

siderable extent. The great feature relative to agriculture is the production of meat. Very large quantities of beef and mutton are raised in the winter months. Compared with twenty to fifty years since it is a matter of wonder and satisfaction. Where our forefathers grazed ten beasts, we now fatten fifty. In mutton also there is the same proportion of increase.

A stranger walking over our Norwich Hill in autumn would be much surprised to see the thousands of cattle and sheep exhibited for sale, and wonder where they would all find purchasers. There is a great demand for cattle at that season, and all our yards are then filled for the winter. But this is not the only time that bullocks are bought for grazing purposes. In the low lying lands between Norwich and Great Yarmouth there is a fine tract of rich pasture land such as is seldom seen in other parts of Norfolk. These lands are very heavily stocked with grazing cattle in summer, as may be seen by any one travelling per rail between the above-mentioned towns. The cattle sent there are purchased on Norwich Hill in May, June, and July, and this, coupled with the fact that hundreds of cattle are bought to run over the arable lands in other parts of the county where a crop of hay has been removed, causes a great demand for them at that season. The largest amount of trade in sheep is done in the spring and summer months. Lambs of good size and quality are brought on the market, and our farmers purchase them to run on the grass lands (afterneath principally) during summer, and generally keep them on in winter to fatten them off. At the former period a small supply of cake or meal is given them, and in the latter this is increased, and their feed then is cut swede turnips. A great area of land in Norfolk is admirable suited for the carrying of sheep. Over the eastern, western, and central districts, much of it is of a light loose nature, and on such soils a large number of sheep are grazed. In the southern division the land is more stiff and tenacious, too much so for the sheep fold.

But whilst the production of meat is perhaps the greatest distinction connected with Norfolk agriculture, that of corn is but little less. There is a large acreage specially adapted for the growth of barley, and great quantities of this cereal are annually raised. An instance in support of this assertion may be looked for in the large amount of business transacted with brewers, maltsters, &c., in the commodious corn hall at Norwich, where, every Saturday during the autumn and winter months enormous quantities of barley are sold. At other local markets too, many thousands of quarters change

hands. The general run of quality is variable. On the western side of the county, where the chalk is nearest the surface, a high quality is produced, with prices up to 52s. and 54s. per qr; but in the richer districts a lower standard of quality is brought out, prices varying from 30s. to 40s. per qr. during the past season—that is, where secured in dry and uncoloured condition. Much of the barley grown in Norfolk is thin and inferior. We think that, were it not for the excessive sheep-folding on land intended for this cereal, the kernel would be more plump and bold, and consequently the price which it commands would be more remunerative. Wheats in a dry season are grown to perfection on all the best lands, but not so where "scalds" predominate. As elsewhere, these are liable to mildew and blight.

Mention must not be omitted of the great consumption of cake and other artificial foods. This, we think, is the key to our successful agriculture. On the best managed farms in the county as much money is spent under this head as amounts to the rent; whilst, taken in the aggregate, the number of tons consumed is enormous. Under such a system it is no wonder that in a kind season our wheats cast from 5 to 7 qr. per acre on the best lands. We can cite instances where, in the neighbourhood from which we write, twelve and fourteen sacks of wheat per acre have this year been grown. Never would it have proved so had not the tenants previously spent a great sum in the purchase of cake or some equivalent. It may be questioned by some of our readers whether high farming pays in these times of low prices. We reply, if it does not, low farming never will. Nothing helps a man so much in bridging over the bad times as employing a large outlay of capital, keeping it well used in carrying a heavy head-of stock, and by this means endeavouring to retain the soil in its highest state of productiveness.

To our minds, the greatest flaw in the agriculture of the county is the state of farm buildings. Except on some of the best and largest estates, where these are substantially and commodiously built, they are almost disgraceful, and utterly inadequate to meet the requirements of the times. On a holding of 400 acres, all arable, where, on an ordinary four-course shift, 100 acres of roots are raised, sufficient yard room ought to be made for at least 150 cattle, whereas there is scarcely accommodation to house 100 head. The yards, moreover, are nearly everywhere uncovered, with but small narrow sheds on one or two sides. We cannot reconcile this fact with the advanced knowledge and scientific opinions of Norfolk farmers. Surely in that

county, where the production of beef is the one great aim of their business, the tenants ought to endeavour to have the state of matters altered, requiring their landlords, whose fortune and interests are intricately bound up with their own, to have covered yards erected on their premises.

The expenses of farm management in the county are ever on the increase—as we believe is the case everywhere. Labor during the past twenty years has increased quite 30 per cent., and we think we should be within the mark were we to put it at 40 per cent. Rent has also increased at fully the proportion of labour, whilst every other department of expenditure has gone up in the same ratio.

Seeing that Norfolk agriculture in the aggregate is such an important means of food for the people of this country, is it not a lamentable fact that this branch of industry is fraught with such depression as now exists? We fear the result will not only be immediately felt by the Norfolk farmers, but that it will indirectly fall on the whole community at large. Let us each and all put our shoulder to the wheel, and strain every nerve to free the land from such heavy incumbrances as it now bears; and let us put forth every effort to make agriculture in England once more as prosperous as in the good old times of which we have heard our fathers speak so much.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

IMPORTED STOCK.—Some weeks ago, in reference to improved breed in stock, we instanced one case to show that this stock was much more profitable to keep than the common breeds. We referred to a thorough-breed cow owned by Mr. D. Johnston, yielding 14 pounds of butter per week. Quite a number here would not believe that so much butter could be made from one cow. We notice by the *Montreal Witness* that the same breed of cattle in Quebec Province yield, when properly fed, between 18 and 20 pounds of butter per week. This proves the great advantage of replacing the common breeds of milch cows by improved stock—the Jersey or Alderney breeds for instance.—*North Sydney Herald.*

At an exhibition of Canadian products held at Reuthingen, in Germany, the following apples were selected as the best ten by the pomologist, Dr. E. Lucas: Baldwin, Ben Davis, Blue Pearmain, Clyde Beauty, Fameuse, "Hubbardsen Nonsuch," Irish Crofts, Northern Spy, Red Rambo and Spitzenburg.

PEZIZA coccinea, a scarlet fungus, is now used for table decoration in England. We have a much finer species in the woods of Halifax County.