

In the course of his remarks, Professor Simonds showed that he still followed the same advice when apprehensive of rot. Referring to 1860, he said:—

"Now, what have we had in the past season? We have had a very wet summer. I had a number of sheep, and foresaw what was coming. I told some of my neighbours, 'We shall have great deal of rot this year;' and I thought I would attempt, if I could, so far as my own sheep were concerned, to save them. What did I do? The sheep were on wet meadows, up to the fetlock joints, nearly every day, and nobody would avoid it. But at midsummer I began to feed the lambs and sheep with corn and nitrogenized food, giving them with every meal a small quantity of salt. I continued that plan during the autumn, and I have the satisfaction of saying that I do not believe at the present time [April 1861] I have one of those lambs affected by rot. I kept killing them week by week to watch their progress."

Before concluding his lecture, he again returned to the advantages derived from the use of nitrogenized food—that is, food which forms muscle and flesh, not fat—and wound up his remarks in the following manner:—

"I again say, that if we commence at midsummer, and continue the treatment through the generous period of a wet season, we may do a great deal in the prevention of the disease. And as I go further, and say that even on farms where we have what are called rotten pastures, where sheep are placed, they may be preserved to a very considerable extent, simply by giving nitrogenized food and salt, to destroy the creatures within the stomach, and to prevent their final change, alternating with the salt with an invigorating agent, such as sulphate of iron. I do not depend on the salt alone—far from it; but it is a valuable agent, and its value depends more upon putting these things into the water, as it were, in the stomach, than any other else. This is the course I recommend. We have to look to the condition of the liver in a wet season; you have to look to the necessity of laying the foundation for a good quality of blood, by giving these animals nitrogenized food, and throwing sulphate of iron into the system. . . . This is the reason why a baste of iron should be employed. It should be given in fine powder, and in doses of about a drachm a day; not, however, that a great quantity would be prejudicial. The sheep should be divided into small lots; and if you have about a score feeding in one trough, there should be ten drachms of sulphate of iron mixed in the food for the day; and then, if one should get a little more, and another not quite so much, it will be of very little importance."

The publication of Professor Simonds' lecture drew out a letter from "A Yorkshire clay-farmer," which first appeared in the *Mark Lane Express*, and was transferred to our

columns in the 15th number of last year's volume—page 231. The writer of that letter had suffered for many years from rot, owing to the "marshy nature of the soil" of his farm "and poverty of the herbage."

Twelve years ago he had commenced giving his sheep "about one gill of fine old dry barley each during the autumn and early part of spring," and so satisfied was he with the results, that he persevered in the practice during all the twelve years, having kept his sheep in perfect health by means of this more nutritious diet than the "poverty of the herbage" of his farm could have supplied them with. This is precisely the same principle as that upon which Professor Simonds acted, "for fine old dry barley" contains a considerable portion of nitrogenized matter.

If, therefore, we are desirous to ward off that fatal disease which we have been discussing in these brief remarks, we must make up our minds to relieve the pastures from the superabundance of moisture with which they are saturated, and which, at present, remains stagnating in the soil; we must stock our pastures moderately; we must protect our flocks as much as possible from the inclemency of winter; we must feed them on generous diet, thus "laying the foundation for a good quality of blood;" and when we have fulfilled all these conditions, we may rest assured that if we have in future "plenty of skins" these will be in their proper place—on the outside of good, healthy, living bodies.—*Irish Farmers' Gazette*.

Agricultural Intelligence.

Spring Shows.

We are informed of the following Shows to take place this Spring. We request secretaries of Agricultural Societies to inform us of the date of their exhibitions at as early a date as possible, so as to admit of publication in time to be of use to those interested:—

Fullarton, Logan, and Hiibert Agricultural Society, at Mitchell, April 2.

West Riding of York Agricultural Society, at Weston, April 23.

King Township Show and ploughing match; at Kettleby, April 22.

Reach and Scugog, at Epsom, April 29.

Pickering, at Duffin's Creek, April 30.

West Gwillimbury, at Bond Head, April 30.

Brant Township, County Bruce, at Walkerton, April 28.

County Peel, at Brampton, May 1.

North York, at Newmarket, April 30.

County Halton, at Milton, April 23.

Walpole, at Humstreet's Hotel, Stage Road, April 16.