

8 or 10 weeks on rape, with a trifle of clover-chaff, oats, and pease, will put a good dollar's worth of meat on a lamb in moderate condition, and the following crops of grain and hay will completely open your eyes to the invaluable effects of not only "the sheeps' feet," which are said "to be golden", but also to the economical distribution of their cogent manure, the whole of which, both liquid and solid, will be found, after the sheep have fed off a plot, to be spread all over the piece with a nicety of equalisation that the best "field-worker" in Scotland could not equal.

The Dairy.

A DANISH DAIRY FARM

Mr. Lloyd Baker, a Gloucestershire landed proprietor, has been visiting the dairy farms of Denmark. We give here a description of one of them:

The first farm they visited was that occupied by Mrs. Fabricius, at Charlottendal, near Slagelse, which was considered, by one dealer at least, to produce the best butter in Denmark. That farm consisted of 750 acres of arable land, somewhat sandy; the crops looked well, but the land was considered rather poor for Zealand. The rent, with the taxes paid by the tenant, came to just £1,000 for the previous year, or £1 6s. 8d. per acre. About £450 was fixed rent, while the remainder varied with the price of corn and butter, and was, therefore, lower than usual. All the repairs were done by the tenant, and the whole of the stock and implements were the occupier's property (which was not always the case in Denmark). Mrs. Fabricius was a widow, and, with the aid of a capable bailiff, was carrying on the farm successfully. The farm buildings were large and handsome, and included stalls for 200 cattle. There were 160 milking cows of the usual Danish breed—red or brown in colour and shaped like the Dutch cows, but were not so large, and were evidently bred entirely for milk, and some of them were provided with jackets of canvass as a protection against flies and cold. No fat stock were kept, but the old cows were fatted for a time and were then sent to Germany to be made into sausages (laughter). During the summer the cows were all tethered on the clover; Mr. Lloyd Baker saw them on the second crop, the first having been cut for hay. Two men were employed entirely in moving the tethered cows, which were changed five times a day, and one man's time was occupied in taking them to water—the three men foddered them in winter in the houses. The milking began at four o'clock, morning and evening, and eight Swedish milkmaids were employed, being about one to every 20 cows of the herd; one woman could milk 18 cows twice a day. Formerly those girls did some other work in addition to the milking, but now they refuse to do so, and were, therefore, occupied five hours only out of the 24. A milkmaid's wages were £6 15s. per annum, with board and lodging, and the keep of a servant was estimated at £12 a year. The cowmen received £11 5s. a year and board and lodging. The married men received £25 per annum with a cottage and garden worth £3, and light beer and skim milk. Sixteen men and thirty horses were employed for working the land, extra hands being engaged for harvest. The cows had hitherto calved in December, January, and February, but now there was a tendency to bring them in during April or May, as the winter price of butter was not much in advance of the summer price, and it was naturally cheaper to feed for milk during the summer. A great part, if not all, of the oats and barley grown was used for feeding stock; and as the wheat and rye were consumed in the house, the price of corn did not affect the farmer.