

allowed to go in any soft or dirty place, but should be kept on dry straw litter, Every fourth day they must be carefully examined one by one, and the remedy again applied, as long as necessary. If this is strictly adhered to, in the course of a month, the flock will be entirely sound again; the appetite will return, and the animal in a short time be in good condition.—*Journal N. Y. S. Ag. Socy.*  
CARL KEYNE.

**DITCHING MACHINE.**—We have previously stated in our columns, that the Illinois Central R. R. Co. had offered a premium of one thousand dollars for the best steam plough, in addition to that of three thousand dollars by the Illinois State Ag. Society; and we now learn from a circular received from F. W. Biddle, Secretary, that at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Illinois Central R. R. Co., held at Chicago, July 28, the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Illinois Central Railroad Company offer \$500 for the best Ditching Machine for open ditching. The simplicity and economy of its construction, and its application to farm uses, must be such that it can successfully compete with manual labor, —the award to be made by the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, in connection with the three scientific machinists to be selected by that body. Before any party shall claim payment of said award, he shall exhibit the practical working of the machine at the same places and times with the Steam Plough which shall receive the award from the same Committee—the Illinois Central Railroad Company agreeing to transport said machine to and from such points free of expense to the owner.

### DECREASE OF POPULATION IN UNITED STATES.

How by these rosy colored theories do we explain the fact that in this very county of Onondaga, with a soil as fertile as any reasonable man could ask for, with a climate healthy and invigorating, with the very best markets at all times for every variety of agricultural produce—where, in fact, there exists every inducement for the prosecution of agriculture; that nevertheless the rural population has not increased at all for fifteen years?

	1840.	1856.
Cayuga.....	50,838	53,571
Chenango.....	40,785	39,915
Columbia.....	43,252	44,391
Cortland.....	24,607	24,575
Herkimer.....	37,477	38,566
Livingston.....	37,777	37,943
Montgomery.....	35,818	30,808
Ontario.....	43,501	42,672
Otsego.....	49,628	40,375
Seneca.....	24,874	25,358
Tompkins.....	32,296	31,516
Wyoming.....	34,245	32,148
	<hr/> 485,044	<hr/> 481,975

Or in other words, while the whole State increased in population more than forty per cent, thirteen of the counties, almost entirely agricultural, decreased.