

AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE OF OHIO.—In 1855 the state sent twenty-three thousand head of cattle to New York City, and in 1857, 50,000 head, besides some 15,000 sent to Philadelphia, and many to Baltimore. At least 70,000 head of cattle were sent to these three cities in 1857. The hog trade is far greater; and notwithstanding that the number of live and dressed hogs exported from the state has, in the past few years, increased rapidly, the numbers packed at Cincinnati have not declined. According to the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Statistics, just published, the aggregate value of farm produce is \$132,700,000, and the net profits \$57,300,000. The price of wood varies from \$7.60 to \$2.75 per cord, and is highest in counties through which main lines of railway pass, on account of the vast quantities of wood consumed by the locomotives. These roads consume annually the product of twelve thousand acres of land. Farm labor is uniformly high, the average wages being fifteen dollars per month and board. This is owing to the growth of towns and manufactures, which steadily causes the agricultural supply to diminish, so that large farmers are only able to secure their crops by the use of machinery.

LOOKING GLASSES.—The manufacture of silvered mirrors, as at present carried on, is one of the most curious of modern arts. The process of thus silvering glass mirrors is very simple. The sheet of tin-foil, somewhat larger than the mirror, is laid upon a smooth table, and quicksilver poured over it until it covers the tin-foil with a thickness of one-tenth of an inch or more; when the mercury has been swept by the edge of a stick to clean off the drops from its surface, the glass plate, scrupulously clean, is brought even with the edge of the table, and pushed gently forward sideways, so as to slide over the bath of mercury, its edge just dipping beneath its surface, so as to push before it all impurities, and to exclude all air-bubbles. Weights are then evenly applied over the back of the mirror, and the whole table inclined to such an angle as to favor the drawing off of the superfluous mercury. This requires some days or weeks, according to the size of the plate. Here is an additional risk and cost in large mirrors, since the time consumed is not small, and the danger of fracture imminent. The amalgam sometimes crystallizes, producing imperceptions which require the renewal of the whole process; and the health of those engaged in it also suffers, and is finally destroyed by mercurial salivation.—*Life Illustrated.*

"WITCHCRAFT" AND AGRICULTURE.—Pliny has recorded the story of an industrious and ingenious husbandman, who, being in advance of the knowledge of his time, cultivated a small piece of ground upon an improved method, by which he gathered much more fruits, and reaped larger profits than the neighbors about them, though their possessions were more ample. His uncommon success excited their envy, inasmuch that they brought this accusation against him: "That by sorcery, charms, and witchcraft, he had transported his neighbors' fruits, fertility, and increase to his own fields." For this he was ordered peremptorily, by Albinus, a Roman general skilled in agriculture, to answer the charge before him. Cresinus, fearing the issue, resolved upon his best defence, brought his plough and other rural implements, and displaying them openly, he set there also his daughter, a lusty, strong lass, big of bone; then, turning to the citizens—"My masters," quoth he, "these are the sorceries, charms, and all the enchantments that I use. I might also allege my own travel and labor, my early rising and late sitting up, and the painful sweat that I daily endure; but I am not able to present these to your view, nor to bring them with me into this assembly." This bold and open defence capti-