

The shipments of live stock from Montreal, Quebec and Halifax to Great Britain, for the season ending November 30th, 1880, were—Cattle, 46,450; sheep, 81,543. The figures for 1879 were—Cattle, 29,178; sheep, 78,780. In 1878 there were—Cattle, 18,655; sheep, 41,250. These facts show us how rapidly this business is increasing, and it is estimated that 100,000 cattle will be shipped from the Dominion next year. It is very satisfactory to know that all these animals were raised in Canada.

Trichinosis.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—The death from trichinosis of Robert King, an inmate of the Charity Hospital on Blackwell's Island, reported to-day, is the second case in this city within a few weeks.

Water is a much better deodorizer than is generally supposed. It has great absorbing properties. Fresh water running through a milk-room keeps it free from odors. Standing water soon becomes charged with odors, and then casts them off again. Water used in a milk-room to cool the milk, is a great purifier, and must not be allowed to stand more than twelve hours before being changed.

French poultry fanciers, who make a specialty of raising fowls for the market, are now feeding poultry with barley and steamed carrots. Its rapid fattening qualities are something wonderful, and it is also said that the roots also impart a peculiar flavor to the flesh, that suits the taste of the French epicure exactly. The large yellow carrots are considered the best for this purpose.

INCREASE IN THE PRODUCTION OF HOPS.—From the report of the Hop Growers' Association of Central New York we learn that the total crop of 1839 was only 6,193 bales, but it had increased to 55,055 in 1859, and in 1879 to 110,000 bales. The average price from 1853 to 1862 was 22 cents, and from 1871 to 1875 30½ cents, thus indicating an increase in price corresponding with the increasing demand and supply. This is certainly a favorable and encouraging showing for hop culture in Ontario.

If a horse is hurt in any place where it is difficult to put on a bandage, instead of a sticking plaster, which does not hold well, use some strong glue to make a circle around the wound; then glue on this some cloth and to that you can sew, paste, pin or in any other way fasten what you used in the form of liniment or the like. It is in no way necessary to cut away the hair as with sticking plaster. To remove after healing use a little warm water.

WILL THE PLOUGH AND HARROW PULVERIZE THE SOIL BETTER THAN A SPADE?—J. C., writing to the Gardeners' Monthly, says: "I know of one man at Ashford, England, who holds one hundred acres, and for each one he pays £7 per year. He is a spade gardener. This man was making a fortune; his land was set with fruit trees, in rows about 25 feet apart, and was cropped with beans, beets, lettuce, parsley, violets and strawberries." So fully convinced are the farmers of Great Britain of the superior advantage of spade culture that they have invented a "spade plough," uniting the economy of horse labor with thorough pulverization effected with the spade.

A correspondent of the Kansas Farmer writes as follows:—"The reports of the suffering in Western Kansas have been exaggerated. That there are, however, many poor people in want is a matter of fact." The acreage of wheat in this part is less than last year, owing to the failure in part, or the whole for the last two years, and the dryness of the ground in August and fore part of September. After the rains began a great many farmers borrowed wheat of the railroad companies and sowed it rather too late, yet it looks well now, but will not be so able to stand drought and hard freezing. Many of the settlers becoming discouraged on account of the drought last summer have moved away. Some got leave of absence under the law, some proved upon their claims, and some mortgaged for all they could borrow and then left for parts unknown.

From MacMillan & Co., publishers, New York, we have received a work entitled, "Food for the Invalid," (edited by Fothergill & Wood, M. D's.) It is neatly arranged, and contains a number of very useful receipts, of much valuable teaching.

Save the Feathers.

The accumulation of feathers alone about a farm-yard would, in the course of a year or two, if carefully saved, add a comfortable amount to our pocket money. I noticed a few months since, an extract taken from an American paper, stating that:

"An artificial down is made from feathers of no matter what kind; by cutting the barb of the feathers, from each side of the quill, and putting the barbs in a stout cloth sack and rubbing them between the hands as a washerwoman does linen. Five minutes rubbing will have mixed the mass into a felt-like substance, rendering it homogeneous. This is *edredon artificial*, and sells in Paris for \$8, gold, a pound; and the price is constantly increasing. But there is something more wonderful still, a process has been invented for making cloth of feathers. To make a square metre of cloth (a metre is three inches more than a yard), cloth vastly lighter and warmer than wool, from 700 to 750 grammes (a gramme is equal to 16.9 grains avoirdupois) of this artificial down is required. But this feather cloth (*drap de plume*) takes color admirably, and is almost un-wear-outable, because instead of breaking and cutting in the place most exposed to wear, it makes itself more and more into a felt-like substance.

If the feather trade has already grown to be such a source of income to the French, I should think America would soon utilize them too, and that we would soon find a sale for feathers, prepared in the way described, in the city of New York. But if there is no sale for them prepared thus, we know that feathers always command a good price, and it is a shame to neglect anything that might prove a source of profit.—*H. in Country Gentleman.*

Shetland Ponies.

The ponies are not an agricultural, but a domestic necessity. In Shetland, as in parts of Ireland, every family depends for its supply of fuel on peat, and as the peat is seldom found near at hand on the shore where the houses stand, but on the hill behind them—there is always a hill in the rear in Shetland, every island consisting mainly of hill, with a patch or two of "smooth" land in a few snug nooks by the shore—and as it often is at a distance of several steep and stony miles, each house requires several ponies, the number depending on the distance and the character of the road. A family living "convenient" to the peat may require only two peat-carriers, and another family may require half a dozen. The material, after it has been dug and dried in the usual manner, is carried home on the backs of the ponies in baskets called "cassies." It is obvious that the back which has to perform this kind of service should be broad and strong. The Shetland pony is a striking example of development; for generations past he has been bred and reared and trained with a uniformity which could not have been secured in any other part of the United Kingdom. Hence his physique and general character, his hereditary instincts and intelligence, his small size, and his purity and fixity of type. A pony belonging to a breed which has had to pick its zigzag way down a steep declivity during many generations must be sure-footed. By the same rule a pony whose grooms and playmates include a dozen juveniles—the children of the neighborhood, who roll about underneath him or upon his back—must be gentle; and the same pony, living on the scathold on air sometimes rather than on herbage, must be hardy. The pony of the Shetland Isles is, in fact, the offspring of circumstances. He is the pet of the family, gentle as the Arab's steed under similar training. He will follow his friends in-doors like a dog, and lick the platters or the children's faces. He has no more kick in him than a cat, and no more bite than a puppy. He is a noble example of the complete suppression of these vicious propensities that some of his kind exhibit when they are ill-treated, and of the intelligence and good temper that may be developed in horses by kindness. There is no precedent for his running away, nor for his becoming frightened or tired, even when he has carried some stout laird from Lerwick to his house, many Scotch miles across the hills. He moves down the rugged hillsides with admirable circumspection, loaded pannier-fashion with two heavy "cassies" of peat, picking his way step by step, sometimes sideways. In crossing boggy spots, where the water is retained, and a green carpet of aquatic grass might

deceive some steeds and bring them headlong to grief in the spongy trap, he carefully smells the surface, and is thus enabled to circumvent the danger. In the Winter the Shetland pony wears a coat made of felted hair, and specially suited for the season. His thick Winter garment is well adapted for protecting him against the fogs and damps of the climate. It is exceedingly warm and comfortable, fits close to the wearer's dapper form, and is not bad looking when new. But when the coat grows old toward Spring, at the season when the new one should appear, it becomes the shabbiest garment of the kind that you often see. Its very amplitude and the abundance of the material render it the more conspicuous, when it peels and hangs for awhile ragged and worn out, and then falls bit by bit till the whole of it disappears. No horse looks at his best when losing his old coat, and the more coat there may be to lose the worse he looks.—[The London Field.]

Advertisements.

EXTENSIVE CREDIT SALE

—OF—
20 Shorthorn Cows and Heifers, 4 Bulls and 25 pure-bred Cotswold Sheep,

The property of the late George Miller, at Rigfoot Farm, Lot No. 16, 10th Concession, Markham, on

Wednesday, Feb. 9th, 1881,

Catalogues furnished on application. Sale to commence at 12 o'clock sharp; lunch at noon. Markham is only 20 miles from Toronto on the Toronto & Nipissing Railroad, and teams will be at Markham Station to convey parties wishing to attend to the premises.

TERMS—\$25 and under, cash; over that amount eight months' credit on approved paper. 8 per cent. per annum allowed for cash.

THOS. POUCHER, Auctioneer.

Markham, Jan. 17th, 1881.

182-a

Thinghill Court Herefords HEREFORDSHIRE, ENGLAND.

EDWARDS & WEAVER

will sell by Auction upon the premises at Thinghill Court (6 miles from Hereford), on

Monday and Tuesday, Febr'y
28th & March 1st, 1881,

101 Head of Magnificent Pedigree Hereford Cattle, of the purest lineage, comprising 43 in calf and other grand breeding cows and heifers, with pedigrees of from 5 to 6 grand-dams; 12 yearling heifers, with 6 grand-dams; 29 bull and heifer calves, with 7 grand-dams; 14 yearling steers and a grand stock bull, "The Pilot," (5647), by the world-renowned bull, "Tredegar," (5077).

The above grand herd was the property of the late most successful breeder of Herefords, MR. WM. TAYLOR; are sold by order of the executors, and will be found in Hereford Herd Book, vol. XI. The following famous bulls have been used in this herd: Old Court (306), Conrad (688), Paddock (773), King John (830), Carlisle (923), Croft the 2nd (938) The Friar (1075), General (1251), Malcolm (1305), Youngster (1462), Coroner (1555), France (1903), Sir Frank (2762), Triumph 2nd (3553), Peer (401), The Emperor (5640), The Monkton Lad (5646) and Pilot (5647).

Full particulars and pedigrees in catalogues to be obtained of the Editor "Breeder's Live-Stock Journal," Chicago, Ill., U. S.; the Editor "Farmer's Advocate," London, Ontario, Canada; Mr. S. W. Urwick, Secretary of the Hereford Herd Book Society, Leominster, Herefordshire, and of the Auctioneers, Leominster and Hereford, England.

Purchasers of stock from a distance can be accommodated with keys on the farm on easy terms.

182-a

The London Mutual FIRE INSURANCE CO. OF CANADA

The Annual General Meeting

of the members of this Company will be held at their offices, 433 Richmond street, in the city London, on

Wednesday, 16th of February, 1881,

at the hour of 2 o'clock p. m., when a report on the Company's business will be submitted and Directors elected in the place of those retiring, but who are eligible for re-election.

D. C. MACDONALD,
Manager and Secretary.

182-A.