

quick about anything, except to grow—and he doesn't know how to avoid that.

Capons become very quiet, tame and peaceable, and are the most satisfactory fowl to have around, so far as needing little care, that I know, and certainly they are the most profitable

GEORGE Q. DOW.

Rockingham County, N. H.

OUR ENGRAVINGS.

The portrait re-engraved from the Mark Lane Express) shows a cow named Denham Lady Lisburn, belonging to Mr. Harold Swithinbank, Denham Court, near Uxbridge. She is of unusual color for the Irish breed, being red, and has, says our contemporary, "a nice skin, showing quality and character, and is an excellent milker. She won first prize at the Tunbridge Wells Show, and took second prize at the Royal Show at Warwick. She is the dam of Kidmore Lady Lisburn, who won first prize in her class at the Windsor Royal."

The Hackney Stallion shown (by reproduction from the London Live-Stock Journal) is named Doncaster 2949, and his breeding is characterised by our contemporary as "the best," his sire being Danegelt and his dam May Blossom by Lord Derby II.

He was foaled in 1888, and had won a number of important prizes before his great success at the Royal show this past summer. He belongs to Mr. James W. Temple, Leyswood, Groombridge, Kent.

DE OMNIBUS REBUS.

Dr. Hoskins is good enough to notice, in the Vermont Watchman, my advice as to growing rape as a preparation for wheat. If he tries it, he will find that it is not only valuable as a preparation for wheat, but for "other grain-crops. Dr. Hoskins says, and I fear with a good deal of reason, that "our average crop, the Union over, is shamefully small; but we have farmers in almost every state who habitually harvest as good average crops as the best English experts." Does he know that one of the "best English experts" would be terribly disappointed if his average wheat crop did not yield, except in peculiar years, forty imperial bushels an acre? That is what all good farmers, on good land, look for as a rule.

But there is something, or rather a good many things, more than feeding off rape to account for the crops of wheat grown by good English farmers: there is the cultivation of the growing crop. I venture to say that I learned my finishing lessons in farming from one of the six best farmers in England: William Rigden, of Hove, near Brighton: and

this is what he used to do to wheat; spring- or fall-sown were treated alike except that the former was not harrowed after it was up:

The wheat was, we will suppose, to come after rape or potatoes: First, about March 1st, it was harrowed as soon as the land was dry enough; then the smooth roller, was passed over it, followed by the horse-hoe (Garrett's), and Cross-kill's clod-crusher, with its serrated rings, finished the job. The land was full of manure: nightsoil and ordinary dung: and the average crop was about 50 bushels an acre.

Barley and oats were treated simply to the roller and the horse-hoe.

The best crops of wheat were grown after clover, which stood for only one season, and was mown twice for hay and once for green-meal, except in very dry seasons.:

The farm was 650 acres, and the rent £1,850 a year, besides rates, tithes, and taxes, equal to another pound an acre, making the whole burden \$13,500 a year!

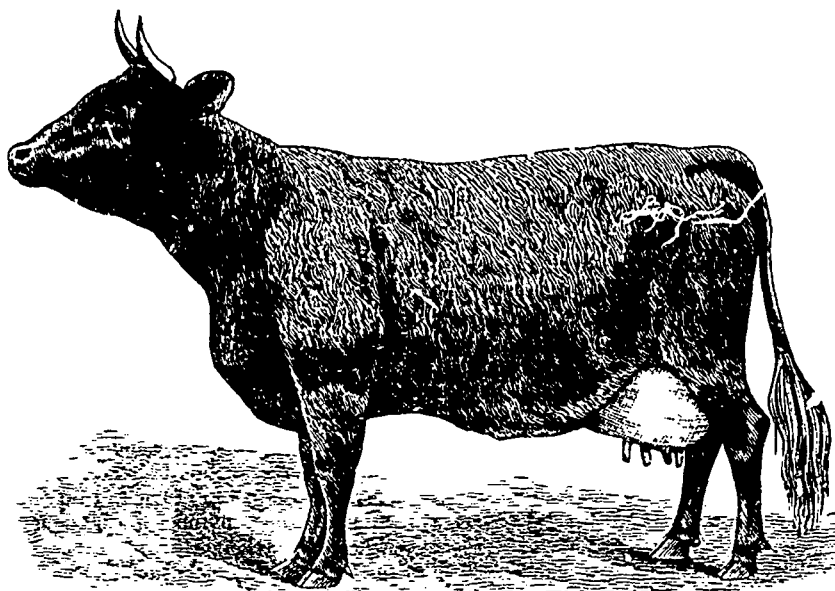
The stock kept was: 20 dairy-shorthorns, a pure-bred shorthorn bull, and 4 or 5 young heifers; 350 breeding ewes; and about 100 ewe-lets (lambs of the previous years); 7 horses, that drew nightsoil and dung from Brighton, 4 working all day and 3 all night, and 6 teams of plough-horses.

All the milk was sold, at 20 cts. a gallon, and the

quantity of tares, lucerne, clover, crimson clover (*trifolium incarnatum*), and other green meat that the carts took into the town of Brighton during the summer was almost incredible. There was need to sell something to enable the farmer to pay such a rent: but he did pay it, and lived liked a prince, too.

If Dr. Hoskins would like to see my favourite form of hurdles, I should be happy to send him a pattern. At any rate, an engraving of it can be seen in the Encyclopedia Britannica, under the head of "Fortification," tit. *chevaux de frize*. About ten feet makes a handy length, and the main bar need not be more 3 inch stuff. One man can set the fold, as the hurdles roll over easily.

"To our remark at American farmers now average so poorly in wheat culture that they could, by farming as well as they do in England, double their crops on the same area, Editor Jenner Fust of the Montreal Journal of Agriculture, say: "Try what feeding off rape with sheep will do to begin with. It is not costly, and never fails." Now, here is a suggestion from a practical man that is well worth paying some attention to. It is true that our average wheat crop, the Union over, is shamefully small; but we have farmers in almost every state who habitually harvest as good average crops of wheat as the best English experts. We believe there



A DEXTER-KERRY COW.