

English agriculturists, that want of salt is the cause of "clover sickness" in land; also that the disease called "finger and toe" in turnips is found to yield to salt. The following fact may be relied on. The writer having to make a path through an old worn-out sod of a meadow, for the purpose of getting rid of earthy matter which soiled the feet (and the meadow being on a very thin shaly sand and yellow loam), removed the turf to a sufficient depth to leave the sheer sand alone, and for a time made a nice clean path; but it being below the surface of the adjoining land, which was foul with weeds, all the seeds drifted with the wind into the path, and became very troublesome. To remove and kill the weeds, he sprinkled the whole path with dry salt, and hoed it. This killed the weeds; but the heads of clover having drifted into the path, there came a most luxuriant growth of clover, which smothered the weeds, and took thorough possession of the soil, and for years the clover there flourished ten times better than on any other spot on the premises. Try it.—C. in *Globe*.

GLEANINGS FROM THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS.

Under the above head, we shall collect brevities from all sources, and we request those to whom we are indebted for items, to accept the acknowledgment implied by the word "Gleanings," when more express mention of authorities is not made.

NEWS ITEMS.

Oxen are scarce in Oregon. The average price is \$1000 per yoke.

The Michigan Agricultural Society offers premiums for velocipede racers.

A boy died lately in Pennsylvania from hydrophobia, brought on from the bite of a cat.

It has recently been found that waste coal dust makes an admirable mulch for plants.

The Tree Planting Committee of Guelph report that they have spent \$221 in that praiseworthy undertaking.

A young man named John Arnett was killed in the Township of Amabel, on the 16th inst., by the kick of an ox.

Two prizes, one of \$200 and one of \$300, are offered to the ones most successful in cultivating fish in Massachusetts.

The January fair in Galt was very well attended, and a better supply of cattle than was expected were on the ground.

A Wisconsin genius climbed on the roof of a shanty at Green Bay lately, and imitated an owl so successfully that a hunter shot him.

General Lee, in addition to teaching the young idea how to shoot, has bought a farm, and proposes to teach blades of wheat the same lesson.

A Massachusetts inventor is patenting an arrangement by which all the cattle in a burning barn can be turned loose without loss of time.

Thousands of new farms have been opened this year in California, and many improved ones have been bought to be paid for in wheat next year.

The Iowa Agricultural College takes young ladies, and there is to be a Professorship of Theory and Practice of Butter-making. So *Hearth and Home* says.

Last week, Mr. Chateauvert, of St. Raymond, while fishing for trout at Seven Island Lake, Gosford, captured with the line a splendid otter, weighing eighteen pounds.

A Minnesota farmer says:—"We raise four hundred bushels of potatoes to the acre here, which would be a big thing if we didn't also raise bugs enough to eat 'em all up."

Levi Bartlett, a well-known New Hampshire farmer, says he has tried all kinds of artificial fertilizers—some are good and some not—on the whole, he prefers barn-yard manure.

The Chicago cheese trade now boasts an annual business of \$900,000. Three thousand tons of cheese were sold there last year. Most of this amount came from the State of New York.

The *Galveston Civilian* says that cattle over a year old, which have not been marked or branded, are everybody's property in Texas, and may be killed by any one who meets them.

An enormous business is done in the States in gathering corn husks, which are used in the manufacture of mattresses. Hackled husks delivered in Boston are worth over \$30 per ton.

At a late sale of sheep, at Worcester, England, fifteen Shropshire Down rams brought from £6 6s. to £23 2s. Twenty Leicester rams averaged £16 16s. 6d. Ten Oxford rams from 14½ to 70 guineas.

A fellow was detected at Ipswich, Mass., in weighing in a load of hay he was selling, four hundred pounds of iron, which of course he meant to smuggle out of the way before the hay was delivered.

A farmer in Michigan, finding that his sheep were disappearing recently, placed a wolf-trap in the field. A few days afterwards he found it sprung, and now one of his neighbours is laid up with a sprained ankle.

A young man, 22 years old, advertises in an English paper that, having had five years' experience, and being well-informed, he wishes to place as an assistant to some practical farmer for his board and clothes. References are given.

At the annual meeting of the South Welling-ton Agricultural Society, a resolution was passed throwing the County Show open to the whole Province, and not, as at present, confining competition to the county. A resolution was also carried that the present rule applying to the ages of thorough-bred cattle be applied to all cattle.