

three hundred. It is much better to keep the sow three or four years, or even much longer—they have been kept some fifteen years to advantage. The hog is some years in his natural state in maturing. It is a fact well known, at least to every Irishman in the "ould" country, that pigs from old sows will grow into hogs some thirty or forty pounds heavier than those from young ones."

LIME AS A MANURE.—Mr. Towers, in *The Farmer's Magazine*, thus sums up the qualities of quicklime:—"1. If applied to green vegetables, quite hot from the kiln, it will destroy the tissue and carbonize the substance, itself being brought into the state of mild lime or chalk. 2. As powdered or air-slaked lime it will directly kill slugs and moluscous vermin, acting by its peculiar attraction for water. 3. As an alkali it will neutralize acids of every description, and hence is peculiarly useful if dusted over trees infested with lichens. 4. Its affinity for humic acid is predominant, as we have seen; and, therefore, it becomes a specific remedy wherever there is a redundancy of inert decayed vegetable remains. 5. According to high chemical authority, it is capable of liberating potassa from clay and granite rocks, and of setting it at liberty from its combination of flint as an insoluble silicate of potassa. 6. It is a mistake to suppose that quicklime renders vegetable and animal remains soluble. These substances are partially soluble, as we have seen in the three alkalis; but the precipitate formed by the addition of lime is not soluble, or, at any rate, it is so far fixed that it will remain long quiescent in the ground, from which it can only be taken in very small quantities, and slow degrees, according to the capacity of the vegetable for such food. Lime, then acts as an antidote of redundant humous matter, attracting and fixing its acid as an innocuous humate."

Agricultural Intelligence.

STOCK IMPORTATIONS.—We learn that Mr. Stone, of Guelph, in addition to his importation of Herefords, lately noticed, has also made an addition to his flock of Cotswolds, of thirty-six ewes and rams, per *Anglo Saxon*, which he hopes will enable him to supply the increasing demand for this breed of sheep next fall. The Herefords are doing well since they have gone into winter quarters. Mr. Joseph Kirby, of Guelph, has added to his flock of Leicesters, six fine shearling ewes, per same steamer. Mr. Stone's flocks and herds are attracting attention in widely-spread portions of the continent. During the last two months he has sold sheep to go to California, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire and New Brunswick, as well as to a large number of counties in Upper Canada.

SHEEP KILLING.—We are informed that Mr. W. Bamberger, two miles north of Waterloo had eight sheep bitten by a dog last week, out of which six have since died. Mr. Moses Shantz, a neighbor of Bamberger, had also nine sheep bitten by the same dog, it is supposed, and eight out of these have died. Mr. Bamberger's sheep were valuable ones, as were also Mr. Shantz's, and their losses are quite heavy.—*Waterloo Chronicle*.

Royal Dublin Show.

The usual winter show of this old society took place in the City of Dublin the second week of December, but it would appear that the agricultural department of the Winter Exhibition, for want of adequate encouragement, has of late years been declining. The Reporter of the *Mark Lane Express* observes:

"For the long period of 130 years the Dublin Society has been a prominent, and in many respects a useful institution in the sister island. Aided by considerable annual parliamentary grants, it has laboured in "promoting husbandry, and the other useful arts"—being the objects for which it was first established, and in the furtherance of which it has drawn into the ranks of its members a large number of the landed proprietors in Ireland, although not so many as it ought, perhaps, to have. Still they form the bulk of its members, who believe that they are fulfilling at least part of their duty when they have become contributors to its funds.

For many years "the promotion of husbandry" in Ireland formed by far the most important item in the annual accounts of the Society, and large sums were expended in encouraging planting, draining, the introduction of new varieties of plants suitable for the farm and the garden, the improvement of live stock, and in different channels which are now apparently forgotten—not the least important being the maintenance of a veterinary institution, which is now, by the way, sought to be revived, as it ceased about forty years ago, from some causes which are now apparently rather difficult to trace. Although perhaps, this might have originated in a certain indifference to agricultural matters, which has of late increased to a considerable extent in the management of the society, and which even at that period might have begun to exercise its baneful influence. Be that as it may, certainly the Dublin Society of the present day is not the Dublin Society of sixty years ago. Its liberal premium system has dwindled down to a very small sum, and its Agricultural Committee, instead of occupying, as it ought to do, the foremost place, is shoved into a corner, and its most moderate demands met by a growing non-compliance.

The truth is, Irish country gentlemen gen