

lesson of feeding in small quantities, fresh and fresh, which is important; and the size and depth of the gutter behind for the reception of manure, is another important thing, indicating the need of attending carefully to the preservation of other valuable produce of the cow besides her milk.

The French farm-yard, too, with its barn and dwelling-house, its circular cow-house, with 14 cows tied to a common circular trough, and thence radiating out to a greater interval, where there is ordinarily a risk of treading on one another or on the calves, with a central store or stage for provender, and all under a cheap circular roof; the shed for sheep, 12 yards long and about 4 deep, sufficient for three dozen merino sheep; the poultry-house on wheels, furnished with laying boxes and roosting poles, capable of being carried from field to field, and thus, as the placard told us, helping the work of destroying grubs in the fallows, as well as of picking up waste corn in the stubbles; all these items possessed considerable interest for English eyes—though very probably, amid the almost interminable collection of what possessed more general interest, comparatively few English eyes may have looked upon them.

The farm-yards and farm-houses with their inhabitants, quadruped and biped, are being transplanted, doubtless now with implements and machinery equally out of place, for use, to more proper homes; and we now can only hope that the lessons, sown so wonderfully broadcast as theirs this year have been, carried through the eye and mind to a thousand homes and farms all over the civilized world, may ultimately bear some of the fruit to be expected from such useful seed.
—*Agricultural Gazette*.

EXTREMES OF THE DOMINION.

It would appear that we live in a Dominion where the sun shines every day, baking the soil into a universal brick, while at the same time the rain seldom ceases to descend. In the Lower Provinces we have been deluged with wet all summer and autumn, whilst in Ontario every scrap of herbage has been burnt up. Even so late as 22d November, the *Globe* writes thus:—

"The Kingston News says farmers are complaining of the continued absence of rain. There are many localities in which it was impossible to finish up the fall ploughing from this cause, and the drawback still continues. The water in many of the wells in various parts of the country had fallen very low, and in some instances the supply had ceased altogether.

DIFFERENT BREEDS OF SWINE.

Without dwelling on the management of swine, or making a long preamble to the direct discussion of the subject, I will commence at once to point out some of the points of the different breeds of these animals.

The *Berkshires* will first be brought on the "carpet." These swine are black, which color seems to be objectionable with many, although not a serious fault. They mature early, fatten well on limited quantities of food and are excellent breeders. It is claimed that they are less liable to disease than any other breed, and that their flesh is the most delicate pork, while the live animal is the most hardy. They have grown to an immense size, and are a good breed for crossing with others.

Next we will call up the *Suffolks*.—These were imported from England by James Stickney, of Boston. In their "native land" they are considered the most profitable breed. They possess most of the good qualities of the *Berkshires*, are not black like them, and if well kept and taken care of, they will make the best selling pork. Until lately they were probably the leading breed of this country.

The *Chester County White* seems to be the most popular breed at the present time. They originated in Chester county, Pennsylvania, and disseminated quicker than any other breed. The following are some of their "good points." They are pure white, have hair enough to stand a Northern winter, "fatten well at any age, are quiet and not inclined to roam, and fatten well in good clover pasture." "They will make more pork in a given time with a given quantity of food than any other breed."

The *Essex* is another breed of black, or black and white swine, and is as yet but little known in this country. They are much admired in England more for the delicacy of their flesh than the size they attain, which is not as great as many other breeds.

The *Chinese* hogs are rather small, and are valuable chiefly for crossing with large coarse-fleshed breeds. The fine quality of their flesh renders them especially valuable for this, while their small size condemns them for universal adoption as pork making animals.

There is a breed in the West known as *Irish Graziers* which are described as being "as long as a rail," but are said to make an excellent cross with the *Berkshire* or other large breeds.

The *Bedford* or *Woburn* is an English breed not generally introduced in this country and therefore of minor importance. Not being acquainted with them, I won't describe them.

There are many, in fact, the chief part

of the swine raised that belong to no particular breed, but are called by various names in different sections of the country. In one district they may be called *Land-pikes*, in another *Alligators*, *Elm Peelers*, *Prairie Rooters*, *Subsoilers*, *Potato Diggers*, and a host of other names equally appropriate. Their characteristics are long legs, ensuring great speed when pursued; long noses, capable of stirring the soil thoroughly; long ears, like leather aprons; and long bodies. They are a long breed throughout, require long feeding, and have been the universal stock for a long time. All of which is submitted by one who would rather grow pork than eat it.—*American Stock Journal*.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture.

CABBAGES AS A FIELD CROP.

Sir,—Perhaps some of the readers of the *Journal of Agriculture* might like to know how I, this season, raised a fine crop of cabbage. The land, a piece of sandy loam, suffering from wet in spring and fall, so much so that the sown grasses had been killed, and the coarse herbage was not worth leaving for hay; in fact it would not pay for cutting. After I had done all my other cropping, I concluded to break up this piece and work it as a summer or bare fallow, not having manure for it. After this I found I could buy a few loads of manure, so I resolved to try cabbages on it, as from former experience with this vegetable I thought that there was a fair prospect of a profitable crop. I had the land ploughed deep, and with a flat furrow; it was well harrowed, and made as fine as possible on the surface, as the circumstances would permit. I then made shallow drills three feet apart and put the manure in small hills, a fork full to each, at a distance of three feet apart in the rows, and after sowing 50 lbs. of guano broadcast, covered the hills with the hoe; the drills being made on the inverted sod it was impossible to cover with the plough. On the 22d of June I planted all the cabbage plants I could get, which were only 550. I had ground ready for 2000. I did not water or puddle the plants, but I took care to set them out well; not merely pressing the earth round the stem of the plant, but gently settling and pressing the earth round the roots. It had been very dry for some time before this, and continued so for nearly two weeks after planting. Many of my neighbours ridiculed the idea of the plants living, let alone my raising a crop from them. I never water any plant just set out when I can avoid it; if well and carefully set out, there is no necessity for it. When the plants were just beginning to make heads, I applied 40 lbs. superphosphate of lime to the piece, putting a