

suppose you commence with a sow and eight pigs, and that you give £6 for them, you will not have to keep them long before you can sell the pigs for the same amount and have the sow left to fatten or breed from, as you please. Out of 24 farrows that I have had I find the average number reared has been eight and a-half.

Dr. Powell said a friend of his had three pigs, and he weighed all their food, and every week he weighed the pigs regularly, and he found that for every half-hundred weight of food he gave them that they gained 14 lbs. of flesh. He mostly fed them upon rice, but whether upon rice or barley-meal he found that for every half-hundred he gave they gained 14 lbs. of flesh.

Mr. Ashby said pigs were cleanly, and would thrive best by being kept in a clean state. He would tell them that they must not put a pig to feed a pig. If they wanted a pig to pay, they must be well looked after, for pigs wanted as much looking after as a Christian in regard to cleanliness. Mr. Streeter once kept an accurate account for two consecutive years for his own satisfaction, and he had found the balance in favor of the pig. He pulped Swedes and mangolds in spring and summer, and mixed ground corn with it, which kept them in a growing and thriving condition, and reduced the expense of keeping them; but if the pulped food was continued during the whole time of fattening, the fat would boil out in cooking; but if the fattening was finished with corn alone the pork would be fine and good. His opinion was that it was a cheaper mode of making good yard manure than making it by fattening bullocks; but to be profitable, independent of the manure, it was indispensable that the young pig be kept on good food, and never be let go back in condition.

Mr. Humpidge thought it was better to sell pigs as stores than to keep them to fatten. Mr. Wilson said he had allowed the attendance for dung. He (Mr. Humpidge) thought if they put the straw and attendance against the manure they would find that it would come to a pretty high price. He did not know whether Mr. Wilson had charged all the food the pigs had consumed.

Mr. Wilson said he had entered all that had come from the barn. He could not say that he had charged for every cabbage that had been given to them.

Mr. Humpidge at one time kept an account of the cost of his pigs, and he found that all he got was their manure. A person

he know had kept an account what the pigs cost him, and he never found that they cost him less than 6d. a pound, and sometimes they cost him 1s. The principal argument in favor of fattening pigs was the large amount of manure that would be available to the farmer.

#### SELECTING EWES FOR THE RAM.



HERE there is an opportunity to choose between several valuable rams, the selection of the ewes to breed to each, requires judgment and careful study. The flock of ewes should be examined, the individual excellencies and faults of each, and hereditary predispositions and actual habits of breeding, so far as can be ascertained, fully taken into account; and then she should be marked for the ram, which, in himself, and by his previous get, appears on the whole, best calculated to produce improvement in their united progeny. Many of the Vermont farmers thus divide their small flocks of ewes into parcels of ten and twenty each, and take them to the rams owned by a number of different breeders: for, by a prevailing custom, the liberality of which cannot be too highly commended all the most distinguished breeders of that State allow other persons to send ewes to their best stock rams for a merely nominal compensation, considering the advantages which are often thus secured. This enables the owners of flocks who can not afford to incur the serious cost and risk of keeping a number of high-priced stock rams, to obtain, notwithstanding, the services of those which are best adapted to breeding with each class of their ewes. And the young and less skilful breeder can thus, too, obtain the immense advantage of using the most perfect sire rams in the country—those which are too costly for his purchase—and those which will improve his flock more in the first generation than he could possibly otherwise improve it in five generations.

*Coupling.*—Very few flock-masters now feel that they can afford to bestow the whole annual use of a choicé, high-priced ram on the seventy-five, or at the very utmost, on the one hundred ewes he can serve, if he is permitted to run at large with them; and to accomplish this, he must be a very strong animal, and must be taken out of the flocks nights and fed by himself. And no even tolerably good man-