

four seconds will do) or the white separates, and you produce a watery mixture, which destroys the flavor and appearance of the omelettes; now that the butter is melted and in a state of froth, pour into the frying pan the omelette mixture, and stir till it begins to set or thicken; shake the pan occasionally and when sufficiently firm, fold the omelette over neatly in an oval shape, strike the handle of the pan gently, so as to produce a slight vibration, which keeps the omelette detached from the pan and when of a golden color, turn into a dish and serve. Remember always five things—(1.) that you have a clean pan; (2.) that the eggs are not beaten too much; (3.) that the omelette is not too large (three or four eggs); (4.) that it is quickly cooked; (5.) that you eat it immediately. Sweet omelettes, welsh rabbits prepared in different ways are delicious, and any one desirous of improving their knowledge of cookery may easily instruct themselves from some well selected of the many cookery books published.

We cannot quit the subject without impressing on our readers the importance not only of making a greater use of this form of food, but of doing something towards increasing its production. There is no reason, whatever, why our people living in towns should not keep at least one hen for each member of the family; while on every farm, at least five acres should be given up to poultry culture. There is no animal on the farm that pays so well, and no farms are more prosperous than poultry farms.

LOCAL BOARD OF FIRE UNDERWRITERS.

We have seen a circular with the above heading, dated London, 26th July, and bearing the signature of Thos. Muir, Manager, which seems to call for some remark from us.

In the article to which exception is taken by this circular, we did not mention the name of Mr. Muir, but as this gentleman puts on the cap, we may let him wear it. With his play upon the word "respectable," as applied to London insurance agents, we do not concern ourselves further than to say that the agents we prefer to call respectable are those who adhere to fair and reasonable rates and methods of underwriting. Mr. Muir, considering that the term "bull-dozing" has been applied to him, feels aggrieved thereat, denying that he deserved it. Well, if he will furnish us with a more accurate term to describe the action complained of, we shall be content to use it. If, again, he did not previously "boast" of what he had accomplished in the way of cheapening his insurance, he virtually boasts of it in his circular; for he confesses to "a quiet satisfaction at having placed all his open insurance at a less rate than" the London Board had "arbitrarily," as he calls it, fixed. We do not know who the members of the London Board are that made a rate to suit Mr. Muir in his absence, "behaved themselves," as he puts it. But if it is an insufficient rate, no wonder the conservative members "sulk upon it."

The "true inwardness" (this phrase is used by Mr. Muir, and therefore it is hoped that that worthy gentleman will permit us,

also, to use it understandingly, we trust,) of Mr. Muir's position with respect to the London underwriters is probably best to be seen towards the close of his circular. He is to be the judge of proper requirements, stipulations and rates in the matter of underwriting, "I have demonstrated," he says, "that the Local Board of Underwriters cannot and will not run any company's or business interest which I am appointed to manage." Here speaks the true dictator. *Aut Cesar, aut nullus*. The question is: will underwriters consent that Mr. Muir shall "run" their business in addition to his own? We prefer to think that they are most competent to judge what rules and rates should govern underwriting. A letter, printed elsewhere, takes the ground that the rate quoted to Mr. Muir, by the Detroit agent referred to, must have emanated from an "underground" company; and some circumstances are mentioned corroborative of this position. No light upon this point is to be expected from Mr. Muir, who distinctly declines further discussion. This, only, we will say at present, that it would be more like what is to be expected of an intelligent and influential person like Mr. Muir, that he should assist the insurance fraternity in obtaining adequate rates for "insurance which insures," rather than resort to outside assistance to defeat the objects which our underwriters are, we believe, conscientiously striving to attain.

WOOL IN ONTARIO.

Among the statistics of agriculture obtained by the Ontario Bureau of Industries, not the least interesting were those relating to wool. This journal has, as our readers know, pressed upon the attention of farmers and breeders for a year or two past, the need of making a change in the character of the wool grown in Canada from the coarse, long-stapled kinds, to medium or fine. The Secretary of the Bureau, in his pamphlet of last month, has the following upon this subject: "They, (the wool statistics), are interesting, however, as showing, first, the high average of wool clip that has been attained through years of careful breeding; and, secondly, that (in obedience to what appears to be an inexorable demand of fashion) Ontario farmers have already made some progress in the change from coarse-woolled to fine-woolled breeds."

The figures relating to wool, which are, as the pamphlet states, incomplete, the figures being expected to be considerably increased by later and revised returns, are given below:—

	Pounds.	Pounds.	Per ct. Fine.
Lake Erie Counties ..	527,193	81,469	15.4
Lake Huron do. ..	648,465	101,004	15.6
Georgian Bay do. ..	403,889	74,868	18.7
W. Midland do. ..	1,065,329	133,805	12.5
Lake Ontario do. ..	902,888	142,956	15.7
St. Lawrence and Ottawa Counties	919,584	270,663	29.4
E. Midland Counties	253,215	65,848	26.0
Northern Districts....	20,054	7,061	35.3
Total	4,740,617	877,674	av. 18.5

It appears, from this tabulation that the Algoma, Muskoka and Parry Sound sections, which constitute the "Northern Districts" in the above, have the largest proportion of

fine-woolled sheep. Next in order come the St. Lawrence and Ottawa, and then the East Midland Counties, while the West Midland, embracing Middlesex, Oxford, Brant, Perth, Wellington, Waterloo and Dufferin, exhibit the smallest proportion. The proportion of fine wool to coarse, upon the whole is about 18½ per cent., or a total of 877,000 pounds out of 4,740,000 pounds. We trust to see, year by year, an increase in the proportion of short stapled wool grown by our farmers.

AN ELECTRIC MOTOR AND ITS USES.

A correspondent, who has been struck with the operation of a sewing machine in a window on Yonge St., by an innocent looking contrivance, apparently connected by wires with a battery in the cellar, asks us to describe the application of the force to the purpose designated. He says:

"Not being posted in chemistry, nor in the laws of electricity, it is a puzzle to me to know how the power is got and applied; and I would like to know how the rotary motion is got. I make no doubt there are others besides myself who would like to be made wiser on these points, for they appear to be able to do great things with electricity and promise even greater."

In reply we would say that the attachment in question is an electric motor, which, there seems no reason to doubt, can be applied to a variety of domestic uses. A full description of it would necessarily be technical and difficult to convey without a sketch of the parts, but we will try to give a short and simple description. The machine is set in motion by an electric current from a battery. It is founded upon the principle in electro-magnetism, whereby a revolving motion is given to an axis around the circumference of which are several electro-magnets, by means of their rapid attraction to and repulsion from a permanent magnet. The electro dynamic law has been thus stated:—"In one revolution of a soft iron armature in front of the poles of a permanent magnet, two currents are induced, in opposite directions, in the coils encircling it, each lasting half a revolution, starting from the line joining the poles." This attraction and repulsion, or reversal of the current of electricity between the north and south poles of the magnet is constantly going on within the little circular apparatus which is to be seen in the window. To prevent the effect of the current derived from one semi-revolution from being neutralized by that proceeding from the next, an arrangement called a commutator reverses the current at each half-revolution.

We conclude that the machine described as in use, is one of Griscom's Electro-Dynamic Household Motors, which was described in the *Manufacturer & Artizan* some months ago. Now a word as to the battery which supplies it with the current. The one used in this case is the Bunsen battery, another is called the Griscom battery. This last consists generally of six one-gallon cells into each of which is plunged a plate of zinc and two plates of carbon, each plate being four inches long and two inches wide. So large a battery is not needed, they are made this size so as to last a long time. The quantity of power applied to the machine is easily regulated by the lowering of the plates into