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THE
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The Farm.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

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Here again is a chance for sheep-breeders! A Massachusetts man writes to the *Homestead* saying that in the townships, or counties, we do not know which, of Marlboro, Sudbury, and Stow, with a railway running through the property, within 4 miles of a city, and not 20 miles from Boston, there are abandoned farms—probably more than 5,000 acres in extent, that can be bought for from \$2.00 to \$10.00 an acre. "One of a hundred acres," he says, "with just as good buildings as mine, that 20 years ago could not be bought for \$6,000.00, can be had for \$2,500.00, and the wood in it would pay for it. The owner died, the children had all got settled (not nefariously we hope), and the land is growing up into wood." Now, if any one with a good capital, would buy, say, 1,000 acres of this abandoned land and start a real sheep farm on it, he could not help making money. We spoke about these chances some years ago in this Journal, and we heard that some one, whose name we forget, had taken our advice and had begun with a flock of about 400 ewes, but what was the result we never heard. Of course, there is no use sheep-farming unless the farmer is either a practical shepherd, willing to devote his whole time to the superintendence of his flock, or else able, and willing, to pay a skilled shepperd to do the work for him. The Massachusetts hills should be the very best home for sheep—short-wools of course, Hampshire-downs, for choice — on the continent, and there is plenty of bush-wood evidently on this tract to make hurdles for feeding off—we were almost going to say turnips, but will substitute