

as possible, i.e., oat straw (good), kohl rabi, and mangel, besides which I give them two bushels of grains per cow per week. Please state requisite quantities of above; and if you recommend the addition of any concentrated kind of food, would home-grown oats suffice? I have no convenience for steaming or giving warm mashies, but usually pulp roots and cut straw, mixing in other foods, and allowing to stand some hours—C. M. (Give your cows all the food they will eat up cleanly and with relish. Malt culms are good for forcing quantity of milk, and with brewers' grains will answer your purpose; but you ought to keep up the strength and condition of your cows at the same time, therefore should use some kind of corn as well. Crushed oats, bean, pea, or maize meal, whichever may be intrinsically the cheapest, should be used with the chaffed straw and grains. Your roots will be found very useful pulped and mixed with the chaff, grains, malt culms and meal. But your cattle must not be fed wholly on chaffed food; they want hay or straw, unchaffed, for rumination. There is no need to steam your chaff; the same end will be attained by mixing pulped roots with it, or otherwise wetting it, and letting it lie in a heap to soften. Perhaps nothing is so potent as brewer's grains and malt culms for forcing a large flow of milk. Warm water to drink is also useful. J. P. S.)  
Eng. Ag. Gazette.

An exhibition of sublime impudence has been made by the Legislature of the United States in the passing of the Meat Inspection Bill, intended to remove the causes of the restrictions placed by France and Germany upon American pork, and of English objections to the free ingress of American cattle. The bill authorises the President, when satisfied that unjust discrimination has been made by a foreign State against the importation of any American product, to prohibit the importation of any product of that State which he may select, by way of retaliation. This childish "tit for tat," we are told, is authorised when "foreign restrictions are not removed after the United States provides the inspection required by foreign countries." In other words, foreign countries are to trust to American inspection, and not to their own; and if not satisfied with the former, the President of the United States will take revenge by arbitrarily shutting out of his country some foreign product. For example, if we do not choose to admit American store cattle to mix freely with our valuable herds on the mere *ipse dixit* of American inspectors to the effect that the animals are free from disease, the President may shut out from the United States all our cotton or iron manufactures. For a country which maintains the most prohibitive tariff in the world to attempt in this arrogant manner to force its products upon foreigners is a little too grotesque. It may be safe to play such tricks with a staunch Free Trade, a country like our own; but, if practised on France and Germany, their perpetrators will probably learn that two can play at the game of retaliation. If French manufactures are shut out of the United States because France will not receive American trichinised pork, it is not unlikely that American wheat and maize will be shut out of France.  
Eng. Ag. Gazette.

#### TYPES OF SHEEP.

The difference in feature, form, and fleece, habits and aptitudes, among breeds is an interesting study if nothing more. Judges, no doubt, attach weight to these matters when acting at shows, and do not give a prize to any sheep which is not distinctly a characteristic specimen of its breed. It is certain that a "Southdown man" cannot properly judge Hampshire sheep, or a "Hampshire Down man" Southdown

sheep; and hence we may conclude that it is somewhat unfortunate that any judge should be called upon to decide between animals of more than one breed. Single-handed judging is in my opinion a better arrangement, for when two men, one a well-known Shropshire breeder, for example, and the other an Oxford Down breeder, are judging these two breeds the advantage of two heads is lost. The Oxford breeder would be disposed to follow his colleague in the Shropshire classes, and *vice versa*. If not, he will lean towards the particular type which he has always studied, and believes to represent perfection. The consequence may be that an animal is decorated which, however excellent, is not a characteristic sheep of his own particular breed. (1)

#### SOUTHDOWNS AND HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

These two breeds are easily distinguished. In the Southdown is seen absolute perfection of form. We shall never see him surpassed in this particular by any breed. The plum like outline, short and carefully trimmed coat, and small amount of waste or offal are distinguishing characters. In size they are much less than the Hampshire Down, and as is often the case with small animals, their symmetry is beautiful. The colour has become progressively lighter during the last thirty years, and in some of the specimens (not, however, decorated) the face might almost be described as white, or very light grey. The head is dish-faced or flat in profile, and the ears are short and round, and often light in tint. The colour of the face of most of the prize-takers was a light fawn.

The Hampshire Down is much larger and bolder in form and falls little behind the Southdown in fulness and symmetry. The old faults of neck, shoulder, and rump have long disappeared under careful breeding, and for width of carcass and utility of form they will give way to no breed. Still, the Southdown must be considered as superior in its exquisitely rounded contour of form. The head of the Hampshire is almost black, and well covered between the ears, which are long, and fall away from the head, giving great width to the poll. This lopping of the ear may be carried too far, but must be considered as characteristic. The short ears of the Southdown are more erect, and are set rather more within the outline of the head. The nose of the Hampshire is thick and bold in the ram, and more rounded than in the Southdown. The Hampshire is cleaner under the throat than the Shropshire, as already mentioned. It is next to the Lincoln in actual weight. The chief point of excellence in the Hampshire Down is its extreme earliness of maturity. No breed can touch it in this particular. It is as a lamb that he is seen at perfection, whereas, with all respect to a recent result, Cotswold lambs cannot compare with them in this respect.

#### THE APIARY.

##### TO TAKE OUT HONEY.

To the beginner, the taking out of the surplus honey is difficult and disagreeable. Doubtless some bee-keepers never get beyond the point of beginning, at least they come to a halt when it is necessary to face a big colony of bees and take their surplus.

A beginner, last spring, writes: "You told me I could do anything with bees. Perhaps I may sometime, but all I can do now is to let them alone. I 'hefted' my hives the other night when the rascals were asleep, and found them so heavy

(1) Wm Rigden, my farm-tutor and the best judge of Southdowns in England, refused, at the Norwich show of 1852, to judge Cotswolds and half-breeds, because, as I heard him say: He did not know anything about them.  
A. R. J. F.