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The Manitoba Stock Yards.

The fine engraving of the Winnipeg Stock Yards, which appears in this issue, was reproduced by our artist from a photograph of the yards taken early in October. As an indication of the growth of the trade in export cattle, the C. P. R. doubled the capacity of the stock yards this summer, and still they are not half large enough; 1,200 head can be comfortably quartered, but on more than one occasion this fall fully 2,000 head were crowded into the yards. It was a magnificent sight to see these yards full of splendid steers—big, thick-fleshed, meaty fellows, mostly well-bred; Shorthorn blood predominating, though the Hereford was also strongly in evidence, while a sprinkling of Galloway and Polled-Angus, and an occasional Highlander, were to be seen. As previously mentioned in these columns, upwards of 40,000 head of cattle have this season passed through these yards, chiefly for export to the British markets. Of this number the big cattle shippers, Gordon & Ironsides, have handled some 32,000 head; of the total number, pea straw, light oats, etc., in winter.

The Advantages of Keeping Sheep.

BY JAMES BOWMAN, WELLINGTON CO., ONT.

We will try and mention a few of the advantages that have come under our notice. Sheep are among the best and cheapest mediums for improving the fertility of the soil, which is a very impor-tant matter in many parts of the country at the present time. One of the best ways we know of is feeding on rape, when the manure is so evenly spread, and if they show any partiality, it is in giving the poor high places the most manure. Again, when running on pasture during the summer, there are none of the domestic animals so hard on noxious weeds, which is also a great advan-The practice of folding sheep at night on meadow lands when feeding on rape, etc., has made a marked improvement in the grass crop. This was managed by making a yard in the meadow field, of hurdles, which may be dog-proof; and if sheep were thus kept and the pen moved daily it would be a great deal more advantageous than bringing into barnyard each evening to be safe from dogs. In both winter and summer they will do well on food that is not relished by or profit able to feed to other stock-weeds, in summer, and

down the cost of production at every point we can, keep the very best we can, and keep up and raise the good name of Canadian lambs and mutton. We now occasionally hear of Americans raising as good lambs as we do (the benefit of the rams they have bought from Canada is being felt), but the World's Fair proved in a very clear way that we were clear ahead, and also proved that Ontario was a breeding land that is hard to beat in the

Let us combine the Canadian energy with the steadfastness of our friends on the British Isles, and depend on it there is success ahead. It takes considerable time to understand thoroughly how to manage any line of business, and if in dull times, such as the present, we throw it up and do not take the notion to start again until sheep are high in price and all those who held on are making money, by the time a good flock is worked up prices will have begun to decline; then it will be said, sure enough, there is no money in sheep, which is correct if one is always ready at the wrong time. Even in these times there are some making money in sheep, because they understand their business and keep up at the head of their class.

The writer has watched the up and down move-ments, in the price of lambs particularly, for a good



CANADIAN PACIFIC STOCK YARDS AT WINNIPEG.

Manitoba and the Territories have contributed about equally. Besides the Eastern shipments, we understand nearly 6,000 head of one and two-yearolds have passed through on their way from Ontario to the ranches, where they will spend a year or two on the nutritious pastures before starting on their long journey to the markets of Greating on their long journey to the markets of Great wided with large racks for hay, and an abundant supply of water, so that when not overcrowded the steers can feed and stretch themselves in comfort. supply or water, so that when not overcrowded the steers can feed and stretch themselves in comfort; the Canadian Pacific being evidently determined to do everything in their power to encourage this important industry. important industry.

In a United States exchange, H. B. Gurler, who owns a dairy herd that averages 329, lbs. of butter annually, says: "I feel that the work of testing individual cover is one of the west profitable lines." owns a dairy herd that average annually, says: "I feel that the work of testing individual cows is one of the most profitable lines a individual cows is one of the most profitable lines a dairy farmer can engage in. We are not exercisdairy farmer can e

In fact, they fill a place that none of the other In fact, they fill a place that none of the other farm stock can, both in manuring the soil and in turning a kind of feed into money that other stock could not Besides this, there is no other line of stock which can be so cheaply housed and cared for. (With what class of stock is there so little labor?) Even a single-board shed, battoned and free from draughts, does as well as any other, and the daily cleaning of pens and grooming of animals, tree from draughts, does as well as any other, and the daily cleaning of pens and grooming of animals, so important with cattle and horses, has not to be done with sheep. It must, also, not be forgotten that every sheep returns an annual revenue of a fleece of wool; and a crop of lambs reaching 150 per cent. increase of the ewe flock is not uncommon.

They can also be prepared for market with years.

They can also be prepared for market with very They can also be prepared for market with very little expensive feed, such as it takes to feed off cattle or hogs. Even in times like the present, when lambs are low and wool not high, they pay their way, if properly handled, and when prices are good they pay a good profit. In looking back thirty-one years, wool was worth in America. are good they pay a good profit. In looking back thirty-one years, wool was worth, in America, from 80c. to 90c. per lb., and sheep men were expecting then to see it reach \$1. No wonder the old gentlemen wish for the good old times they used to have

number of years, and may say we are of the opinion that within a year or two we will see a marked improvement in the price of that product; and, although things are dull at present, let us keep up our heart and believe — "There's a good time coming, boys; wait a little longer."

Oats for Stock.

It is the tendency of many stock feeders to undervalue oats for feeding stock other than horses. Now, we have an immense yield this year in many parts of the North American Continent, which will keep the price comparatively low. Oats are richer in protein and fat than many of the other coarse grains; in fact, they combine in themselves just about what is considered a well-balanced ration. Not about what is considered a wen-paranced ration. Not only do oats supply the needs of animals in well-balanced proportions, but rarely, if ever, do animals become sick by over-feeding on them after they have become accustomed to an oat diet.

In view of their abundance and shearness.

In view of their abundance and cheapness, feeders would do well to feed oats rather than buy bran or other foods. To growing cattle, sheep, or milch cows, ground oats should be more generally fed than they are. ers would do well to feed oats rather than buy bran