

Stock and Dairy.

Wool and Woollen Goods in New York.

From the statistics of the importation of woollen goods at New York we see that there has been a decrease in importation in the years of 1874 and 1875 of over nineteen million dollars worth. We make no comment, but direct the especial attention of our readers to the fact that there is a large and annually increasing increase of manufactures in the United States. The *Michigan Farmer* directs attention to this subject in a leading article, which we abridge, as follows:—

The statistics of the importation of foreign dry goods at New York, when examined, indicate a change as going on, which, in our opinion, has a bearing of much interest to manufacturers. It also has a very considerable interest for the wool dealers and wool growers of the United States. A comparison of the amount of woollen goods imported in the ten months of 1876, which have just expired, with the importations of woollen goods for the corresponding periods of 1875 and 1874, show a decrease almost equal to 33 per cent. in their value. The fact stands prominently out that the value of the woollen goods imported during the ten months extending from January 1st to October 31st, 1876, was as follows:—

Manufacture of wool entered for consumption	\$12,003,999
Manufacture of wool entered for warehousing	7,627,849

Total importations

The importations for 1875 and 1874 for the corresponding periods of those two years was as follows:—

	1875	1874
Entered for consumption ..	\$18,027,822	\$18,742,114
Entered for warehouse	10,482,491	12,484,609

Totals

Deduct importation of 1874 19,631,848—19,631,848

\$ 8,878,465 \$11,614,875

Here a decrease from the imports of 1875 of \$8,878,465, and from those of 1874 of \$11,614,875 of woollen manufactures alone.

The question of these figures is, how the consumption of woollen goods decreased to that extent in the United States? Has not the population increased so as to demand in reality a greater consumption of woollen goods during 1876, than in either of the two years preceding? Has not this great diminution in the consumption of foreign goods been made up by the increased production at home? Is not this saving of nearly nine million of dollars in our export trade on this one item of woollen manufactures, the result of that tariff policy which has been so much abused by the doctrinaires of the free trade policy? It is evident to us that the great surplus of manufactures has taken the place of the foreign goods. The quality and variety of the goods manufactured have met the wants of the community for consumption, and evidently have at last competed on their merits for a share of the home trade. The very condition of the wool trade at present indicates that the manufacturing interests, at the present time, are encouraged by this very aspect of the trade for the past year. They realize that at last they have gained a market at home for their products, and one of the very best in all the world of civilization and commerce. The result is seen in the advance in the price of wools, and the absorption, up to the present time, of a much larger proportion of the wool clip of the present year, large as it is. It is seen in the resumption of business by mills that have been lying idle, and now understand that the market of the country is not clogged with the produce of foreign looms and foreign labor. It is seen in the fact that, large as has been the increase of the wool-growing, there is none too much for the wants of the consumers. It will be still further seen in the development of the wool-growing interest, and in its attempts to supply the various grades that may be needed. Besides our home clip, the manufacturers of the United States are using some fifty millions of pounds of foreign wool yearly—a fair proportion, which is likely to be increased as the necessities of the manufacturers demand it, that they may supply the growing wants of the country. There is no more hopeful sign of the prosperity of the woollen manufactures and the

wool-growing interests than the figures we cite above, which are indisputable. The American manufacturers are commanding their own home market.

Sore Shoulders in Horses.

Some horses have very tender skins, which are excoriated by the slightest friction; these animals, if not carefully watched, will suffer from sore shoulders, saddle-galls, and in fact will display raw places in various parts of the body which come in contact with the harness. The carter does not see the necessity for keeping the animal in the stable because he has, in horseman's parlance, "lost leather" to a slight extent. He knows that he would not be allowed to skulk himself under such circumstances, and, therefore, the horse is put to work, the abraded part being protected by a pad of some sort; an old handkerchief or rubber folded is often made to do duty for more appropriate material. During the movement of the animal the wound is most probably made more extensive, a little bleeding occurs, and a very unpleasant appearance is consequently presented to the looker-on—an ugly wound in the shoulder or elsewhere, and a rough bandage round the collar or other part of the harness, and smeared with blood. In such a case it is not difficult to prove that the horse was cruelly treated, and both the driver and owner are censured or fined, and perhaps they deserve it only as a punishment for their want of care and inattention to the feelings of a sensitive public. With proper management, well-fitting collars and harness, and the use occasionally of a little astringent lotion, the abrasions which are so common and so unsightly in working horses need never reach a condition to attract attention or interfere with the animal's comfort or his work. A properly fitted collar and harness are, of course, absolutely essential; but it will happen now and then, in spite of care, that abrasions occur. At first the injury is very slight; the shoulders or withers are "wrung a little," and nothing is thought of the matter until the injury is repeated, and the results become more apparent. Correspondents frequently inquire what remedies are most effective, not only in the treatment of sore shoulders and similar injuries, but also for their prevention. Some horses are particularly prone to suffer excoriation on the slightest provocation, and no care in arranging the harness will suffice at times to prevent the occurrence. In such cases the daily use of a hardening fluid to the most exposed parts of the skin will be beneficial, and for the purpose nothing is better than Sir William Burnett's disinfecting fluid (chloride of zinc) diluted with fifty parts of water. A soft brush or piece of sponge tied on a stick will be a convenient instrument with which to apply the lotion.

Very slight abrasions of the shoulder or other parts may be treated successfully with the same lotion; but if the injury has been severe, and the part is swollen and tender, fomentations of warm water must be employed in the first instance, and when the tumefaction has subsided the astringent lotion should be used.

In all cases some means must be devised to prevent pressure on the abraded part until healing is perfectly completed. If this cannot be done the horse must be rested, or put to work which does not necessitate the use of harness in contact with the seat of injury during the cure.—*Agricultural Gazette*.

Over-reaching.

Many horses have the very unpleasant habit of striking the toes of the hind shoes against those on the fore-feet. Most horsemen will agree that it is a fault attaching to some of the best as well as the worst of horses. It more frequently occurs with young horses, and they often clink on the turf or soft ground, and not on the road. It arises from the too great activity or length of stride of the hind legs: the fore-feet are unable to get out of the way in time; therefore, anything which detains them, such as soft or heavy soil, must assist the habit. The principal point to be remedied is the intolerable noise, from which the evil derives the name "clicking"; and this is often effected by making the hind shoes square at the toe, and leaving the toe of the crust somewhat projecting over the shoe, by which plan the crust receives the blow instead of the shoe, and does not make any noise. It sometimes happens that, from the repetition of these blows, the crust is worn so thin at the toe as to produce or threaten lameness, in which case the plan of shoeing mentioned must be desisted from, and we must put up with the noise to avoid the

greater evil. When a square-toed shoe fails in preventing clicking, it will sometimes happen that a shoe pointed at the toe will succeed; which, no doubt, arises from the circumstance that the shoe, having so small a surface to come in contact with, fails to strike the fore shoe and goes within, or by the side of it.—*Live Stock Journal*.

Convention of the International Association of Short-Horn Breeders.

This Association held its fifth Annual Meeting at St. Louis, December 6th, with a fair attendance of members. We give the most generally interesting parts of the address to the meeting by the President, J. H. Pichrell, Esq., of Illinois.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Since our last meeting many things have contributed to depress and discourage breeding. Yet, notwithstanding these drawbacks, we may congratulate ourselves on the fact that Short-horns have maintained nearer the high prices established in flourishing times, perhaps, than any other branch of trade or industry. While we may know that we have lost in some of our speculations, and that some of the evils (as prophesied one year ago) of reflecting on certain old and long established pedigrees have been the cause of not only speculators, but of some of those who have made Short-horn breeding an all-life business, losing money, we have the satisfaction of knowing, however, that it is a rare thing for a man to offer his own breeding that he does not get a fair remuneration for his stock. As long as that is the case, we can well afford to encourage the breeding of good cattle.

"If we would but reflect a moment we would know that our business could not always flourish with the present state of speculation and public sales, and one can easily figure out that things must change before very long, because sooner or later somebody is going to lose money."

The sooner the taint, even, of the you-tickle-me-and-I-tickle-you policy ends, the better for the general business. When breeders sell because they have a surplus, and buyers purchase only when they need them, we may be certain, though we should have to take less for our offerings at first, that our business is on a more sure foundation, and those buying can be assured that the judicious investments they make will well repay them, because, when such is the case, we may depend that the "specie basis" of Short-horn breeding will have been reached.

If we can devise means for advancing the breeding interests, we benefit not only ourselves, but the whole beef-producing class, and, at the same time, furnish a better quality of meat for the consumer. One thing that is being demonstrated in our favor is the success that has attended the shipping of live cattle to foreign markets. Nothing but the best quality will bear shipping, thereby creating a new demand for the better quality of beef.

In accordance with your request, I addressed letters calling the attention of the Committee on Postal Affairs in the Senate and House of Representatives, relative to the reduction of postage on catalogues. Whether they had any influence or not, we have the satisfaction of knowing that the desired object was attained.

The Directors also authorized me to communicate with the authorities at Washington and of the Dominion of Canada, requesting them to establish quarantine regulations to prevent the introduction of contagious diseases of cattle into America.

The Canadian authorities have established a system of quarantine that will undoubtedly prevent the importation of diseased animals through their ports. I am sorry to say that the Government of the United States has taken but inadequate means to prevent such an introduction through their ports. I am glad to be able to report, however, that much of the danger apprehended one year ago is passed. Yet we can but feel that under the present regulation we are constantly subjected to contagious diseases of foreign countries.

It is a well ascertained fact that cattle from the United States do not bear the hardships of the voyage to England as well as those of Canada. Mr. G. C. Frankland writes that he bought a lot of 90 bullocks at Chicago which were shipped at Quebec for England. They were scarcely at sea when their strength gave way, and ten of them died and had to be thrown over-board. During the summer season as many as 97 cattle have been similarly lost on the voyage between America and England. Some were Canadian cattle, and as a rule they bore the voyage better than cattle from over the border.