.

Secretary reads as follows:

In regard to the Shorthorn cottage, as we held no state fair this year, there has nothing been done in the way of moving it. We raised \$100 (by subscription) at West Liberty one year ago and could there be a little effort at the Iowa City meeting doubtless the balance, say \$75, could be pledged. I am willing to let my \$116 (with no interest for eight years) stand until we can place the building near the Shorthorn cattle show ring, where it should have been when it was placed on the hill by Mr. Sec. Jno. Shaffer.

Here's hoping both the Iowa Shorthorn Breeders and Improved Breeders' meetings will be largely attended and very successful.

I am yours truly,

C. W. NORTON,

Secretary Iowa Shorthorn Breeders' Association.

CHAIRMAN: I will appoint a committee consisting of Professor Curtiss, Mr. Slemmons and Mr. Hakes to consider the matter of the state fair cottage and the secretary's report. The next subject to be brought out is of considerable interest: "How to Conduct a Successful Public Sale." We will now hear from Mr. Edwards on this subject.

Mr. Edwards read the following paper:

FELLOW BREEDERS—As I look upon this large gathering of veterans who have grown gray in the service battling for the rights of the grandest breed of cattle on earth, a feeling of diffidence comes over me; however, I am not one to shirk any responsibility, therefore in a very brief manner I will, no doubt to your entire satisfaction, convince you that I know very little about how to conduct a public sale.

There are, no doubt, breeders holding public sales with different purposes in view. But I shall deal only with the one who expects to make breeding and selling Shorthorns a business. And who contemplates disposing of his surplus stock at public auction.

Now, then, we will consider for a moment the man who has a herd of eighty or 100 head and who wishes to dispose of one-half the number. The first thing to engage his attention is: How shall I make the selection? We will say that he has a good herd, one that will warrant him in the belief that he has cattle that will gather around his sale ring a representative gathering of the best breeders.

Now, then, if he sells from the top end he may make a record breaker this year. But God help him next. And if he sells from the bottom he will certainly be disgraced. Buyers who are willing to buy and pay a good price for good cattle will not come back. Then it seems to me the only true solution of the problem is to sell as good as he has and keep as good as he sells. This, of course, applies to the females, as all wish to dispose of all surplus bulls each year. Above all things don't advertise what you have not got. If you have as good as the best, be prepared to prove it on day of the sale. If the sale is to be held in the spring, I would advise commencing preparation in the fall; it takes time to bring cattle into the sale ring fit to sell. As I take it, it is a breeder's duty to himself, to his fellow breeders, to his customers and to this grand old cosmopolitan breed, itself, to bring them into the sale ring with a wealth of flesh and bloom that entrances and captivates all beholders. But some one will say, "These cattle are too fat," and my answer is, this very man will buy the fattest one. But another will ask the question, "Does it not injure cattle to be fed so high?" My answer is, no. If cattle were to be fed for a year or two, it might, but for a few months, it only shows the capacity of the Shorthorn to respond to the feeder's and herdsman's art with no injury to the cattle whatever.

As to the proper manner to get cattle into salable condition, I can only state to you my personal experience, and I have not found any one complaining that my cattle were "too thin in flesh." We commenced giving grain about six months before sale, by feeding corn fodder with corn on in the open yard, only feeding so that the fodder may be eaten clean. Continue this for about sixty days, then put in barn, cut the hay and grind the corn, add a little oil meal to it; feed three times a day; never feed more than will be eaten up clean in a short time; give your cattle plenty of bedding, two feet deep with clean straw, and brush and curry at least once a day. I have had cattle gain 150 pounds a month fed in this manner. Nothing tends to enhance the looks of an animal more than its good appearance and attitude in the sale ring. In order to get that the cattle must be thoroughly well halter-broken; for the last thirty days we always lead to water twice a day, and in this way at sale time we can always strike a World's fair position.

Now, as to advertising—how to do it so it will pay. There are so many stock papers now in the country that if one advertises in all, it would take half the sale to pay the bill. A man must consider the matter carefully and use his own judgment, taking into consideration the locality he is in and where he is most likely to draw his buyers from. Have a neat catalogue, gotten up with as few errors as possible. Now, on sale day, treat your customers and onlookers cordially; give them the best your town affords. I always turn over to my visitors the best hotel in the city and tell them, if they don't see what they want, ask for it.

Now, upon commencing the sale, put the cattle absolutely in the hands of the auctioneer. The auctioneer should always be provided with a platform at least 4x8, 2½ feet high, with a table to lay his catalogue on, and also a pitcher of water. A smaller platform makes it impossible for him to move about as he must in order to see all the people just as he wants, and the nearer you can get the people to the auctioneer and seat them comfortably, the more money he can get from them. You can't work a man at a distance. Much has been said and written concerning the guarantee to be given. Justice must be done the buyer, and justice must be done the seller. Put no cattle into the sale that are not known to be absolutely all right. Show them with calves at foot, or safe in calf, and if any of the animals have any defect point them out as soon as they are brought into the sale tent. Breeding and selling Shorthorns is a business that, to be successful, the breeder must be in love with his calling. One thing I nearly forgot, and that is dinner. Bear in mind the old saying, that the way to a man's pocketbook is through his stomach.

And now, my fellow breeders, if in these brief and disconnected remarks, I have said one word to help only one man over some little stumbling block, I am truly thankful. Let us forget our differences, our petty bickerings over color and pedigree, and, in the language of the late lamented Colonel Moberly: "Breed good cattle, whether it be straight, crooked or cross-wise." Let us present a solid front, fighting for our favorite breed, a breed that has forced its way into popular favor, not alone in our own peerless Iowa, not alone in the great corn belt of our union, but from one end of the earth to the other wherever civilization abounds, there, side by side with the best citizenship of the country will be found representative Shorthorns doing their full share toward elevating and uplifting mankind.

CHAIRMAN: This paper is now open for discussion.

McFADDEN: That was an excellent paper. I should judge that the man who read it could conduct a successful sale. I think, however, he left out the most important thing about a sale. He got around the subject. He told us nothing about the guaranty. My experience in hog sales has been that the guaranty has had more to do with it than anything else. I want to know what the proper guaranty is.

EDWARDS: In my opinion a man should not put anything in the ring but what he knows is absolutely correct in every way. If a man puts a cow in the sale ring that is not a breeder, he should give the man back his money. I have always done

that. My experience has been that the Shorthorn breeder will do what is right. I know nothing about the hog business.

McFADDEN: Mr. Edwards gets around the point that I wanted brought out.

McNEIL: I had some experience at the second sale where I was a purchaser. I bought two cows on the breeding list. The first week I found they were not in calf. The auctioneer represented everything as all right. I applied to the owner of the cattle for redress and it was denied me. He said I made a mistake in asserting my rights, as I might want to sell the animals myself.

HAKES: I have been a breeder in a small way for a good many years. I have had a good trade, and have shipped some animals away. I have guaranteed everything I ever sold. I never had to take an animal back, yet. I had contemplated putting a guaranty in my catalogue this spring. I do not know whether it would be best or not.

LEFEBURE: Let each one take his own risk. Let the future take care of itself. I think it a poor plan to guarantee a future.

THOMPSON: I never made but one sale. I guaranteed every animal in the sale to be a breeder. I think we ought to have some redress in these things. When a man pays \$200 or \$300 for a bred animal, he wants what he buys. You may talk about honesty being the best policy. Honesty is doing what you would like to be done by. I think there ought to be some means brought up by the breeders to force men to do differently or go out of the business. I have bought from prominent men and got bit.

LEONARD: In a small way I handle stock, and have for a number of years. I have adopted this rule, and propose to carry it out while I stay here: When I advertise a sale, I will say I will guarantee satisfaction. If a man is dissatisfied, he can return his stock and get his money. I am going to stay by that if I keep the same mind, and I am going to win and win that way. I will tell every man what the animals are. If he is dissatisfied with what he buys, he can bring his stuff back and the money is ready for him.

HAKES: When a breeder has a good young cow he has reason to know whether she is a breeder or not. The buyer has no way of knowing.

BAKER: There is one point that is doubtful. If you have cattle by the hundred it is a pretty tough matter to keep an

accurate account of them and determine whether they are breeders or not.

THOMPSON: I claim that any breeder who has any knowledge at all knows whether his cows are breeders or not, or else he knows nothing about his business.

EDWARDS: Any man who has sense enough to breed Shorthorns knows whether a cow is a breeder or not, if she is old enough. I always make my guarantees verbally and never have had any trouble about them. The only hesitance I have in putting a guarantee in a catalogue is because you do not always know the kind of a man you are going to sell to.

McFADDEN: It does not seem to me that any man raising thoroughbred stock can afford not to make their animals breeders.

THOMPSON: As I understand the wording on these catalogues, or breeding lists, it is simply a supposition whether the animal is in calf or not. If the cow has been served, and served repeatedly, and never proved to be a breeder, then somebody is to blame besides the buyer.

McNEIL: I believe that breeders have a redress in law. It is a fair proposition that where one party suffers a loss by no act of his own he should not be the loser. A breeding list accompanying the catalogue implies that the animal is in calf. The owner has the accruing interest. That interest is transferred to the buyer. If the animal is not in calf, then the buyer is the innocent party. There is a prima facie statement in that breeding list of the fact that the animal is in calf. That is the contract with which the auctioneer delivers to you the property.

CHAIRMAN: We must pass on to the next subject. We will now listen to a paper by Mr. McNeil, "As We Saw Them at Omaha."

McNEIL: I am just an amateur. I could talk to you better on the subject we have just been discussing than this one. I was surprised to be put on for this paper. I would make but a poor attempt in commenting on the Shorthorns as I saw them at Omaha. I might say they were all good, but to say which was best calls in question the various standards of excellence.

The following paper was received from J. Cresswell, Bonaparte, Iowa:

"AS WE SAW THEM AT OMAHA."

To write of the Shorthorns as "I saw them at Omaha" would be an uninteresting and futile effort of my pen compared with the views and articles of the various stock and farm journals.

To say that all were good would be a just tribute to the exhibitors and a truth as to the splendid specimens of the breed, but to say which was best calls in question the various standards of excellence. The very fact of an acknowledged change in conformation, which has been taking place in the Shorthorn breed during the past twenty-five years, is evidence that the individual standards of expert judges of Shorthorns must be a varying (ones) standard. Hence, the verdict of a cattle judge can never be enveloped in a halo of sacredness that forbids the criticism of the crowd, and the victor should wear his honors easily among his brethren. In cattle breeding there is the real and the ideal. The former is a known and explored realm inhabited by the practical man who stays not for the landscape and the scenery, but for the dollars and cents, and if he ventures outside the boundaries of the known keeps well in view the landmarks he has left.

The ideal is an unknown—from whence some travelers never return—with the original investment. It is the right and the province of every breeder to mate his animals according to his own ideals, but if it results he is seeking outside of his own personal gratification, he must keep inside the pale of his environment and utility.

If you will pardon the comparison, it is said in the church there are two kinds of adherents, neither of which make for its glory in the world. One accepts Christ, but does not love Him; the other also accepts Him, but does nothing else but love Him. The first is a scrub man—breeding improved cattle; not in love with his business, but intensely interested in results. The other a wealthy well bred man, making them a mere toy, caring nothing for financial results.

There have been times when improved stock breeding has been ground between these millstones, and the grist received the condemnation of the practical, money making farmer and stockman. Standards of excellence cannot wholly consist of imaginary lines passing around a sphere of fatty tissue dividing it into zones. Neither is it wholly in curved lines and right angles that give beauty and mathematical symmetry. Intense vigor and heredity may so have forged to the front as to disturb the harmony of the picture, and without these latter essential qualities there can be no lasting excellence.

The enthusiastic Shorthorn breeder points with pride to the fruits of the Shorthorn cross upon the native cattle, and it is but just to say of the despised scrub that he has never been charged with a lack of vitality or of being unprolific.

Amos Cruickshank, more than any other breeder of the last generation, by judicious selection and mating, evolved a type of Shorthorns that meet the requirements of this day and age. In that north country he had been

an observer and student of many breeds of cattle, and was a breeder of Shorthorn cattle wholly in reference to utility and environment. He was severely practical in his views. Style—heads, horns and hind legs were required to yield, if necessary, to vigor and feeding qualities. Color counted for nothing, and he sent the Scotch bred ones abroad on a prize-winning conquest.

A topic—a text is said to be a point to depart from—and this paper can not be recognized by its adherence to the text, "As I saw them at Omaha." I am not an expert in cattle raising, much less in judging, and Nominee and St. Valentine would be unmoved by any verdict I should render.

The farmer who spent his time scaling their points and reversing the judges during his stay at Omaha is still at large, wanting to buy a bull as good as either for about \$60, but insists he must be all red. But the practical man, with blue grass pastures and bursting corn cribs, was intensely interested in the ten steers from the agricultural college and wants to know all about how Professor Curtiss bred and fed them. This is a field he can compass and at the same time increase his bank account.

We went to Omaha knowing that Shorthorns were good cattle. When there we saw other breeds whose excellence must be conceded. We returned to the pastures in which were grazing our own grade Shorthorn steers, satisfied with our early choice of breeding cattle—a breed with a hundred years of history, during which time it has been going down into the byways and highways of the civilized world and lifting their scrub kindred up—up—up.

CHAIRMAN: The next thing on the program will be the report of the committee on the state fair cottage and the secretary's report.

Mr. Curtiss read the following report:

Your committee on secretary's report begs to recommend that the original committee having the work of repairing and removing the Shorthorn cottage on the state fair grounds be continued and instructed to repair, move and repaint the building as originally contemplated, provided sufficient funds can be raised, and if not, that the building be disposed of and removed and the proceeds applied toward paying the indebtedness of the association incurred in the erection of this cottage.

B. H. HAKES,
J. W. SLEMMONS,
C. F. CURTISS.

CHAIRMAN: What will you do with this report?

BAKER: I move its adoption.

Motion seconded and carried.

CHAIRMAN: We will now have the report of the committee on resolutions.

Brockway read the following report:

Your committee beg leave to report as follows:

Resolved, That we extend our thanks to the Hon. James Wilson for his faithful and earnest efforts in the agricultural interests of the west, and

especially in the live stock interest, and that we would suggest stringent retaliatory measures against the nations that discriminate against our meat products.

E. F. BROCKWAY.
J. W. SLEMMONS.
B. H. HAKES.

Resolved, That, as citizens and farmers of Iowa, we view with alarm the great devastation of the timber reserves of the United States by fire and ruthless waste. That the future demands that congress should take active measures in the future of our great timber reserves.

E. F. BROCKWAY.
J. W. SLEMMONS.
B. H. HAKES.

CHAIRMAN: What shall we do with this report?

MCNEIL: I move this report be accepted.

Motion seconded and carried.

CHAIRMAN: We will now hear the report of the committee on nomination of officers.

Thompson read the following report:

Your committee on nomination of officers present the following names:

President—W. W. Vaughn, Marion.
Vice-Presidents—J. P. Manatrey, Fairfield; John A. Evans, West Liberty; G. H. Burge, Mt. Vernon.
Secretary—J. R. Crawford, Newton.
Directors—C. S. Barclay, West Liberty; F. A. Edwards, Webster City, A. Davidson, Monticello.

S. H. THOMPSON,
J. N. DUNN,
B. H. HAKES.

CHAIRMAN: What will you do with this report?

MCNEIL: I move you this body of Shorthorn breeders delegate the assistant secretary to cast the vote of this association for the officers named.

Motion seconded and carried.

Vote was so cast and gentlemen named declared elected.

CHAIRMAN: A motion to adjourn is now in order.

COLE: I move we adjourn *sine die*.

Motion seconded and carried.

NEWTON, Iowa, June 30, 1898.

Mr. C. W. Norton:

DEAR SIR—Yours received last evening. I had intended to inclose you the subscription some time ago, but delayed doing so. Inclosed you will please find the original subscription and also a copy of the same. I don't wish to act as secretary for this present year. I hope you will collect and apply these subscriptions on the debt and secure as much more as you can.

Yours respectfully,

J. R. CRAWFORD.

December 8, 1897.

We, the undersigned, agree to pay the sum set opposite our respective names for the purpose of paying off the debt on the Shorthorn cottage and moving the same and putting the building in good repair:

C. W. Norton	\$ 10.00
C. S. Barclay	5.00
J. W. Slemmons	5.00
Jordan & Dunn	10.00
J. P. Manatrey	5.00
C. F. Curtiss	5.00
R. J. Johnston	5.00
John Cownie	5.00
W. H. Harriman	5.00
P. G. Fowler	5.00
Richard Baker	5.00
J. C. Shrader	5.00
E. C. Holland	5.00
W. A. Bryan	5.00
Cookson Brothers	5.00
Nichols & Gibson	5.00
George Berg	5.00

MEMBERS OF SHORTHORN BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION FOR 1898.

W. C. Brisbane, Downey.	W. C. McNeil, Postville.
C. S. Barclay, West Liberty.	E. F. Brockway, Iowa City.
D. Clark, New York.	E. Inus, Iowa City.
Jordan & Dunn, Central City.	Richard Baker, Farley.
George Burge, Mt. Vernon.	M. D. Clark, Mt. Vernon.
H. W. Lathrop, Iowa City.	E. Lefabure, Fairfax.
C. F. Curtiss, Ames.	F. A. Edwards, Homestead.
F. D. Thomson, Hornesbeak.	B. F. Hakes, Williamsburg.
E. Moore.	R. E. Owen, Williamsburg.
W. P. Nichols, West Liberty.	I. I. Eggerton, Ames.
D. Leonard, Leonard.	Gad James, West Liberty.
Cookson Bros., Downey.	George Dunkebburge.
J. W. Slemmons, Iowa City.	C. S. Coe, Riverside.
J. G. Myers, Okona.	G. R. Hall & Son, Iowa City.
A. Crafford, Lone Tree.	S. H. Tompson & Son, Iowa City.
President Beardshear, Ames.	G. H. Handley, Cedar Rapids.
W. W. Vaughn, Marion.	

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