

seen in this part of the world, and abundant crops of hay, particularly if the farmyard manure is spread on the meadow after the removal of the first year's hay. Thence will come more keep for the horned stock; the dairy will be full to overflowing with milk; and in less than four years of this work, the weight of the farmer's purse will astonish him. My readers may think me fanciful, but I have most earnestly studied the improvement of the, in general, wretched state of the farming of this province for now more than thirty years, and I am firmly convinced that in sheep lies its sole chance of salvation.

A plan of the hurdles for confining the lambs will be found on p. 184. of the Journal for 1884. They can be made of any rough stuff, and should not cost more than 25 cents to 30 cents for making. A good man should set the fold in half an hour, and I should recommend a fresh piece to be given every two days.

I do not recommend lambs from the French country. They are almost all jumpers, and give no end of trouble. Besides, they have been so accustomed to hard fare that they stick where they are, and take a long time before they begin to fatten. Oh! for a flock of Hampshire-down lambs, to show how the young ones go to work for their masters!

Price of cows.—Cows are worth, in England, \$25 a head more than they were a twelvemonth ago! What cows they must be! All except a few in the parks, general purpose cows, except Devons in the West and few Herefords in the N. W. midland districts. Grade shorthorns in fact.

Price of lambs.—Early lambs, from Dorset-horn ewes, were selling in the London market on the 12th February at from 36s to 40s apiece = \$9 to \$10.

Variation of wheat-yield.—Mr. Earley, a large farmer in the county of Hertford, England, says: Happily, wheats in my neighbourhood absolutely exceeded 44 to 48 bushels an acre, and, in some instances, reached 56 bushels.

The Gloucestershire reporter of the Agricultural Gazette writes: I have lately witnessed the threshing of twenty acres of wheat grown on really good land, which, owing to the unfavourable season, only produced 24 bushels an acre of damp grain, realising 78 cents a bushel. While wheat of the harvest of 1888 is worth \$1.50 in Mark Lane. East Norfolk, rather a damp, sunny district is said to have yielded from 16 to 24 bushels an acre, worth from 72 to 84 cents a bushel. In revenge, however, the root crop is one of the finest ever known, many farmers having over 30 tons = 1,400 bushels, an acre.

Sheep, of moderate size, are fetching in the country markets of England 20 cents a pound, sinking the offal, i. e., by the carcase-weight according to the judgments of the butcher and the farmer combined. Take an example: I see a lot of sheep in market that I think will dress 20 lbs. a quarter—I buy the live sheep at 20 cents a pound, so they cost me \$16 00 apiece, and I have the head and pluck, the pelt, and the fat, for my fifth quarter, besides what I can wring out of my customers in the retail price I charge him for the meat. All live meat-markets are conducted on this plan, in England, and the resistance on the part of the butchers and salesmen to the introduction of the American practice of selling by live-weight is not surprising.

Cow grass.—Perennial clover, commonly called cow-grass, and, botanically, *trifolium pratense perenne*, is said to have originated from crossing the *trifolium medium*, and the *trifolium pratense*. The *T. medium* is the rough-looking,

bluish red-clover, common enough in some English meadows, but rarely seen here; the *T. pratense* is the common red-clover. I have some to sow this year, and, if it turns out well, I shall distribute the seed in small quantities to my farming-friends next year. I intend to try sainfoin on some of the dry, shatterly hill-sides of Lachine. If it answers, it will be a Godsend to the district, as the grass-seeds too frequently fail here.

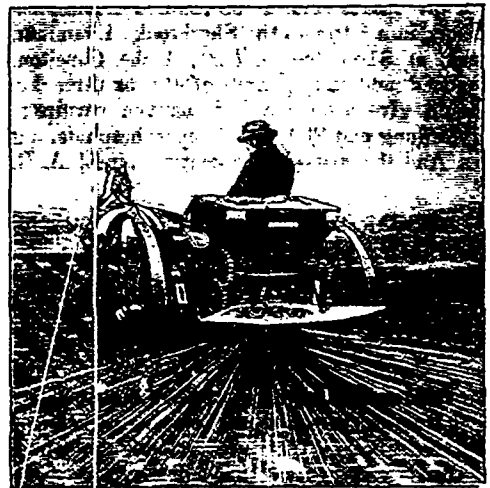
Lucerne.—I cannot understand why a plant so peculiarly suited to hot climates should not be more popular here. Lucerne, if the summer is hot and dry enough, does not care a jot about the cold of winter. In well prepared land, 15 lbs. an acre, equally distributed, will produce plants enough. I am surprised to see that Mr. Wrightson, Principal of the Downton Agricultural College, recommends drilling the seed in 9 inch-rows. If I sowed this seed with the drill at all, I should set the coulters as close together as possible. The more closely the ground is covered the better, as, after the second winter is over, the whole of the cleaning can be better done with the harrows than with the hoe. The land should be harrowed until it looks like a fallow, in danger of pulling the roots up.

If the pulverisation of the soil is not perfect, 20 lbs. of seed will be required. But no one ought to dream of sowing either lucerne or sainfoin, plants that are intended to stand four or five years, without preparing the land for them thoroughly, both as regards tilth and manure.

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