

which flax may be grown and sold. And flax, says Mr. Fontanque, "is a more important crop in Ireland than in England;" as here, indeed at its best, we have in all but little over 29,000 acres in crop. The breaking up of permanent pasture would seem to have been one of the especial features of our agricultural history in 1870, as more than 600,000 acres of such land were put to other uses, but the returns for meadow hay and artificial grasses have not been so distinguished, and the information in this respect is scarcely so satisfactory."

### THE STOCK YARD OF AMERICA.

Dr. Latham contributes to the *Omaha Herald*, an article on cattle raising in Texas, from which we make extracts as follows: Texas is truly the cattle hive of America. While New York, with her 4,000,000 inhabitants and her settlements two and a half centuries old, has 748,000 oxen and stock; while Pennsylvania, with more than 3,000,000 people, has 721,000 cattle; while Ohio, with 3,000,000 people, has 749,000 cattle; while Illinois, with 2,800,000 people, has 867,000 cattle; and while Iowa, with 1,200,000 people, has 686,000, cattle; Texas, not forty years of age, and with her 50,000 people had 2,000,000 head of oxen and other cattle, exclusive of cows, in 1867, as shown by the return of the county assessors. In 1870, allowing for the difference between the actual number of cattle owned and the number returned for taxation, there must be fully 3,000,000 head of beeves and stock cattle. This is exclusive of cows, which, at the same time, are reported at 600,000 head. In 1872 they must number 800,000, making a grand total of 3,800,000 head of cattle in Texas. One-fourth of these are beeves, one-fourth are cows, and the other two-fourth are yearlings and two-years-olds. There would, therefore, be 950,000 beeves, 950,000 cows, and 1,900,000 young cattle. There are annually raised and branded 750,000 calves. These cattle are raised on the great plains of Texas, which contain 152,000,000 acres.

### SWINE EXHIBITION.

It is now definitely announced that the grand exhibition of swine, under the auspices of the Illinois Swine Breeders' Association, is to be held in Chicago on the 19th of September and two following days. The premiums are to be on a liberal scale, ranging from \$100 to \$20 in special classes, while the following general sweepstakes crowns the list:—

Best display of Breeding hogs, one breed, not less than 10 or over 20, first premium .....	\$750 00
Ditto, second premium .....	500 00
Ditto, third premium .....	250 00
Best ten pigs, any one breed, under six months	200 00
Best Boar and 3 sows, any age or breed, 1st prem	200 00
Best boar and three sows, any age or breed, 2nd premium .....	100 00

The competition we believe is open to all. Communications on the subject should be addressed to Charles Suoad, Joliet, Illinois.

**SHORT-HORN SALES IN BRITAIN.**—We have accounts of several important sales of Short-horns in England. Col. Kingscott's sale came off on the 8th of March. There were 43 lots of cows and heifers. The highest price reached was 200 guineas for the cow Dora; the next 165 guineas for the heifer Doraline.

The total amounted to 2002 guineas, giving an average of about £48 15 each. Among the bulls the highest figures reached were 330 guineas for Oxford Beau, and 200 guineas for Duke of Fussbox. There were nineteen altogether, nearly all calved in 1869 or 1870, which realized a total of £1,311, or an average of about £69 each. Lord Fitzharding's sale followed on the next day, but realized only moderate prices.

**CHEESE FACTORIES IN SCOTLAND.**—A meeting was held at the Town Hall, Ayr, January 13th, to consider the property of establishing cheese factories in the district, similar to those in operation in the district in America and in some parts of England. The meeting was largely attended by the leading farmers and dairymen of the district. The chairman made a valuable address, presenting a strong argument in favor of the movement; and in the following discussion, a speaker who had visited the factories established last year in England, stated that all his doubts and objections had been removed by what he had seen. A committee was appointed to obtain further information and report to another meeting.

**COW IN THE HARDWARE BUSINESS.**—The *Corvallis* (Oregon) *Gazette* says a cow was recently killed in that place for beef, and as the maw was thrown away, a dull jingle was heard, as that of nails. It was opened, and found to contain two pounds of nails, some of them over two inches long, a jack-knife, a chunk of lead, a rock the size of a hen's egg, a piece of a gold watch fob, a five cent piece, and seven or eight large coat buttons. The stomach where these articles were deposited had almost worn through.

**THOROUGH-BRED STOCK.**—Major Greig, of Beachville, Ontario, seems determined to take a foremost place in the ranks of short-horn breeders. Within a recent period he has made successive valuable purchases from Mr. McMillan, of Xenia, Ohio, and Mr. Cochrane, of Compton, and other prominent stockmen, and has now made the crowning addition to his herd by the acquisition of perhaps one of the best short-horn bulls on the continent, King of the Ocean, \$465, got by King Richard (26523), out of Fair Maid of Hope. The dame was imported in 1869; she was the first-prize cow in her class at the New York State Fair in 1860. King Richard the sire, was got by Commander in Chief, (21451), out of Lady Grateful, imported in 1870 by Mr. Cochrane, at a cost of 1,500 guineas. With such a pedigree, this bull cannot fail in the hands of a judicious breeder, to raise the herd into which he is introduced to the very highest pitch of excellence.

The *Southern Farmer* says:—"Usually speaking, our brethren of the farm think no land is fit for grass, for meadow, or for pasture but the rich, low ground. We, solitary and alone, would now enter a disclaimer. Somewhere about 1843 we saw red top (herd's grass) on the upland in Holme's county, Mississippi, that stood full three feet high. One thing is certain, grass grown upon upland, thoroughly drained, is sweeter, richer in butter, flesh and fat, than that upon lowland. We believe the difference in value would pay to enrich and subsoil fifteen to eighteen inches deep, and thus insure a full crop yearly. Nothing will so certainly lift our country from the 'slough of despond,' as making good grass lots, good meadows, large grain fields and raising good cattle, and sheep, and hogs."