turning their attention. It is, however, an idle dream, for the interest of the wheat-growing farmer cannot be dealt with apart from the general fiscal policy of the whole country; and even were every acre of land in the three kingdoms which could grow wheat utilized in that way we should be quite unable to feed all our population; we are duite unable to reed all our population; we are bound to import. It does not appear that anything but cheapening the cost of production will enable wheat growing land to be kept in cultivation in England. With barley the case is different. In the early eighties the British farmer made a grand blunder in existence for the removal of the tax the early eighties the British farmer made a grand blunder in agitating for the removal of the tax on barley and malt and placing it on beer. His theory was that by doing this he would place all barleys on an equality, whereas under the old system it did not pay the maltster to buy second-class. He succeeded thus far, that the growing of second-class samples was greatly increased, but the imports of second-class foreign barleys also increased: so that his last state has been worse that creased; so that his last state has been worse that the first. Many are now agitating for a reversal to the policy of 1880, but there is a force to reckon with there unknown. The tax being put upon beer, with there unknown. The tax being put upon beer, the great object of the brewer and maltster since 1880 has been to obtain cheap malt, with the result that so-called English beer is scarcely worthy of the name. The present Government owes too much to the brewer and distiller interest to interfere lightly with their profits; and hence, while I am convinced a reversal to the earlier system of taxation would benefit the farmer, I have little hope that anything will be done for him in this direction. Oats are undoubtedly the cereal crop of direction. Oats are undoubtedly the cereal crop of this country, and the extent of acreage under it keeps very uniform, and even increases. The reason for this is, of course, not far to seek. While the live stock interest is thriving or fairly prosperous, oat straw is a sine qua non in the economy of the straw, both as a fodder and for the manufacture of farm, both as a fodder and for the manufacture of farm, both as a fodder and for the manufacture of farm, both as a fodder and for the manufacture of farms and cate are a valuable food for farmyard manure, and oats are a valuable food for almost every kind of stock. Further, while the wheat area in Scotland under any circumstances is limited, the oat area is very large, and, indeed, co-extensive with the arable portion of the kingdom. There is, however, little profit in the crop taken by itself; all kinds of feeding stuffs are phenomenally cheap, oats amongst the rest, so that there is hardly any margin of direct profit from their growth. It pays, or, more correctly, under ordinary circumstances it is not a losing game to grow oats, but perhaps that is the best one can say. Until 1893 pernaps that is the best one can say. Until 1885 the hay crop, whether rye grass or timothy, was an unfailing source of revenue to the Scottish farmer. If there was a scarcity elsewhere he had always the chance of an enhanced price with a large area, but in light crop, and a fair price with a large crop, but in 1893 the scarity of fooder in England induced merchants to look to Canada and other countries merchants to look to Canada and other countries for supplies; prices in Scotland were a little stiffened at that time, but nothing like what they would have been had the foreign hay not come in; now that it has obtained a footing, it seems improbable that it will be driven out, and consequently, so far as prices are concerned, it makes little difference whether a farmer has a large or a small crop. In the case of farmers growing extensive breadths of hay near a large city like Glasgow, there is still money in the crop; but the same remark applies to almost every other crop on the farm. Even wheat can be profitably grown in the neighborhood of Glasgow and Dublin at a profit, because a very good price is got for the straw, when un-broken, for the manufacture of mattresses. This, however, applies to a comparatively limited area; the general situation is fairly sketched in the preceding sentences. So far as cropping is concerned, the tendency is to curtail the area and lay down more

land to permanent pasture.

Green cropping in Scotland is confined chiefly to the potato and turnip; in the more favored districts cabbage may also be found, and rape is not an uncabbage may also be found, and rape is not an un-common catch crop after early potatoes. Modern Scottish agriculture dates from the introduction of the turnip. It is doubtful if any single crop ever exercised so great an influence in moulding and modifying agriculture practice as this root has done. Chemists tell us that the turnip contains very little else than water, but still it is grown as exvery little else than water, but still it is grown as extensively as ever, and no matter what other compounds may find a place in the feeding byre, turnips are always the leading article. It has sometimes been argued that this is due rather to the difficulty of finding a crop to fill its place in the ordinary farm rotation than any recognized merit in the root itself. Be the cause what it may, the turnip retains its supremacy as the leading green crop in the majority of the arable districts of green crop in the majority of the arable districts of Scotland. The season of 1895 was not too favorable for the successful growth of this crop; the braird was long in appearing, yet those who had patience and did not re-sow, have, as a rule, had the better crop. Provided the later autumn and the opening of winter be mild, as it has been this year, turnips, whether Swede or Aberdeen yellow, grow on and swell out. A good turnip crop and a large bulk of oat straw means cheap wintering for young stock.
The weight of turnips per acre is less this year than usual, but the roots are sound, and promise to keep

Potato growing in some parts of Scotland is almost extinct. Early potatoes are grown on the Ayrshire coast and in Kintyre, and provided there be no late spring frosts, no branch of farming is more profitable. The area over which this style of more prontable. The area over which this style of farming prevails is very limited, and it can hardly be recognized as a branch of Scottish agriculture, did the pure salt.

considered as a whole. The great potato-growing districts for the autumn and winter markets are Berwick, the Lothians, Fifeshire, and some parts of Lanarkshire and Perthshire. The soils best adapted for this crop are the red lands about Dunbar, where the best potatoes perhaps in Great Britain are grown. Red land, as a rule, is good potato land, but the area under the crop is yearly potato land, but the area under the crop is yearly conditionally and the residue ruling in 1805 are likely diminishing, and the prices ruling in 1895 are likely to increase the number of non-potato growing farms. The season has been a remarkable one in respect of the absence of disease, but prices have been ruinously low. There has been little foreign trade, and without this prices cannot be expected to rule high. Many are using the tubers for feeding purposes, and in the dairies potatoes are popular as conducing to an increased milk supply.

Dairying has never been in a worse plight than during the year of 1895. The trade has fairly collapsed; and except in the case of those supplying new milk to large centers of population, the closing year is of the blackest on record. Cheese has been selling at a price which barely pays for the making, nottosayanything aboutrent and other expenses and charges. Ourmarkets have been flooded with foreign butter, and that commodity also has been going off dirt cheap. Altogether there is no silver lining to the dark cloud which overshadows the dairying industry.

Live stock is the sheet-anchor of the British farmer. The cattle and sheep breeders of this country cannot in these particular departments make loud complaint; in truth, as matters stand they have been making money. Sheep especially have probably never done better for their owners than during the year now closing, and it is next to impossible to believe that three years ago prices were almost at zero. All the breeds have shared in the good luck which has attended this department, and whoever is pulling a long face in these times it is not the sheep farmer. Cattle breeders as a whole is not the sheep farmer. Cattle breeders as a whole have not much cause for complaint, and the Shorthorn men can rejoice. They have seen some faint glimmerings of a brighter morning, and prices for their favorites have ruled higher than during many years past. At Warlaby disperison sale, on the Saturday preceding the Royal Show, splendid returns were obtained, but the figures realized at Mr. Duthie's sale of bull calves were, considering Mr. Duthie's sale of bull calves were, considering their ages, more notably still. Undoubtedly 1895 has been the year of a Shorthorn revival. Aberhander of the contract of th deen-Angus cattle have also been doing very well, but the averages in their case have not been quite as high as in some former years. Galloway breeders have witnessed a new interest in their favorities, consequent largely on the growing popularity of the blue-gray cross, which comes from them and the Shorthorn. The foreign demand for Ayrshires continues unabated, and alike to Canada, the Cape of Good Hope, Sweden, and the Baltic Provinces generally large numbers have been sent. There is a growing disposition on the part of breeders in this country to attach greater importance to the milk-ing properties of their stock, and should this and soundness of constitution be kept steadily in view, there is nothing more certain than the assured supremacy of the Ayrshire as the dairy breed of the world. West Highland cattle are sui generis, yet they have shared in the improved tone of the cattle trade. They are a wonderful race, and like the trade. They are a wonderful race, and, like the Blackface breed of sheep, over a great part of Scotland no other stock is possible. They are greatly in favor for grazing purposes in gentlemen's parks, and were making phenomenal prices at the great autumn sales at Oban.

Clydesdales have not participated to any great extent in the revival. The home trade is fairly satisfactory; there is a determination amongst breeders to get the best kind of horses, and to breed big, useful animals; even the foreign trade has been slightly advanced, but there cannot be said to be much animation in the trade as a whole. be much animation in the trade as a whole. Several sales were held during the year and prices were remunerative, but there was no sensational bidding. The chief event of the year was undoubtedly the importation of two Clydesdale stallions, the brothers and one ware from Colonel Hollofull brothers, and one mare from Colonel Holloway's stud, at Durham Lawn, Alexis, Ill. They were purchased by Mr. Andrew Montgomery, and landed here about six weeks ago. The Colonel has a first-rate stud, and his is the most likely to produce high-class breeding horses of any in the United States. He bred very much on the home

United States. He bred very much on the home lines, and is fond of good feet and pasterns. The Scottish Stallion Show at Glasgow takes place next year on Friday, February 7th. It will thus take precedence of all the English spring shows.

But little more remains to be said on the present state of agriculture. The position of affairs does not seem to be so hopeless as in many parts of England, but farmers have lost capital, and many landlords are practically impoverished: for although landlords are practically impoverished; for although naminally holding their estates they derive very little income from them. The interest on mortgages absorbs nearly all the free income. My own gages ausorus hearry an one free meome. My own opinion is that the one hope for farming lies in the production of the very best of everything;—in medium qualities the foreigner can beat us in our own markets.

When loose salt is used for sheep, a little pine tar thoroughly mixed with it has a good effect in keeping the animals healthy. It not only acts as a disinfectant, but it tones up the blood and tends to cure coughs and colds. After the sheep become accustomed with it, which takes only a short time, they relish the mixture as much as they formerly

Experience in Winter Feeding at "Maple Lodge."

SIR,—At your request, we try to describe our method of preparing feed for the stock. We have used the cutting-box and root-pulper for many years to assist us in feeding our stock through the winter economically. We find we can carry them through very well with not much else than the cut straw and correctable mixed with pulped roots. straw and cornstalks, mixed with pulped roots; and we use all kinds of straw; pea straw is eaten with apparently as much relish as any other. We with apparently as much relish as any other. We feed often and not very much at one time-generally making four feeds in a day: the first at six o'clock in the morning; again between nine and ten. They are out in the yard from twelve until three o'clock, when they come in to their third feed; and the fourth they get about six o'clock at night; and when that is all picely cleaned up we give a and when that is all nicely cleaned up we give a small feed of hay, but when hay is very scarce—as this year—we omit it and increase the other feeds a little.

With cows not milking, heifers coming two years old, and steers, nothing more is required to keep them growing and bring them out in the spring in as good flesh as when they go into the stables in the fall, providing, of course, that the stables are comfortable, or not too cold. Cows that are milking, and calves, require considerably more liberal feeding in the way of grain, and roots

In mixing and preparing the feed we use from ten to twenty-five pounds pulped roots per cattle beast per day, according to the quantity of roots we have at command; and we have got along very nicely with less than ten pounds per head per day. We always give as much of the mixture as they

will eat, and no more.

We feed our sheep also in the same way, but they are more particular and like to select the food, leaving the less palatable portion of the stalks. Generally sheep prefer pea straw to any other fodder, except nice clover hay. We are at present feeding cattle, sheep and horses all from the same mexture or preparation of feed. But after the ewes have dropped their lambs we find we cannot feed them too well, to get the greatest profit. In addition to the mixture of cut straw, cornstalks, etc., and pulped roots, as much as they will eat, we give our horses of ground oats and barley in quantity according to the work they have to perform, and a small feed of hay at night. We have cut oat sheaves for horses but do not consider that nearly so satisfies horses, but do not consider that nearly so satisfactory; the oats are better ground-more difference than the cost of grinding; and, besides, we consider a little barley good for the horses. And, again,

when fed separately, we know exactly what each horse is getting. If we were choosing roots for horses we would prefer carrots.

We think we feed very economically. Yet some who use the silo will say they can discount us considerably in that respect. But we have not a silo, and use what we have at hand—mostly straw and corn fodder and when roots have not been procorn fodder, and when roots have not been provided, a small quantity of meal will answer the purpose, only the expense will be more. But succulent food of some kind should always be a part of the provision for winter feeding, and nothing will take the place of roots, and every one who has stock to winter should have them—even if he has a silo. Fortunately for those who had sown them, roots have this year been a plentiful crop, as well as has been the corn crop, either for the silo or fodder. Yet, with the very great shortage in hay and straw, the greatest economy must be enforced in the use of straw for both food and bedding; and the labor will be very well spent in using the cutting-box to prepare the straw for either purpose, as it will certainly go much farther than if used uncut.

Experience with Ensilage.

AN ECONOMICAL AND HEALTHY FOOD. D. E. Smith, Peel Co., writes:—"Any food in order to be valuable must be healthy, economical and give satisfactory results. After having had five years' experience with corn ensilage and having given careful attention to the condition and health of our stock during this time, I have no hesitation in saying that it is one of the healthiest and cheapest foods raised to-day on the farm. Let us see how est roods raised to-day on the farm. Let us see now cheap it is. The average corn crop ranges from 15 to 20 tons per acre, and any good farmer can easily raise 16 tons per acre. Now, 16 tons is 32,000 lbs., and it would take four cows 160 days to eat 32,000 lbs., at the rate of 50 lbs. per day. It is better to feed something with the ensilage, in order to get the best results. We consider that we are saving from four to eight cents a day for every dairy cow. from four to eight cents a day for every dairy cow, and from two to six on all young stock. We have fed ensilage to our horses and cattle. Cattle do best on it and give best results. Our horses have done remarkably well on it. For colts and horses not doing hard work we prefer ensilage, but for working horses it causes them to sweat too much. Alone for a time it may give fair results, but we prefer mixing with meal, and also feed straw or clover hay. This makes a more evenly balanced ration, and, of course, better results follow. Our young cattle were fed one month exclusively on corn analyses, and did your well. We begin our on corn ensilage, and did very well. We begin our dairy cows with about 15 lbs. corn ensilage morning and evening, and on this sprinkle half a gallon of meal (half oats and peas), and then increase this ration day by day until the cows get all they will clean up with a relish.