But as draining has been proved to be effectual in preventing the disease-nay, more, in changing the character of the districts which at one period were notoriously unsound-it is evident that every flockmaster should strive to have his land drained, and thus permanently secure the health of his sheep. Through draining, as we usually understand the phrase-that is, drains 42 or 48 inches in depth, having conduits of pipes or broken stones for the passage of the wateris the system which must be adopted when the sheep pastures are combined with tillage operations; but when this is not the case, a more simple and more cheaply executed mode of draining will suffice to carry off excessive moisture and lessen or remove the danger from rot. Surface draining has proved of immense service in sheeprearing districts, improving the climate, increasing to a great extent, the production of nutritious grasses, and not only lessening the annual mortality, but enabling the stock masters to keep more sheep than they could do whilst the land remained in its natural condition.

These drains are from 16 to 18 inches in depth, 20 to 24 inches wide at the top, and 6 to8 inches Double drains-that is, the wide at the bottom. drains made for the purpose of carrying off the accumulated water from drains of the foregoing dimensions to the nearest main drain or rivulet -are 30 inches wide at the top, 18 inches deep, and 12 inches wide at the bottom. The distance at which the drains are cut from each other depends on the nature of the land, and may vary from 6 yards to 60, acdording to circumstances. The cost of cutting surface drains of this kind ranges in Scotland, where the system is much practised, from 1d. to 2d. per. seven yards, the double drams being just dcuble the price of the minor drains, each seven yards of the double drain counting as fourteen yards of the other. The acreable cost, therefore, is comparatively trifling, amounting, at say 20 yards distance between the drains, to from 3s. to 6s. per statute acre Mr. Cullen, of Corry, Co. Lincoln, finds "that open drains, 50 feet apart, may be formed 2 wide feet at top, 10 inches at bottom, and 15 inches deep, at a cost of "about 7s. 6d. per statute acre."

Yet, 'rifling as the cost of such draining is, the benefits resulting from it are immense. Mr. Cullen's experience is "that land so drained (after two; ears) will be worth double, treble, or even fourfold more than when undrained;" and Mr. Latham, of Alberchalder, Inverness-shire, in a prize report "On Draining Sheep Farms," which appears in the recently issued part of the Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society, illustates the advantages of surface draining, with reference to rot, in the following manner:—

"Striking instances of the cause and cure of this disease have come under my observation of late years. On an adjoining farm its ravages were very serious previous to the marshy ground being drained, but as soon as this was accom-

plished the rot gradually disappeared, and sheep became, under careful managemesound and superior stock. Now, however, being open for thirteen or fourteen years, t^{i} drains, which were cut much too shallevat are gradually filling up, and the rot has to ed."

Open surface drains, we must observe it be scoured out once in every three or foury and if this is done the drains will be kept in good working order, at a trilling expense

If pastures which contain much stagnate ture are of such a nature as to cause rot > certain there are some other points in my ment which tend to foster the developmental Some of the most prominent my disease. summed up in one word-over-stocking-bethis not only includes the want of a sufamount of nutritious food, but also the for of the pastures-a circumstance which is detrimental, whenever it occurs, to the hest sheep. To confine a lot of sheep on a b piece of pasture for months, without char them to another field where they can getar bite-that is, where they are entirely depe on the pastures-is about the worst treesheep can receive. Yet we often find it par -we find lambs, when weaned, put on a indifferent piece of grass, kept there during autumn and during the winter, without shifted for a single day; and when such case, we never feel surprised to learn that " are "plenty of skins" lying about the en premises. Dirt and starvation are sure me. bringing on disease on the human subject dirt and starvation are just as certain to bi disease and lead to death among sheep. have heard of pasture lands which bore a. character-where rot was, in fact, unknow until the flocks were increased beyond the. bers which the land previously carried, and sooner was this done than rot appeared, m the disease banished until the flocks were m. to the former compliment.

Professor Simonds shows that a gea diet will stay the progresss of rot, if it will actually prevent its appearance. Alludi, sheep in the earlier stages of the disc. says:--

"If the simple plan of protection with genous food is persevered in for some you may often save your animals. I did he further says, "many years ago, I pura number of rotten sheep: I gave the physic of any kind, but merely kept the sheds during the winter time, fed them with and cake, giving them the most generous I could; and I not only prevented the h progress of the disease in several of theet but I even made the animals accumulate, and they went into market in the follspring, forming pretty fair meat, for the a This shows what can be done by generous and a protection of the animals."