



IN spite of the disturbed condition of affairs in that country, South Africa continues to import a considerable number of cattle. Quite recently shipments of Shorthorns, Devons, and Ayrshires have been made to Cape Colony and Natal.

STOCK are not worth much in some parts of Australia. In the Cooktown district of North Queensland seventy bullocks lately sold for twenty-eight shillings a head, and horses are bringing only about fifty shillings apiece.

CATTLE have probably not gone out of the stables in such lean condition for many years as they have this spring. Pasture, however, has grown fast since the warm weather came, and, unless it gets checked by late frosts, as it was last spring, cattle will soon regain their usual condition.

A RECENT outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia in Essex, England, has resulted in the slaughtering of ninety-three animals. Six were found to be affected. It is alleged that no previous case had been known in England for over twelve months. It seems strange how the infection could linger so long without showing itself.

AT the Royal Dublin Show Shorthorn bulls met with a ready sale from 35 to 60 guineas apiece. For Polled Angus bulls the demand was even greater, at prices ranging from 35 to 45 guineas, and one bull, a two-year-old, brought 60 guineas. Polled Angus heifers sold very readily at similar figures. Kerry cows and heifers brought 16 to 25 guineas and Jerseys 15 to 35 guineas a head.

AT a recent sale of pedigreed Herefords, in England, the auctioneer dwelt on the prospects there were for better prices in view of the exclusion of foreign cattle by act of parliament. However, the prices realized were not large. The highest priced cow out of nine sold brought just \$100, and heifers sold down to \$60 each. Young bulls brought \$70 to \$80. Store stock at the same sale sold for 13 cents per pound, live weight.

MR. W. S. MARR, Uppermill, Aberdeenshire has purchased from Mr. J. Deane Willis, Bapton Manor, Wiltshire, at a long figure, the promising young Shorthorn bull, Spicy Robin, a son of Roan Robin, out of a dam of the well-known Sittyton Silvery tribe, sired by Captain of the Guard. Spicy Robin is closely related to Mr. Willis' yearling heifer, Seraph, which figured prominently as a winner at so many English shows last season.

In olden times, when cattle roamed wild over the country, it was necessary for the cow to hide her calf in as safe a place as possible, while she was away in the open picking up her food, because the feeble calf could not accompany the mother on what must have occasionally been long trips in search of food. A dense thicket would serve as a good hiding-place during the mother's absence, and, as a further protection against the attacks of animal foes, the calf inherited the tendency to curl itself up in as small a space as possible so as to escape the keen eyes of rapacious animals. This tendency can be seen in young calves of the present day, being one of the wild traits that can still be found in domesticated cattle. It may also be noticed how cows about to calve when in the fields will seek a retired spot, in a bush, if possible, and if such is not at hand the shelter of an angle of a snake fence has often to serve the purpose.

Letting Calves Run with their Dams.

The practice of letting calves run with their dams at pasture is still occasionally practised by some breeders, but it is not one to be commended. The only two points that can be urged in favor of this practice are (1) the saving of labor in feeding, which, after all, does not amount to much; and (2) it is held that the exercise is beneficial to the growth of the young animals.

There is no doubt that exercise is beneficial to all growing animals; but cannot a sufficient amount of exercise be obtained without letting them run with their dams all day? I think so.