

especially beneficial in a dry season. It deposited the seed all at the same depth ; it needed less seed ; the crop came up at all the same time, and it ripened evenly ; the crop was more equal, and the sample better ; but the ground needed to be clean to allow of their use. He thought that on our light land a heavy roller would be a very good thing ; though we could not work our land too much if we rolled it afterwards.

Mr Black said, he had used several kinds of ploughs—the Norton, the improved Norton, the Scotch Canadian, and now he used the Hill plough. He preferred it for all sorts of ploughing, to any other he had seen around here. He preferred the eight billed (Scotch) harrow, to the iron ones ; did not like the six billed harrows, as they would not break their track right.

Mr D. McKinley said, he had used the Hulbert plough mostly, but did not think it a very good sod plough. He had never tried the Hill plough. He liked the Scotch Diamond harrows best.

Mr P. Tenant said, that we had no such good ploughs here as used in the West. The Hill plough was the best that we had. He used a cultivator, and found it very useful. It did as much good as a ploughing in the spring of the year.

Mr. McDonald, the President, said, he was highly pleased with the discussion ; it was very interesting to have our ploughs described for more than forty years back. For his part, he thought different soils required different kinds of ploughs. A plough that would be very suitable on a fine, loamy, light soil, would not answer so well on a stiff, heavy clay. The Hill was a very good green sod plough, but he did not like it so well for stubble, or summer-fallow ploughing ; it was very easily choked out on rough stubble. He thought our ploughs were lighter, of easier draught, and did as good work as the Old Country ones did. He had mostly used the Scotch harrows, and found them to answer very well. He believed the iron harrow was a good harrow, and did good work where the land was not stony. He found the cultivator very useful for crossing fall-ploughed land in the spring of the year—thus breaking the crust, pulverizing the soil, and mixing fine manure in it. They were also very useful on summer fallows. He thought that we were greatly indebted to our mechanics for the great improvement they have made in our agricultural implements of all kinds. Though we might not yet be at the top of the tree in that respect, he was sure our implements would bear a favorable comparison with those of any other country. He approved of making all our tools and implements as light as was consistent with sufficient strength, as we require to husband our own strength all we can during our short, warm summers.

Great Corn Crop.

We copy from the Westminster Advocate, the following account of a great corn crop grown last year by Mr. John W. Murray, of Hampstead District, Carroll County, Md., with the mode of cultivation. Mr. Murray says :

"I will give you the amount of corn produced, and the mode of cultivating the same. The land is low, and is overflowed by the washings from the hill, and from my barn-yard, and was in grass for nine years prior to the spring of 1872 ; then plowed and planted in corn, and yielded 26½ barrels per acre. This was the same piece of ground that I used last year. The stubble was left until I had planted all the rest of my corn. On May 16th, 1873, I plowed the ground very deep, harrowed it the same day, and rolled it on the 17th. I sowed 300 lbs fine bone, and harrowed it again the same day. I marked it off 32 inches one way, and sowed 200 lbs Rhode's superphosphate in the rows, and dropped the corn 10 inches apart, one and two grains in a hill. On the 4th of June it was badly missing ; dragged the ground and replanted ; 10th of June ploughed, and still some missing ; 17th of June ploughed and hoed, and plastered the weak spots ; 30th of June dragged, plowed and thinned it ; 4th of July killed it with a potato plough, as deep as one horse could pull, and

kept thinning as I thought it required, until shooting time. The variety of corn was the Chester County Mammoth Yellow.

"In regard to the yield - the ground was surveyed by a practical sworn surveyor, cut off by two sworn men, and measured by a sworn man, in the presence of many others, and measured 29.9-10 barrels, and the same measured at the cattle scales in Baltimore, made 30½ barrels, for which I hold receipt which is annexed. If any persons doubt the yield let them come forward, and they can be accommodated with a bet from one hundred to a thousand dollars. I am not a one acre farmer, but cultivate forty acres, with myself and three boys, or perhaps I could have given the one acre more attention, and had a larger yield, which I believe could have been done."

Another Big Crop.

We see from the Washington (Pa) Reporter, that a committee of the Washington County (Pa) Agricultural Society reports that James W. Dickey, of that county, raised on fifteen acres (actual measurement) the enormous aggregate of twenty five hundred and thirty five and three fourth bushels of shelled corn—or one hundred and sixty nine bushels of shelled corn to the acre. This beats friend Murray's crop about 16½ bushels.—Maryland Farmer.

Birmingham Poultry Show.

This great Exhibition of poultry and pigeons took place in December, and was in many respects in advance of previous years, the classes, as a rule, were filled with good specimens, and there were fewer inferior birds than usual in so large a collection. The total number of poultry exhibited was not so great as last year, but the pigeons were in excess of the previous year so that the total entries were nearly the same in number. Total number of entries in 1872 was 2,385 ; in 1873, 2,341.

The follow shows the weights of the birds for the respective years of 1872 and 1873

Weights of Prize Turkeys.

	1872		1873	
	Prize	1st. 2d.	Prize	1st. 2d.
Old birds, single cocks.	35 6	35 10	35 6	35 10
Pairs of hens.	23 8	23 8	23 8	23 8
Bred this year single cock	29 0	24 12	29 0	24 12
Pair of hens.	23 10	23 4	23 10	23 4
	31 0	31 0	31 0	31 0
	30 10	23 14	30 10	23 14

Weights of Pairs of Prize Geese.

	1872		1873	
	Prize	1st. 2d.	Prize	1st. 2d.
White old birds.	51 12	50 0	51 12	50 0
Goslings.	60 12	40 0	60 12	40 0
Grey old birds.	55 0	52 0	55 0	52 0
Goslings.	47 8	42 12	47 8	42 12
	46 12	42 0	46 12	42 0

Weights of the Pairs of Prize Ducks—Ayloshbury Ducks.

	1872		1873.	
	1st. 2d.	1st. 2d.	1st. 2d.	1st. 2d.
First Prize.	18 12	17 6	18 12	17 6
Second Prize.	17 4	16 14	17 4	16 14
Third Prize.	16 14	16 12	16 14	16 12
Fourth Prize.	16 14	16 12	16 14	16 12

Rouen Ducks.

	1872.		1873.	
	1st. 2d.	1st. 2d.	1st. 2d.	1st. 2d.
First Prize.	19 12	19 12	19 12	19 12
Second Prize.	18 12	18 12	18 12	18 12
Third Prize.	18 12	18 12	18 12	18 12
Fourth Prize.	18 12	18 12	18 12	18 12
Fifth Prize.	18 12	18 12	18 12	18 12
Sixth Prize.	21 0	21 0	21 0	21 0

Potatoes in the United States.

According to the last decennial census, New York is the "Banner State" in the amount of Irish potatoes produced, returning the enormous yield of twenty-eight million bushels ; Pennsylvania follows with nearly thirteen million, Ohio with eleven million, Illinois and Michigan each with ten million, Maine with nearly eight million, Wisconsin with six million, Iowa, Indiana and Vermont each with upward of five million, and New Jersey and New Hampshire with more than four and one-half million bushels. The particular parts of the country which yield the most according to the area cultivated are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Northern New York. The best potatoes also come from these States, as the millions of bushels shipped to the Southern States each year will attest.

The twentieth volume of the English Herd-Book, now published, contains the pedigrees of 2,551 bulls, beginning with 30348 and ending with 32593. The cows and their produce number nearly 6,600.

The Prince of Wales has accepted the presidency of the Smithfield Club for the year 1875.

WHAT is true of the rose, is true of any flour ; by any other name it would smell as wheat.

The practice of giving a general warranty in the sale of horses is becoming much discredited in England, and before long there will be a radical change in the law relating to these cases.

A SERIES of experiments is now being conducted in Paris, under the direction of a committee of the Academy, with regard to the preserving meat by cold. The experiments are being made on the premises of M. Teller, at Auteuil.

A sale of the once celebrated breed of Upton Long horns, took place on the 17th of December last. No high prices were realized—fifty guineas being the highest bid for any animal. Nearly all the breeders of this class of cattle of any note were present or represented.

MACHINERY must take the place of hand labor ; but machinery, however perfect, needs a man of intelligence to keep it in order, and to manage it to the best advantage. Machinery does not do away with the necessity for labor ; it merely changes its character. It demands brains rather than muscle.

ROBINS NESTING IN DECEMBER.—As a sign of the extraordinary mildness of the season in England, a writer in the Field says that on the 8th December, while some workmen were in the act of felling a tree on the rectory farm at Elvington, North Yorkshire, they discovered a robin's nest containing two eggs.—Both the thrush and the blackbird have frequently been heard singing in the North Riding during the past fortnight.

LARGE TROUT IN THE AVON.—A splendid trout of the extraordinary weight of 17½ lbs., was recently caught in the River Avon, at Stratford-sub-Castle, about two miles above Salisbury. It was a male fish, the dimensions of which were as follows :—Length, 2ft. 9in., circumference, 1ft. 8in., and width of tail, 9½in. It was unfortunately so injured in the net, and although immediately placed in a stream, it very shortly died. The river was being dragged for jack.

A SUCCESSFUL test as to the freshness of Canadian meat is reported from the Alexandra hotel. Canadian beef, mutton, and turkeys, were served up for the guests. The joints of beef and mutton were roasted, and a unanimous opinion was expressed that the viands were equal to first-class English meat. The mutton was small, and fat, resembling Welsh mutton, the flavor being excellent. The turkeys were remarkable for fineness of flavor and richness of fat. All the meat was about fourteen days killed. Allowing for the cost of transit, &c., it is computed that the meat bought at 3d per lb. in Canada, could be sold profitably here for about 6d. per lb.

—The Winter show of fat cattle, farm produce, and manufactures, which is now open in the Agricultural Hall of the Royal Dublin Society is the best which has ever been held in that city, both as regards numbers and the quality of the stock. The Society boasts especially of the display of horned cattle, and confidently challenges comparison with the best specimens exhibited at other shows. There is also a large and good collection of sheep and swine. It is satisfactory to notice the excellent condition of the animals and the evidence which they present of care and enterprise in providing the best blood. There is a display of roots and other agricultural produce, such as it would be difficult to equal out of Ireland.

SHORT-HORN STEERS.—In the 7th Vol. American Short-horn Herd Book J. G. Eun, of Ohio, gives an account of 20 steers sold by him Dec. 28, 1865. Six were thorough bred short horns, the rest from three-fourths to fifteen sixteenths Short-horn, chiefly of the higher grade. Except four or five, they were three years old in spring of 1865, the four or five were four years old in summer of 1865. They were given a quart of the milk of their dams, when calves, and afterwards fed out of doors on hay, straw and corn-stalks. In the spring of 1865 they were fed shock-corn for about two months, estimated to amount to 20 bushels each. They had no other rain at any time. They were sold Dec. 28, 1865, at which time they weighed 34,553 pounds, an average of 1,727 pounds each. They were sold at 8½ cents per pound, live weight—about \$146.75 each.