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Notes by the Way.

TUBERCULOSIS.—We regret to hear that this terrible disease has been making fearful ravages in the herds at the Ottawa Experiment station and at the Guelph College. There is, at present no known cure for it, and as it is

both contagious and hereditary, the damage done by it is even more extensive than the damage done by pleuro-pneumonia, which is contagious but not hereditary.

Tuberculosis is the same disease as consumption in the human subject. The word *tubercle*, whence it is derived is the diminutive of *tuber*, and its most characteristic appearance is shown by the little pearl-like tumours, varying in size from a pea to an egg, that are found in the lungs and the membrane that covers them. One very awkward part of the complaint is the length of time that often elapses between the infection and its manifestation: the disease may sometimes show itself in three months, or it may take as many years before it is noticeable. The principal signs of an animal's being attacked by it are: the beast does not thrive; eats well to-day and refuses food to-morrow; coughs; the hair is dry, harsh, and dull, and diarrhoea often occurs. The milk of cows and the flesh of all cattle suffering from this complaint are nothing less than poisonous both to man and beast; therefore, the milk should be thrown away and the flesh of slaughtered cattle buried, or, which is better, burned. All diseased and suspected animals must be kept apart from the rest of the herd, and those proved by the inspection of a veterinary surgeon to be affected should be killed at once.

A HEAVY BEAST.—The heaviest bullock exhibited at the show of the Smithfield Cattle Club, in December last, weighed, on foot, 2,538 lbs. Taking the very moderate average of .68 per cent, of dead to live weight, the four quarters of this beast should weigh 1782 lbs. At the then market-price of seven pence halfpenny a pound, sinking the offal, i. e., skin, loose fat, &c., the bullock was worth \$249.48! Many of the best beasts of the show gave as much as 72 per cent.

FOOD AND FAT.—Again this question crops up: can the quality of milk be improved by feeding? Mr. George Smith, Director of Farmers' Institutes in the State of New-York, says that some breeders feed their cows on stimulating food to make them give an abnormally great flow of milk at the expense of quality, and in this way cause the milk of their cows to fall below the present low standard.

Now, if a large flow of poor milk is produced by such food, we can logically conclude that the reverse holds good; i. e. that the quality of milk can be improved by judicious feeding.

THE ROYAL JERSEYS.—At a sale of the Queen's surplus Jerseys from the celebrated herd on the Prince Consort's farm in Windsor Park, fifteen head were sold. The prices were rather low, the highest being only \$88.00, which was paid for a 2-year old heifer.

EXPERIMENT-STATIONS IN THE STATES.—We remember well how, in a certain "Agricultural College" in Canada, the funds supplied by the country for agricultural instruction were used to benefit literary schools, the agricultural feature being a mere annex for the purpose of securing the money belonging to agriculture. The same thing has, according to the Rural New-Yorker, been going on in the States, and that periodical seems to found great hopes of improvement

in the declared intention of the new Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Morton, to do away with this most dishonest system. "It is our belief," says the Editor, "that unless some of the colleges and experiment-stations are at once overhauled and straightened out, they will have to be abolished within ten years." As far as we can judge from the bulletins, &c., we receive, a good deal of the funds devoted to these so called agricultural colleges is expended in a more réchauffé of experiments that were carried to a conclusion in England forty years ago.

DUNGIES.—Such is the refined epithet applied to the farm-pupils in the "alleged agricultural colleges," as Dr Hoskins calls them, in the U. S., by the arts' pupils. A pleasant thing, indeed, it must be to be a farm pupil in a "mixed college" then! The good and liberal minded Doctor does not seem to mince matters:

"The feeling against D. Ds. as heads of industrial schools is not a prejudice of ignorance, or an evidence of narrow intellect. It is in a way instinctive; but the instinct is a good one. It is not based on prejudice, but rests upon common sense, and the fitness of things. We want men of science, not men of literature, or fine art, to teach our boys—not only to farm, but how to make agriculture honored in the only way in which honor on the farm can be won,—by making the farm "pay." We want a school where we can send our ambitious boys, and have them taught how to make as much money on the farm as in any other occupation. That, and that only, can make farming honorable, and cause the smartest and best girls to be willing and glad to marry farmers. When agriculture is classed as a liberal art, and the degree of "Master of Agriculture" means to its possessor everything that any college degree can mean, in point of knowledge and character, then will the agriculture of the state or country where that is true offer prizes worth the best men's competition. But that will never be while these schools are officered by men who accept positions in them because they are not able to get positions elsewhere."

PRICE OF CHEESE IN ENGLAND.—The price of picked dairies of Cheshire cheese has been very high this year. While ordinary lots have been sold for from 70s to 80s a cwt., 135s, and even 200, have been paid for selections, and that at auction-sales. As the Cheshire cwt. is 120 lbs., instead of 112 lbs., a deduction of about 1/4 must be made from the above prices to bring them to the usual market quotations, so for 200s we should read 187s, and so on.

SHEEP AT THE SMITHFIELD CLUB.—One of the grandest displays of sheep ever brought together was to be seen at the exhibition of the Smithfield Club of December 1893. There were, in all, 217 pens, or 651 sheep, the largest number, with one exception, ever collected.

The *Lincolns*, of course, were the heaviest sheep in the show, the ewes of Mr. Goodyear scaling 371 lbs. a piece, the lambs only 202 lbs., whereas Mr. Craddock's *Cotswold* lambs weighed 256 lbs. each.

Southdowns had 28 pens (3 each) of wethers, 8 of ewes, and 21 of lambs.

Hampshires, with their 11 pens of wethers, six of ewes, and 12 of lambs, were a splendid display. The wether class was so good that an extra prize was awarded to it. Lord Howe's pen of lambs weighed no less than 6 cwt. 3 qrs 24 lbs., i. e., 290 lbs. each, thereby beating their rival lambs, the *Cotswold*, by 34 lbs. a head, the *Oxford* lambs only going 213 lbs. So our favorite breed still holds its own.

PASTURES.—The, there, apparently novel plan of dividing the pasture for cows into two parts is patronised by the editor of Hoard's Dairyman, writing, we suppose in the State of Wisconsin. He says that it is being practised by some dairymen and they are greatly pleased with it, as it give a pasture a chance to freshen, not only in the growth of the grass, but also in the flavour, which latter improvement the cows highly appreciate, and show their appreciation by the improved flavour of the butter. "There is certainly nothing unreasonable in the claim." No, we should think not. We do not like constantly eating the various dishes of flesh, fowl and vegetables off the same dirty plate, neither does a cow like to go on eternally feeding on the same soiled pasture. But, good gracious, has it taken the great dairy state of Wisconsin all this time to find out what was known to the poorest farmer of Britain a hundred years ago? What an immense amount of good the dairymen of America would derive from the sending of a deputation of farmers, unprejudiced and observant men, to travel through the best farmed districts of England and Scotland!

PASTURING MEADOWS.—A correspondent wants to know if pasturing mowing land in autumn injures it. Well, that depends. If the grass is timothy, feeding cattle on it in the fall will injure it greatly; if heavy beasts are allowed to go on it in wet weather, they will hurt it by poaching it, whatever be the grass grown. But if a variety of grasses and clovers forms the bulk of the pasture, and the cattle are only allowed on it in dry weather, no damage will be caused; and this is one of the great objections we have to timothy: it should never be grazed. The plants roots of this otherwise valuable grass are of a bulbous habit of growth, and the *side-twitch* of the cow in eating is mighty apt, particularly in damp weather, to pull the entire stock out of the ground.

TOBACCO.—We have been a smoker for considerably more than 50 years; and we fear we are what is called by our abstinence friends a "Terrible example." We are pretty fresh, for a man 70 of age, in spite of our depraved taste, wherefore we disagree with our excellent friend the writer of the following paragraph, in the opinion he hold as to the grower of the soothing plant:

"At Windsor Locks, Patrick Grantly's crop of last year's tobacco brought him in nearly \$5,000 and he will use some of it in building two fine barns, a horse and a stock barn," says the *Connecticut Farmer*. Pat will do well thus to change his business. Any farmer ought to be ashamed to grow tobacco."

We have grown a good deal of tobacco in our time, and are utterly unrepentant.