

delivered by Mr. Chamber of the following object is the most

frequently over- stock to retro- on himself a ee the accumu- ted in providing stock rearing and ative where the progression from

is the great value I do say, whe- a or a Highland e various breeds, e Americans term whole of the dif- animals, we find st prepotent.

object is beef, the n the 1st of No- y; winter-reared consider it most mother and her main with its dam hen it should be om the pail. With er, the cream may ter naturally con- a combination of aterials. During of skim milk and may be used with

three times a day eat. A mixture heat meal, pulped hay chaff are the e need not be con- ecks; if well cared e be sufficiently ad- r food. At twelve e of cake and corn, and pulped roots, alves may be kept rning them out to owing them to shift

not approve of the t. Compared with ds it less profitable; succession of special s, tares, clovers or the animals on until y. This green food ed or an unprepared w cut into chaff and n meal, bean or pea l. "About 2 lb. per eed cake will be a r a year old. If ummer, they should of good linseed cake, ttered shed for shade

g winter, as recom- cess nutritive. The nimal will vary; 30 lbs. pulped roots, 30 orn meal, &c., as re- d meal. If the pas- turned out to grass "About the 1st of gain be housed, and at preparation for the e of food should now oots mixed with from h 2 lbs. barley, 2 lbs. of linseed cake. With ribed, the steers will 4 months old, and if dily reach the weight 8 lbs., which at the

present price of 9d. per lb., will realize from \$27 to \$30 each."

Though our system of farming and feeding is not sufficiently advanced to adopt the above course of feeding in all its details, every feeder may find in this abstract of the lecture very useful hints both as to breeding and feeding. The profits are less than might be expected. Of the \$27 or \$30, he reckons a profit of only about \$6, including manure, after deducting the market price for all the articles used as food, and 2s. 5d., the price allowed for the calf when dropped.

English and American Cattle Markets.

If inducements were still wanted to persuade our stock feeders of the advantages to be derived from breeding from good, well-bred animals, and feeding that stock well, it will be found in a comparison of the prices of fat cattle in the markets of England and America. At a recent date, the report from the Metropolitan Meat Market, London, is as follows: Best beef, 5s to 5s 4d per stone of 8 lbs.; second, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middling, 3s 8d to 4s. Best mutton, 6s to 6s 4d; second, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; equal in American money to—Best beef, 16c per lb., live weight; Best mutton, 18 to 20 cents. Compare these figures with the American notes. That selling at the latter prices not only pays no profit, but that it entails an undoubted loss needs no proof; it is self-evident. Cattle suffered to increase their numbers, and pick up their food without any expense to their owners on the vast plains of Texas, may pay at such prices; whatever they bring is almost entirely gain; but cattle fed for market and sold as in the following report, cannot pay:—

The receipts of cattle from the country were light and count up only 217 head. The market at the Central was rather weak, and at King's Yards the sales were very slow and few in number, owing to the recent rain-storm. We note sales of the best cattle offered at prices that did not reach 4c., none selling above 3½c., and the range of prices went as low as 3c. Fair 1100 lbs. steers sold at 3½c. These are very low prices, but the eastern markets have never been so completely filled with light stock; and the past week the yards in New York have been kept steadily filled with cheap beef. Our feeders ought to be convinced that they cannot compete with the boundless plains of the west in the raising of cheap, light steers. The best stock sells in Chicago and New York at 5 to 6 cents, while light medium steers are not worth over half that price. The profit is altogether in the well bred and best fed stock, even with prices low. Neither the farmer, the drover or the butcher makes any profit feeding and handling light, poor cattle.

Sheep were offered in fair numbers, but they, too, had shrunk in price, and the range was from 3½ to 3¾c. We notice that the eastern markets are not so low in this stock as in cattle in proportion. These prices are quite depressing. But the pens in all the eastern markets have been filled with State sheep carried over from day to day for some time, and we notice that prices at Buffalo and New York have been kept up better than they have been in this market. At New York we note that Michigan sheep have sold at \$4.25 to \$5.25.

Send the Produce of your Farm to Market on Foot.

This is the system of agricultural economy, to which the farmers of Britain are every year more directly tending, the statistics of each year reporting a decreased average of wheat culture, and an increased area set apart for stock feeding. The immense arrivals of breadstuffs bound to her shores

from every point of the compass, speak to the English husbandman of a keen competition from the virgin fields of America and the fertile plains of Asia, that precludes the prospect of a fair remuneration for his expenditure of time and labor in the cultivation of wheat; he therefore manufactures beef and mutton, cheese and butter, where he was wont to grow breadstuffs.

The same change is gradually coming over us Canadians. We find it less costly and more remunerative to feed stock than go on in the old track, relying entirely on our wheat crop; and this change will be more general, it will cease to be looked on as a change, it will become the established system to calculate the profits of our farms by the meat fed and not the bushels of wheat threshed. As we realize the profits from our English markets we will send the produce of our farms to market on foot.

In other colonies of Britain their wealth is centered in great measure in their flocks and their herds. We give the following extract telling of the great progress of a sister colony, New Zealand, proves from returns that cannot be doubted that the great source of her prosperity is sheep farming:—

"The quarterly abstract of the trade and returns of the Colony of New Zealand for the quarter ending the 31st of March, shows that the total value of imports for the quarter amounted to £2,079,267 as against £1,883,653 in the preceding quarter; and of exports for the same period of £2,594,721 as against £1,039,105. The principal items of export are gold and wool, of which in the last quarter there were exported of gold 89,954 ounces value £357,055; and of wool 33,638,562 lbs., value £2,002,269. The total quantity of wool exported in the year 1875 is also given in a note to the abstract. It amounted between the 1st of January and the 31st of December to 54,401,540 lbs., value £3,398,155. The revenue for the quarter ending 31st of December, 1875, was £600,439; that for the quarter ending 31st of March was £632,727, showing an increase of £32,338 on the quarter. The estimated European population of the colony on the 31st of December, 1875, was 375,856. The last previous estimate was that of June, 1874, when the population was calculated to be 310,576. The European population had therefore increased by 65,280 souls in the interval of a year and a half, a rate of progress which may be best estimated by a reference to the fact that twenty years ago, in the year 1856, the entire population of the colony was reckoned to be 45,540 souls."

Will a Top-Dressing of Salt Serve the Wheat Crop?

We have had this enquiry again, this time from a new subscriber. The application of any fertilizer or chemical is variable, and depends much on the constituents of fertility in the soil to which it is to be applied. To this must be attributed the doubts of the value of salt used in top-dressing. In some instances the benefits from its application have been imperceptible, while on the other hand we have most indisputable testimony that it has been of great service to wheat, and, in short, to all crops, grain as well as others. The presence of salt in the products grown, as demonstrated by careful analysis, proves that salt, whether as a constituent of the soil, or supplied as a fertilizer, is essential to the successful growth of many plants, cereals included.

On the farm of the Royal Agricultural Society of England a series of experiments, designed to test the value of salt as a manure, proved the correctness of the opinion of those who hold that salt is desirable as a fertilizer. For the experiment two acres were set apart; one acre to which salt had been applied, 300 lbs. per acre, yielded thirty-nine bushels of wheat; the other acre, to which no salt had been applied, yielded only twenty-nine

bushels: a gain of ten bushels in favor of wheat dressed with salt, though the plots in every respect save the salting were equal.

The Market for Canadian Sheep.

The shipping of sheep to England gives fair promise of being a profitable business for sheep farmers and shippers. The experiment tried a few years of shipping prepared mutton to Glasgow, though not attended with actual loss, did not pay a sufficient profit as to encourage those engaged in it to continue incurring the risk unavoidable in the undertaking, and the enterprise was discontinued. Salt mutton did not prove so acceptable to the palate of North Britons as to induce them to pay a price commensurate with the expenses and risks incurred. And yet the great difference of the price of mutton in the Canadian and British markets is such as to induce enterprising dealers to hazard other experiments to bring Canadian mutton before English purchasers and consumers in such a state as to be acceptable to the most fastidious. Hence

the enterprise of sending live sheep, in good condition, fresh from our Canadian pastures, instead of being slaughtered and salted. So far, the enterprise has been successful. The animals bore the voyage well, were landed in good order, and brought fairly remunerative prices. Before this we fed only for our home consumption and for the American market. The price of our home market has always been low, and though prices in American markets have been higher, the duty imposed then on importers reduced the profits to a low figure. Twenty per cent duty for animals imported was a pretty high sum to be paid by our sheep farmers, and in many instances overbalanced the expected profit. The amount of the duty so charged would, it is said, defray the entire expenses of the transportation of the animals to England; and therefore Canadians can put them in English markets at as little cost as in New York or Chicago. To make this business profitable depends on our farmers themselves. If sheep of an inferior quality or ill-fed be offered for sale as Canadian sheep in the shambles of the Old Country, where they know what really good meat is, a prejudice against Canadian mutton will be caused that will militate seriously against the business. This has not, so far, been against it. Two steamers recently arrived at Liverpool, having on board 1,130 sheep for the English market, affording to the purchasers, at low prices, mutton of a very good quality.

Hints to Dairymen—No. 10.

Written for the Farmers' Advocate by J. Seabury.

The demand for cheese has been very quiet, and the market for the past few weeks has been without animation. The views of buyers and sellers have been so far apart that there has been little or no business done. However, there has been a little better feeling the past few days, and the cable has advanced to 61 shillings, but even this advance does not warrant the prices that have been paid, and that factorymen are now now asking. The views of holders are firm, and they will in all probability carry their goods into the new year before they will concede. Those who do not may have to hold until February before they obtain their price, and at present we can see no prospect of their ideas being realized before that time.

Butter.—Little or nothing doing. The market shows a somewhat better feeling, owing to more favorable reports from the British markets; 20c. is the outside quotation for choice tinnets.

We hope that long before this reaches the readers of the FARMERS' ADVOCATE every cow that has been filling the dairyman's pail so bountiful and without stint the past summer, has been settled