

by the plant. In garden culture the whole depth of the land can be made fertile to excess, but in field culture we want to put the rich soil where it will do the most good, and to obtain not the largest crop absolutely, but the largest that it is possible to grow profitably.

In an article on Dairy Exports, Mr. X. A. Willard states that the quantity of cheese in the country to day is much less than last year at this time, and that there is every reason to believe that our markets will be bare before next crop is ready for shipment. Dr. E. L. Startevant makes the startling announcement: "Jersey milk not good for infants." Its peculiarity lies in its abundance of cream, and indigestibility as compared with other milks. The scouring of Jersey calves, which has led to the use of nurse cows of other breeds, is attributed to this cause; it is not the richness of the milk, but the difficulty of digesting the Jersey curd. Dr. S. says the Jersey is not to be chosen as a "family cow," if the family include infants and growing children.

*Land and Home*, in the valuable character of its original information, its full market reports, and fresh news, approaches nearer in style to the English *Agricultural Gazette* than any other American paper. The besetting sin of American agricultural papers is that they rehash "science" after it has been filtered successively through German, French, and English publications, and give paltry details of experiments by ignorant persons to determine what has been determined years before by exact methods in the hands of competent experimenters.

We observe that Rugia Niblett, one of the Short Horn cows figured in the first coloured plate of Sheldon's "Dairy Farming," now being published, has gone to South Australia, one of a lot of 19. She is 7 years old. 13 head have been shipped from England to Buenos Ayres, 3 to Germany, and 12 to New Zealand. These notes are from Mr. Thornton's Short Horn Circular, just received. In running over the list of sales there is some difficulty in distinguishing between the cattle and their owners,—the former usually have the advantage in aristocracy of nomenclature. Sir Charles has been sold to Mr. Pugh, Miss Bampton to J. W. Fair, Sir Ormiskirk Gwynne to Wm. Starkie, Sulieman Pacha to the Belgian Government, Lord Aberdeen to Mr. Andrew, Lord Bennet to the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Oxford to the Misses Burrell, and so on.

HERE are some of the names of the Marquis of Exeter's Short Horns:—Sea Gull, Sea Bird, Sea Lark, Great Northern, Diver. His Lordship is no doubt either an ornithologist or a sea-side sportsman.

THE following short article, which we have slightly abridged from the *Country Gentleman*, is worth a year's subscription to every farmer who reads it, and acts upon it:—

Farmers who intend to grow mangolds, &c., next year, should by all means mix up the horse and cow manure with some from the hogs also, and give it a turn over; shaking it all thoroughly together so that it will become a mellow mass of short stuff, which will be food for the young plants at once and force them from the start.

There is a great mistake in the management of manure in general, first of all a fear of the labor of turning and mixing; it is asserted it will last much longer. It is really applied for the purpose of acting immediately, and instead of lasting ought to be used up directly for the production of a heavy crop. In England, instead of scattering broadcast either farmyard manure or concentrated fertilizers, the first is put in ridges straight as a line, 27 inches apart, so that the young plants strike their rootlets right into the friable dung which was evenly spread in the open ridges, and then the ridge is turned back over it. Often with the same drill superphosphate is run from a separate hopper, and runs in the same channel with the seed, so that the plants are doubly stimulated. By this method of planting roots the crop obtains the full benefit of all the fertility in the applications, and upwards of twenty tons of succulent food are grown per acre, and are converted into manure. Where the crops are eaten on the land by sheep, the soil is sometimes too rich, and in many instances part of the crop is fed at the homestead to young cattle and fattening ones, and then the portion left gives all the droppings necessary for growing as much barley or oats as can stand on the ground.

In England the root crop is first in importance, every farmer putting all the manure he can make and collect together on the land coming in rotation for that crop, and when it does not hold out, there is no hesitation in resorting to artificial manure. A heavy crop of mangolds, swedes and turnips, insures good crops of barley, clover and wheat, and a failure gives an opposite result; consequently roots are the mainstay of success, and without them sheep husbandry and stock farming could not succeed. It is of no use to ignore roots, for good stock farming cannot be conducted without growing and feeding them. Sheep will not thrive and produce the best quality of wool and mutton without roots. In a few years it will be a matter of surprise that roots were not sooner appreciated here. Any farmer's intelligence and capability can be estimated by seeing his root crop, and his standing and good sense may be known by the importance he attaches to growing the best of this nutritious and health-giving food.

THE Yarmouth *Herald* says that Capt. David Beveridge, of Little River, N. S., this season raised a crop of potatoes of the "Prolific" variety. Seventeen of the potatoes, which grew in one hill, weighed eight pounds, three weighing two and three quarter pounds. Two crops of potatoes had previously been raised on the same ground, which was a deep loam. Last fall a heavy fire reduced the loam to ashes, which thus produced a heavier crop than before, and the potatoes are pronounced of an excellent quality, far superior to any raised on the spot when the ground was new.

IN the Arts Department of the Provincial Exhibition a square of silk cloth was exhibited from L. A. Stapley, Esq., of Promo, Burma. The following account of the silk culture and manufacture in that region is not without interest. It is condensed slightly from the *Rangoon Weekly Review*. It may not be generally known that we have in the vicinity of Halifax a native silk worm that produces much stronger silk than any made either in India or Europe, but it has not yet been utilized except as a curiosity in the making of fishing lines, &c.:

The cultivation of the worm and manufacture of silk are confined to a distinct tribe of the Burmese who are called *Yabaings* or *Labaings*, and who are regarded as a low order, in consequence of their industry, which, involving as it does, the death of the chrysalis of the moth in its cocoon, is regarded by orthodox Burmese as a sin. The silk growers live in villages by themselves and hold little social intercourse with their neighbours, in order to avoid taunts and allusions to the wickedness of their calling. Nearly all the silk produced is consumed in local manufactures, very little is exported, and that only now and again.

All processes are carried on in the ordinary bamboo dwelling-houses of the country, which are open to all the elements, as well as dirty and smoke begrimed. The worms and cocoons share the accommodation with the family of the house-owner, and live and thrive in close proximity to the place where the culinary and other domestic operations of the household are carried on. The plant of a Burmese silk filature is simple and inexpensive, consisting only of the following articles,—a number of circular flat trays with raised edges, made of plaited slips of bamboo of diameter varying from 2 to 4 feet; some circlelets of palm leaves, 3 or 4 inches across; a few pieces of coarse cotton cloth in strips; a common cooking pot; a small bamboo reel; a round block of wood with handle, turning on wooden or bamboo supports, and a two-pronged fork.

The different processes commencing from the time when the eggs are laid are as follows:—The males are thrown away and the females placed on pieces of coarse cotton cloth, within palm leaf circlelets. They deposit their eggs on the cloth. It takes the moths a whole day to lay all their eggs, after which they are thrown away. The pieces of cloth with the eggs are wrapped up and left to themselves. About the eighth day the eggs are hatched, the cloths are then opened out and the worms begin to appear in the shape of tiny black specks. Hatched in the morning the worms are fed in the evening with finely chopped up pieces of the tenderest mulberry leaves. This goes