Rearing Twin Lambs.

Every ewe should rear at least one lamb per annum, which ewes would do, if they were fed, watered and protected properly from storms and cold weather. If sheep were fed with more intelligence and skill, almost every ewe would produce two lambs at a yeaning, both of which would be reared. Fifty years ago, when almost every farm kept a few sheep, it was unusual to see a breeding ewe with only one lamb. We have in mind small flocks of ewes every one of which reared twins every season. The kind of sheep reared at that time consisted of large, coarse-wooled animals, resembling the Cotswolds more than any other breed, although they were denominated "natives." They were more profitable for producing lambs and mutton-sheep than they were for wool. The ewes were excellent nurses. A lamb was seldom lost, except when it was dropped during some cold and stormy night in the open yard. If farmers failed to raise two lambs per ewe, they felt that they "did not have good luck." The standard of "good luck" was represented by two lambs per ewe. But at the present time, most proprietors of flocks think that their "luck" or success is abundantly satisfactory if the ewes rear seventy to eighty lambs per one hundred yeaned. It was stated in the *Agricultural Gazette*, (Eng.,) by a farmer who had visited some farmers in Hampshire, that the proprietors of sheep considered that if they succeeded in rearing one lamb per ewe "they had excellent luck," whereas farmers in Suffolk were not satisfied when they reared two lambs per ewe. There is no such thing as "luck" in the breeding and management of sheep. Success will depend on intelligence and skill in selecting breeders of the most desirable characteristics, and in taking timely care of the ewes during the period of gestation and particularly at the yeaning season. If ewes received proper care—paying care—a lamb would not be lost oftener than a calf. Ewes are more prolific than cows; and certain breeds are more prolific than others. When one lamb per ewe is not reared per annum, the proprietor may rest assured that his system of management needs to be improved.—*Practical Farmer.*

Non-Breeding of Cows.

Nymphomania, or an absence of the fecundating principle in cows, is a disease, if indeed it may be properly so termed, of comparatively rare occurrence. Sometimes however it does occur and is the source of considerable disappointment to the farmer, especially if the animal has come of a fine stock of breeders and milkers. Various remedies, amongst others the use of coarse grass and fodder alone for food, have been tried for this ailment with variable success. In some cases these latter effected the desired cure, probably by relaxing certain systemic organs which had become compacted or consolidated through the use of too much rich food. In others, however, they had an opposite effect, the cow only laying on more fat. A system of bleeding was then adopted with a view probably to relaxation by exhaustion. On this course a writer in the *Country Gentleman* narrating his experience with a fine Jersey cow which had been regularly and adequately served, but with no results, says: I had just made up my mind to consign this fine animal to the butcher, when I observed an article in which it was stated that under similar circumstances copious bleeding was resorted to with great success. I determined to try the remedy, although the chronic character of the disease did not encourage success. A large quantity of blood—the exact amount I have forgotten—was taken from the cow. The bleeding weakened her so that she fell to the ground in an almost fainting state. The recovery of her strength, however, was rapid. Shortly afterward the cow was served, and within six months she was delivered of a still-born calf. In less than a year afterward the cow dropped a bull calf, and at once became the finest milker in my herd. Since then she has come in regularly every year, and has given me two fine heifers, which promise to be in every way worthy of their mother. After the dropping of her first calf upon the resumption of her vocation, the cow's milk was accurately measured, and the butter weighed. Seven quarts of milk yielded a pound of butter, of which, for at least two months, the average production was 10½ pounds per week.

Experiments in Pig-Feeding.

An instructive series of experiments in pig-feeding conducted at the Ontario School of Agriculture during the past session, affords some interesting results. Half a dozen young porkers, of about equal weight and dimensions, were paired, and each pair separately penned. The housing was somewhat indifferent but every attention was given to bedding, cleanliness, regularity in feeding, and accurate measurement of the food allotted. The feeding took place thrice daily, those in pen 1 receiving raw peas and water; in pen 2, boiled peas, and in pen 3, house refuse and wheat middlings. At first the meals were light, but gradually increased in quantity, until latterly, when each animal received as much as it could eat. The following is the result of five weeks' feeding:

Pen.	Weight on entry	Present Weight.	Increase.
1	252	347	95
2	232	304	72
3	217	332	115

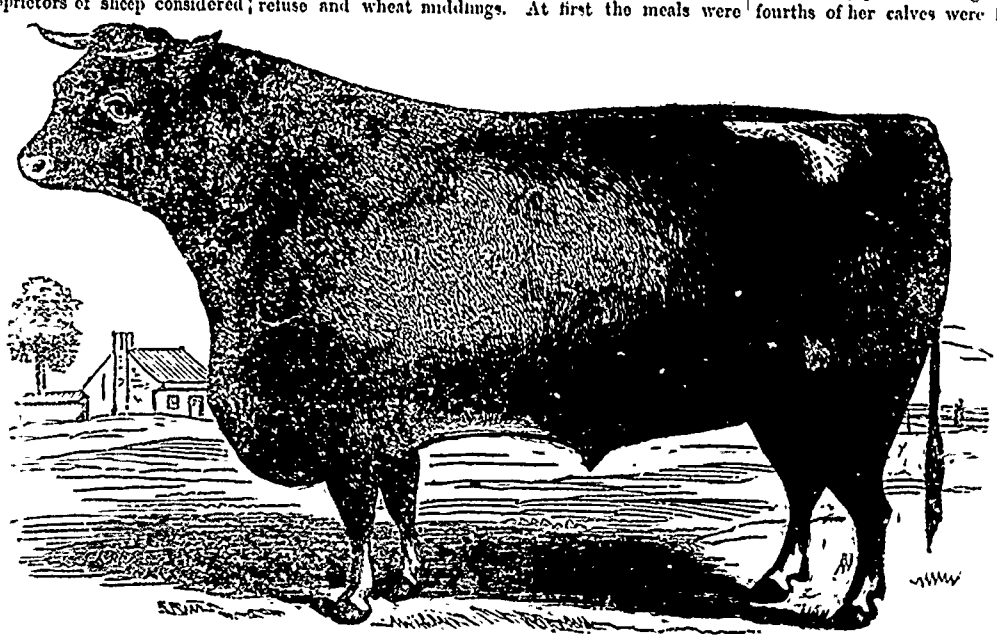
Now, as to cost. Peas were charged at from 60 cents to 65 cents per bushel; wheat middlings, $16 per ton; and house refuse at the rate of 10 cents per pig per week—all which may be tabulated thus:

Pen	Food Consumed in 5 weeks.	Total Cost of food.	Cost per day.
1	424 lbs. of peas	$4 24	12 cts
2	564 " " "	3.95	11 2-7 "
3	210 " " wheat	2.72	8 "

And lastly come the profits which are certainly interesting as showing that the only food undergoing any preparation gave the least returns, while that which is usually accounted the most inferior, gave the largest.

Pen.	Value on entry.	Present value.	Profits, deducting cost of food.
1	$12 60	$20 82	$3.98
2	11.60	18.25	2 70
3	10 85	19.92	6.35

No doubt caution is necessary in jumping too rapidly at conclusions. Experiments like these require to be repeated, extended and verified, and it is the intention of the College authority, we believe, to follow them out still farther with the same animals. One lesson, however, they teach unmistakeably—Take care of the kitchen refuse.



ROYAL DEREHAM,—Property of S BEATY Toronto.

Short-horns for Butter.

In answer to a correspondent desiring information as to the comparative merits of short horns for dairy purposes, Mr. C. Moore of Pennsylvania says in the *Country Gentleman*: For the information of your many readers I will say that Aubray Hoffman 17 years ago bought a short-horn heifer coming two years old, which did not prove to be with calf. He spent some time looking for a mate for her, and when he found one that suited his notions, they were mated. Their first calf was a heifer; they were mated again, the second calf was also a heifer. The mother and her two daughters (when the second daughter was 5 or 6 years old) made in one year 1043 lbs. of butter; the youngest cow making in 7 days, 22 lbs. of butter. The trial began on March 27th, and ended on the 27th of March, the next year. The old cow had been milked 5 months when the experiment began, the elder daughter had her calf just taken away from her, and the youngest daughter did not calve until the last of May. What they would have made, had they all been fresh milkers on the 27th of March, when the experiment began, cannot be told. The experiment was continued the next year with the same 3 cows, with the addition of a 2-year old heifer, also from the old cow, which resulted in their making 1211 lbs., weighed out in pound prints for market. This strain of cows is very prolific, bringing a calf every year. Three-fourths of her calves were heifers; the heifers have all been raised, and are all good milkers and good butter cows. The old cow is 19 years old, and will soon have her 16th calf, never having missed once, and last year she made in one week 10 lbs. of butter weighed in pound prints for market. The first three cows on the day of the October election, in the year of the first experiment, were weighed on the scales in the presence of the people there assembled, the old cow, Red Rose, weighing 1680 lbs.; the oldest daughter, Hoffman's Star, 1820 lbs.; and the youngest daughter, Hoffman's Dolly, 1760 lbs. From these facts, it seems undoubted that Short-horns, notwithstanding the remarks of other breeders against their milking and dairy qualities will hold their own with Ayrshires, Devons, Holsteins or any class whatever.

Short-horn Bull, Royal Dereham.

Our cut on this page represents "Royal Dereham" a Short-horn bull owned Mr. S. Beattie, Toronto. He was calved May 18th, 1873; bred by Mr. H. Aylmer, West Durham Abbey, Norfolk. Sire Royal Broughton 27352; dam Mistress May by Prince of Rosedale 24837; g. d. Mistress Margaret by Paterfamilias 18521; g. g. d. Modred by Valasco 15443; g. g. g. d. Mistress Mary by Baron Warlaby 7813; g. g. g. g. g. d. Water Witch by Royal Buck 10750; g. g. g. g. g. g. d. Hecate by Hopewell 10332; g. g. g. g. g. g. g. d. by Hamlet 8126. The bull is of pure Booth blood, and in color red, with a little white.

New Species of Wool-Bearing Animals.—From the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamer, Aconcagua, recently arrived in Liverpool from the west coast of South America, have been landed two new and distinct breeds of sheep. The first are two fine white-woolled sheep, each having four long massive horns, two of which have a forward curve over the head, while the other two curve downwards under the eyes, giving the head a singular appearance. Of the second, which are said to be a species between the Llama and Alpaca, there are three, one male and two females, which are thickly covered with long dark-brown, but exceedingly fine, hair or wool, which is highly prized by the native Indians for the manufacture of their more delicate fabrics. The male stands about three feet high at the shoulder.