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FOUNDED 1866

"The champion yearling car-lot was. also composed of Angus cattle, described. by their judge as 'a bunch of crackerjacks,' and presumably, therefore, of most superior merit.

most superior ment. "In the graphic language of the reporter on that side, 'the Angus lead-ing car-lots made a constellation of black bullocks the like of which has never been presented to the trade or a sight-seeing public before."

"At this important show, in the cattle-slaughter test, the champion carcass was that of an Angus steer, followed in the two-year-old class by those of four animals of the same breed.

"The champion carcass is stated 'to have afforded another striking demonstration of the qualities which make this breed prime favorites with butchers."

SWALLOWS AS FARMERS' ALLIES.

The Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture has hit upon a novel plan in aiding the Southern cotton planter in his war against the boll weevil. This insect invaded the State of Texas several years ago, and has damaged the cotton crop to he extent of millions of dollars a year. Despite all efforts, it is extending its field at the rate of fifty miles a year.

Among the foremost of the useful allies against the boll weevil, are swallows. As is well known, the food of these birds consists almost exclusively of insects, and hence to the agriculturist they are among the most useful of birds. They have been described as "the light caval-ry of the avian army." Specially adapted for flight, they have no rivals in the art of capturing insects in mid-air, and it is to the fact that they take their prey on the wing that their peculiar value to the cotton-grower is due.

The idea is to increase the number of swallows both at the North and the South. The colonies nesting in the South will destroy a greater or less number of weevils during the summer; while in the fall, after the local birds have migrated, northern-bred birds, as they pass through the Southern States on their way to the tropics, will keep up the var.

Swallows are not so numerous in the North as they used to be. The tree swallow, for instance, formerly abounded, but of late years its numbers have greatly diminished, owing to persecution by the English sparrow, which turns the swallow out of its nest in order to have a place for its own eggs. When swallow nests contain eggs or young the murderous sparrow kills the help less nestlings or throws out the eggs.

The barn swallow also is diminishing in numbers, owing partly to enmity of the sparrow, but more, perhaps, to the fact that the modern tightly-built barn substitute places in which to nest. The cliff swallow, whose curious pouch-shaped mud nest used to be a common buildings throughout the North, has now been entirely banished from many localities under the mistaken impression that they are undesirable neighbors because of certain parasites which infest their nests. These have been supposed to be bed-bugs, and hence the nests have been destroyed, and the birds driven away. This is an error, for, although related to the above objectionable insect, these parasites of the swallow are peculiar to birds and not to be feared by man. by the transportation to new localities of boxes concentration to new localities grown voting, in the belief that the old firds will be head by the presence of



