

selected from a drove of Mr. Shields the necessary number of ewe lambs to fill a car. This is Mr. Cowan's second sale to the States this season.

**PRICE OF COTSWOLDS.**—Messrs. Paxton and George Castle sold by auction in Oxford, a number of Cotswold rams. The sale commenced with 40 shearling rams, bred by Mr. Richard Lord, of Stanton, Harcourt. The highest price realized was 20 guineas, the average being £10 12s. 3d. The next lot comprised 20 Cotswold ram lambs, the property of Mr. Charles Gillett, of Lower Haddon, near Bampton. The highest price realized was £9 10s., the average being £4 14s. 6d. Thirty ram lambs from the flock of Messrs. T. and G. West, of Greenhill farm, Bletchington, were next sold. The highest price was £14 5s., and the average £4 4s. —*Mark Lane Express.*

**HEN GUANO.**—"During the fall and winter, every few days, a few shovelfulls of dry muck were spread over the droppings beneath the roosts, which were made with floors for the purpose. It had the effect of keeping the house sweet and odorless. In the spring I had a good pile of home-made guano. By shoveling it over several times it was finely pulverized, and no more unpleasant to handle than dry earth. I used it upon a late piece of corn, dropping a handful in each hill. It soon caught up with corn planted ten days earlier, ripened full as early, and yielded better. It seemed to grow so fast that the cutworm could make no impression upon it." —*Cor. Am. Agriculturist.*

**PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.**—During the last month, says the *Veterinarian* for August, we have received a large mass of information relative to the wide-spread existence of pleuro-pneumonia. From Ireland we learn that the disease is more rife than it has been for some years, and that persons are selling off their stock from infected herds for the purpose of saving themselves from loss, perfectly regardless of the mischief resulting therefrom. Scotland is also suffering from the disease in districts far removed from each other, and fears are entertained lest it should be introduced among many of the best herds, through the meetings of the various agricultural exhibitions now taking place. The disease has not abated in any of the counties of England where it has recently appeared. In the London dairies it is on the increase. Everywhere it appears to have assumed a most malignant form. —*Irish Farmers' Gazette.*

**FRENCH SYSTEM OF FEEDING FOWLS.**—The food of their poultry is very carefully regarded by the French breeders. For the first week after being hatched (and in winter for a much longer time), the chickens are fed on barley meal mixed with milk, stale bread soaked in water, and green food finely chopped. Very few instances can be found where poultry are fed on whole grain, as it is believed that whole grain would be too expensive, produce fewer eggs, too much fat, and cause more disease when fowls are fed *ad libitum*, so as to completely fill their crops,

which renders digestion difficult. The food is mostly composed of about one-half bran and the other half buckwheat, barley, or oatmeal, made into a stiff paste, with which the fowls are fed twice a day—namely, at sunrise and sunset. This diet is given indiscriminately to old and young. In some cases where fowls have not the run of meadows, they are provided with a certain amount of animal and green food. The waste of the butcher shops is boiled, the fat skimmed off, and when coagulated, thoroughly mixed with the meal food. Cabbages and other vegetables are supplied in some cases, being either fed raw or boiled and mixed with the other food. Buckwheat is considered preferable to all other grain as a stimulant to egg laying, and in winter a certain amount is given whole.

**ESSAYS ON HORSE SHOEING.**—The directors of the Scottish Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Animals offer three prizes (£50, £30, and £20) for the best and most practical essays on horse shoeing, in connection with the comfort and soundness of the horse. The following hints are given in order to show how the subject of the essays may be treated:—(1.) Suppose a horse sound and hitherto unshod, describe the present method of preparing the hoof for shoeing, the amount of horn taken away, and the instruments employed, so as to bring the whole natural bearing-surface in contact with the ground. (2.) Can you suggest anything better? (3.) How would you prepare the shoes (fore and hind) for various kinds of horses, as race-horses, hunters, hacks, coach, cab, buss, and heavy draught horses. (4.) In describing the forging of shoes (whether hand or machine-made), state very exactly the number, relative positions, and direction of the nail holes, and give reasons therefor. (5.) Describe the best manner of fitting the shoe, and give your opinion as to the propriety of applying it in a heated state in order to secure an equal bearing; and whether that can be obtained without burning into the hoof. (6.) Point out any evils or abuses in existing system of horse shoeing. (7.) Suggest any improvements in the form, material, or mode of fitting shoes. (8.) How may the hoofs of horses be best preserved? (9.) Give any suggestions as to how a thoroughly scientific knowledge of the horse's foot might best be acquired by horse shoers.

## The Garden.

### THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the ONTARIO FARMER.

SIR,—It happened to be my good fortune to attend, as delegate from the Council of Agriculture of Ontario, this celebrated Convention of Pomologists and Fruit Growers, being the twelfth biennial session, held this time in Horticultural Hall, Broad and Locust streets, Phil-