

excrement in large quantities, and if this is not cleared away daily and the ground dusted on that spot with dry soil or ashes, the consequence is a certain growth of vermin and impure vapor, caused by the regular warmth of the chicks' bodies upon the ground, which in a few days will become perfectly fetid from ammonia, &c., causing roup, gapes, canker and skin diseases, as well as causing the chickens to lose their feathers, &c.

Italian bees.—A Montreal correspondent, who succeeds well with the common bee, writes that he has tried the Italian bees without success. He thinks the climate is too cold for them.—This is not the experience of gentlemen in the District of Quebec. As the Italian bees are reputed to be fully as profitable again as the common bee, this question of climate is certainly worth elucidating now fully. We therefore request our readers to give us the benefit of their experience in this matter.

What fruit will do.—The fruit that ruined Adam saves men, as may be seen as follows: record is made in the proceedings of the Lucas county, Ohio, Horticultural Society, of the cure of a confirmed case of dyspepsia by restricting the diet to a small quantity of bread and butter, accompanied, by berries—straw, rasp, and black—and peaches in their respective seasons. A friend informs us that a black-eyed lady, a relative of his, invariably had a spring visitation of bilious fever whenever the winter apple supply ran short in consequence of limited yield. After this coincidence was observed, apples in abundance were invariably provided (and, even at high prices they prove less costly than the doctor's services), and since then, several years now, there has been no more trying periodical sickness in that family. — *The Minnesota Farmer.*

Clover, red top and light meadow hay, p it up in stacks of five tons, will measure 700 cubic feet to the ton. Timothy 500 cubic feet, and timothy and clover mixed 600 cubic feet to the ton. *Exchange (1).*

(1) A cubic yard of hay, in the counties round London, Eng., weighs from 200 lb down to 132 lb according to the part of the stack from which it is taken. Stacks contain from 25 tons to 80 tons; the grass is cut in flower, the hay is put together rather green, so that the sweating would, on a fine morning, make a stranger think the whole on fire. Clover, there, cuts out in almost solid blocks, with a sticky surface like a gigantic plug of tobacco. When the stacks are trimmed and finished, the strongest man could not pull a handful out. A. R. J. F.

Chicago Fat Stock Show.

Liberal Premiums Offered—The Advantages of such an Exhibition.

The show just held at Chicago has again been a great success. The entries were very numerous and the show well attended.—Why should not the city of Montreal manage to make the fat cattle department of its coming provincial show a grand success as well as Chicago? The quantity of stock shipped from this port through the season is very great, and a good annual show of fat cattle could not but be beneficial.

The following article from the *State Journal*, Oct. 23, although written before the fair, gives a good idea of what is aimed at by such shows:

The JOURNAL has frequently called attention to the importance of a show of this character, where the pedigree and color, or the reputation of the breeder, has no influence with the committees, which are composed of practical butchers whose judgment is influenced only by the superior quality and the distribution of meat in the most valuable portions of the carcass. Short-horns, Herefords, Devons, "other pure breeds not named," and Grades and Crosses, each have a separate lot and receive premiums as follows:

Best steer 4 years old or over.....	\$25 00
Second best.....	15 00
Best steer 3 and under 4 years.....	25 00
Second best.....	15 00
Best steer 2 and under 3 years.....	25 00
Second best.....	15 00
Best steer 1 and under 2 years.....	25 00
Second best.....	15 00
Best cow 3 years old or over.....	25 00
Second best.....	15 00

4) the various breeds and their crosses are then brought into competition with each other, and compete for the sweepstakes prizes, which are as follows:

SWEEPSTAKES—OPEN TO ALL.

Best steer 4 years old or over.....	\$50 00
Best steer 3 and under 4 years.....	50 00
Best steer 2 and under 3 years.....	50 00
Best steer 1 and under 2 years.....	50 00

The final test as to the best animal in the show is decided in the following ring for

GRAND SWEEPSTAKES—OPEN TO ALL.

Best Steer or Cow in the show..... \$100 00

It will be seen that the foregoing classification of premiums makes a most thorough and practical test of the comparative merits of the several pure breeds of cattle, as well as their grades and crosses.

First the best beef animals of each breed, according to age, are selected and awarded premiums. Then all the breeds of same ages are brought into competition, and finally all the best animals, without regard to age or breed, are brought into the same ring for grand sweepstakes, and the best animal in the show is selected.

The report for the last Show shows that in the sweepstakes ring, prizes were awarded as follows:

Steer 4 years old or over — Short-horn.
Steer 3 and under 4 years — Grade Short-horn.
Steer 2 and under 3 years — Grade Short-horn.
Steer 1 and under 2 years — Short-horn.
Cow of any age or breed — Hereford.

In Grand Sweepstakes Ring the honor was given to a Grade Short-horn steer.

The challenge plate of the National Stock Journal Company was awarded as follows:

Best beef animal any age or breed — Grade Short-horn steer.
Best fat sheep any age or breed — Cotswold wether.
Best fat hog any age or breed — Poland China barrow.

The entries to date give assurance that the exhibition of cattle, sheep and hogs for 1879 will be a grand success, and that a much larger attendance of visitors may be expected from this section.

The practical benefit to feeders and breeders of an exhibition of the best butcher's stock to be found in the world cannot be over-estimated, and all interested should make it a point to be present at the forthcoming show.

Hints on Maple-Sugar Making.

from "The Country Gentleman."

The following article will be read with interest by any one interested in the making of maple sugar. Now that the bush is easily accessible to teams is the time to build the sugar house to fill up the wood shed and prepare generally for the action of spring:

The maple sugar industry is a growing one, not so much