

Other cattle, 2 years old or above.....	2,234,777	2,277,024
Other cattle under 2 years.....	4,133,638	3,873,076
Total of cattle.....	10,097,943	9,832,417
Increase in 1883:—265,526 heads.		

SHEEP.

1 year old or above.	17,966,187	17,539,315
Under 1 year.....	10,381,373	9,908,905
Total of sheep.....	28,347,560	27,448,220
Increase in 1883:—899,340.		
Pras.....	3,986,427	3,956,495
Increase in 1883:—29,932.		

It is readily perceived that, with a population of 35,246,562 inhabitants, Great Britain has not enough, even with an annual increase in live stock, for its meat consumption, and must draw largely upon the resources of other countries. Continental countries have very little to spare, and the United States and Canada, of all trans-Atlantic countries, owing to their proximity, are alone in a position to satisfy the demand.

The figures of cattle and sheep in Canada given in the last census will be of little or no value in a few years from now, when the cattle ranges of the North-West will begin sending large droves of heavy cattle to Atlantic ports. In the United States, as it may be observed by the following table during the last two years, the number of cattle has increased more than in the previous six years, and it is not improbable, owing to the impetus that has been latterly given to cattle-breeding, that the increase in 1883 has been greater than ever:

Number of live stock in United States.

Years ended Dec. 31st.	CATTLE.		
	Cows.	Other kinds.	Total.
1880....	12,368,660	20,937,700	33,306,360
1881....	12,611,632	23,230,238	35,891,870
1882....	13,125,685	28,046,077	41,171,762
	Sheep and Lambs.		Pigs,
1880.....	43,576,900		36,247,600
1881.....	45,016,224		44,122,200
1882.....	49,237,291		43,270,086

In connection with the question of the relative numbers of live stock in different countries, likely to be available for the supply of meat to Great Britain, "it appears desirable" the report states "to ascertain definitely the probable average weight of each description of animal imported from the countries whence supplies are usually derived." Estimates have accordingly been obtained from reliable sources as to the respective average weight of cattle, sheep and pigs imported from these countries, when killed

for meat. The average weight so estimated in stone of 8 lbs. is stated for each country and class of animal:—Belgium, sheep, 8½ stone; Denmark, cattle 70 stone, sheep, 8; France, cattle 103½, sheep 7; Schleswig-Holstein, cattle 85, sheep 8½; Netherlands, cattle 85, calves 16½, sheep 8½; Norway and Sweden, cattle 78, sheep 6; Portugal, cattle 86½; Spain 71; Canada, cattle 90, sheep 8½; United States, cattle 101; sheep 7½. Of pigs the average weight appears to be 14 stone.

The difference in weight between Canadian and American cattle being 11 stone or 88 lbs. cannot be easily understood. Cattle in both countries are of the same stock, except perhaps in the blue grass region, where it is heavier; but Kentucky or Tennessee cattle do not form the largest bulk of shipments. The Canadian cattle, distillery-fed, have not perhaps the same powers of endurance as cattle reared on pasture, and lose more during the passage. The proportion between the living weights of an animal and the weight when dressed for meat is:—cattle 50 per cent, sheep 60 per cent, and pigs 40 per cent. According to this recognized rule the living weight of American cattle is 1,616 lbs., and of Canadian cattle 1,440 lbs. only. Any cattle dealer may settle the question, as he must ship with greater reluctance the lighter animals when the freight is charged so much per head instead of by weight.

THE BUDGET LIBEL SUIT.

The action for libel instituted last March by the Citizens Insurance Company of Canada against Messrs. Wm. Campbell and W. B. Campbell, father and son, editor and proprietor of the *Budget* of Toronto, an insurance paper published monthly in that city, was brought to a close last Monday, after a four days' trial. The action was based upon an article in the *Budget* of December, 1882, and a letter in the next issue, which, although deemed by some members of the Citizens' Board as unworthy of notice, were looked upon by others as furnishing a favorable opportunity for proving the unwarrantableness of this and other attacks made upon their property from time to time, and it was finally decided to make it a test case, and vindicate the position of the company once and for all. In the course of the suit the defendants confessed that Mr. A. T. McCord, jr., formerly agent of the Citizens Ins. Co., at Toronto, was the author of the letter signed "Fire Ins. Shareholder" in the January issue,—the writer claiming to be a shareholder in the company—and this admission was welcomed by the plaintiffs—who immediately made Mr. McCord a co-defendant in the case—as affording still better prospects of getting costs; for if any damages were caused at all, the sum of \$5,000 would be a mere drop in the bucket towards making them good. Messrs. H. J.

Scott, Q.C., and Dalton McCarthy, M.P., Q.C., appeared for Mr. McCord; the Messrs. Campbell were represented by Messrs. B. B. Osler, Q.C., and E. T. Malone, while Mr. Jas. Bethune, Q.C., alone represented the Citizens Insurance Co.

The weakness of the defence was visible from the start; there was nothing to prove the truth of the attacks made upon the company, hence the visits to Montreal by the defendants, accompanied by counsel, and the keen search into the business of the company, lasting several days, in the vain endeavor to find a weak spot somewhere. Every facility was afforded them. The company had nothing to hide; they had everything to gain by the fullest publicity; in taking the action they specified no damages, their solicitor in Toronto formally fixed upon the amount of \$5,000. They could scarcely expect any damages from the outset, but they were confident of vindicating their position, and determined to make the most of the occasion to justify the conduct, the actions and position of the company in the eyes of the community, by obtaining a verdict as to the truth or falsity of the article and letter in the *Budget*. Mr. Bethune in addressing the court and jury said: "The company have come before you to vindicate their position as public assurers; you can give them damages of \$1 or \$100, and they will not object; what they do want is to prove the falsity and malice of the articles." That this was the view of the case taken by the jury is shown by the verdict in favor of the company and the nominal damages of one dollar awarded. The question of costs was taken into deliberation by the judge, and it was decided the following day that the verdict should carry costs. These will probably amount to between \$3,000 and \$4,000, thus making a double triumph for the Citizens.

The defence pleaded justification, and endeavored to prove the charges made. Several joint visits were accordingly made to Montreal, and the directors and managers subjected to lengthy questioning as to the conduct of the company's business, the chief endeavor being to prove the somewhat vague and general charge of reckless underwriting. Some legal gentlemen must have had their rest broken by the mass of figures and evidence adduced by persons more or less expert in a business which it is not given to every man outside the profession to thoroughly understand, and have doubtless acquired an amount of knowledge that may be turned to occasional use. The primary allegation that "the company carried too much at risk for its capital" was met by a tubular comparison with two companies of undoubted position, showing that the Citizens in 1882 had on its net capital, after deducting impairment (since made good), .0430 per cent of capital to amount at risk in all branches, as against .0098 and .0091 respectively, both the companies referred to being admitted in evidence as in excellent standing before the public. It was also shown by the Insurance Blue-book, 1882, page 48, that the company has (exclusive of capital) \$1.19 per cent to amount of risks in force as compared with the two staunch companies cited, who, therein show a percentage of \$1.77 and \$1.45