

cases, being in refrigerators, are placed on the market so that it is generally equalized.

"The shipments of Canadian sheep to Glasgow have been the smallest for many years. They generally come here during autumn, when our markets are filled with sheep from the north of Scotland, and it appears that the English markets are better adapted for this class of stock.

"With regard to future prospects, we do not think it is likely that beef will rise to any appreciable extent, and we anticipate that from now on to the end of the turnip season, the quotations for best Scotch cattle will not exceed 64s. per cwt. on an average.

"We place ourselves at your disposal at any time for any information you may require of us. In the meantime, we draw your attention to an article by Albert Pell, Esq., read before the Royal Agricultural Society of England this month, upon selling live stock by weight, in which you will see our system of selling cattle at Haymarket criticised. We consider that an embodiment of that article in your report will be of interest to every agriculturist in Canada.

"JOHN SWAN & SONS."

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In regard to the live-stock weighing machine referred to by the Messrs. Swan as being contained in Mr. Albert Pell's paper, the following is the effect of it, so far as the Haymarket is concerned :

"From Edinburgh, under date October 24th, 1889, Messrs. John Swan & Sons write in reply to a personal inquiry that the machine in the cattle market weighs six to eight beasts at a time, but that it is only used occasionally for cattle, and not at all for sheep. The fee is 2d. a beast. Meanwhile, Messrs. Swan & Sons sell 300 to 500 fat cattle weekly on their own premises, with live-weights ascertained and posted up, and the weights are appended to accounts of sales. Occasionally in Canadian consignments the weights on loading in Canada are transmitted to Messrs. Swan, and sometimes, but very seldom, they are asked by the Canadian consignees to state the weight of the cattle 'on foot' in Edinburgh market, together with the price made per live stone.

"Messrs. Swan also write that in their opinion the weigh-bridge materially assists in furnishing a true and reliable guide to value, and assists in establishing the approximate relative values of different breeds of cattle, and thus provides a standard for trade purposes. It certainly they say expedites business, and, while the Scotch butchers and salesmen show no hostility to the system, the feeders and sellers of cattle generally approve of it. They find other middlemen beginning to make a general use of the machine, and they give the names of several Scotch feeders and landowners who have fitted up machines in their own premises.

"The line that Scotchmen are taking is evidently a practical one on the matter, and seems likely to lead up to a customary resort to weighing in the cattle trade.

"It seems advisable not to let the opportunity go by of giving an account of Messrs. Swan & Sons great November auction of stores this year at the Haymarket, Edinburgh, on Monday, 11th November, in continuation of a similar sale on 12th November last year, when 2,736 cattle were on show. Messrs. Swan then furnished some intelligence as to weights and prices of animals, taken at random at their auction, with the names of the graziers and the purchasers, with weights, prices per head, per cwt. and per stone; but the fact of taking these animals out at random, without reference to age, breed or condition, lessened the value of the information for statistical purposes, though it was instructive as far as it went, and as a witness of the extended use of the scales at that date.

"This year, however, Messrs. Swan have suggested the adoption of a method in tabulating values and weights of the different breeds and ages of animals consigned to them for disposal, a proof of their readiness to assist inquiry by a systematised statement of facts, and making an account of their sales more generally instructive.

"The market or show yard in the Haymarket adjoins the rails of the North British Railway at the Haymarket Station, and consists of two large covered sheds