

which they receive in England, while the cost of living would at the same time be considerably diminished; and above all, they would be cheered by the encouraging prospect of laying by something in store for a future day, of achieving a comfortable independence, and securing a farm and homestead of their own—things utterly chimerical in the land of their birth. One of this class of hard working peasants, in a letter of earnest appeal for help to enable him and others situated like him to emigrate to this country, gives the items of a labourer's weekly expenditure in Berkshire, where the highest rate of wages is ten shillings a week; out of which, rent, board, and all the necessities of life have to be purchased. The following is the account:

	s	d.
House rent.....	1	3
Coal and wood.....	1	6
2 Loaves of bread, (16 lbs).....	2	2
2 lb. of Bacon.....	1	10
1 lb. of Cheese.....		9
3 ounces of Tea.....		6
1 lb. of Butter.....	1	6
1 lb. of Sugar.....		6
Salt.....		
Pepper.....		1
1 lb. of Candles.....		6
1 lb. Soap.....		6
Starch.....		1
Total.....	11	3

Leaving one shilling and three pence debt, to be pinched out of the next week's earnings, and no allowance being made for clothing and other indispensable requirements. Contrast this with \$14 a month and board, which any farm hand here can command, and all dissatisfaction or complaints of the hardships of the agricultural labourer in Canada should be effectually silenced; and those who have it in their power to assist their less fortunate fellow countrymen to emigrate to this wider field, where their labour is so much needed, should be stimulated to fresh energy in the humane and patriotic enterprise.

Notes on the Weather.

The first month of the new year has been remarkable for its unusually variable weather and sudden changes of temperature. Much rain has fallen near Lake Ontario, while further back the depth of snow fall has been considerable; in some parts of Huron county as we learn by local papers, there has been 11 feet of snow covering on the fields. On the whole the season so far has been comparatively mild, on the sky being much obscured by clouds, and the temperature mild when even the wind was easterly or southerly. In Quebec and the Lower Provinces the season is said to be much milder than usual, with so little snow that the winter operations of the lumbermen have been much retarded

for want of sleighing. Birds seem to be more plentiful, and active than usual, and the frequency of the sound of the woodpecker tapping trees at all times has been an occasion of remark.

The mean temperature of January, 1870, has been 21° .4, being 1° .5 warmer than average, though 3° .3 colder than January, 1869, which was unusually warm at its commencement. The highest temperature was 15° on the 17th, the lowest -3.2 on the 9th.

The amount of rainfall at Toronto was 3.112 inches, being 2.237 above the average and 2.525 greater than in January 1869, while of snow there was 21.3 inches or .53 above the average, and nearly double the amount in January, 1869.

There have been 22 cloudy days, 7 days partially so, and but 2 entirely clear. The heavy rains or snows we have had came from the eastward, but the prevailing winds have been W and S.W.

THE AMERICAN FARMER, published at Baltimore, Maryland, U. S. This, the pioneer agricultural journal of America, now in its fifty second year, comes out for 1870 enlarged to quarto size and improved in appearance, while the price has been reduced to \$1.50 per annum. The type is clear and handsome, and the paper of a much superior quality to what is generally used. It has passed into new hands, and the promise is made that more life and energy will be put into its editorials. We wish it the success it has honestly earned through a long course of steady advocacy of the claims of agriculture to rank as the highest and noblest profession man can enter.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.—The first number for 1870 of this favourite agricultural journal, the best and most practical of all on our extensive exchange list, comes to us in a greatly enlarged and improved form, with a handsome new heading. The size has been enlarged to a full quarto, and each page now contains four columns instead of three. It is graced by a very fine portrait and memoir of John Johnston, of Geneva, the country Scot who first introduced underdraining in America, and by his persistent example, and his writings in the agricultural press, did much to make American farmers the intelligent class they are now acknowledged to be. Though eminently sensible, he was equally practical, eliciting the highest commendations even from such men as Dr. Voecker, who acknowledged that his practical wisdom often outstripped and baffled theoretical philosophy. Published weekly by L. Tucker & Son, Albany, N. Y., at \$2.50 per annum.

HEVERLY'S FARM.—With the current year the excellent periodical commences its second volume, which continues to maintain a well earned reputation and popularity. It is the only sheet of a family paper, each weekly number containing a vast amount of useful information in agriculture, domestic

economy, and rural affairs. It is abundantly illustrated in the very first style of wood engraving, and the paper and typography are all that could be desired as a fitting vehicle for the reading matter, replete as this always is with instruction, interest and variety. The general scope and character of the journal are well expressed in its title. The publishers are Petengill, Bates, & Co., New York. The subscription price for a single copy is \$4 (Am. cur.) per annum, with the usual liberal reduction for clubs.

HORACE GREELEY ON FARMING.—Mr. Greeley purposes to write a series of essays on farming, to be published each week during 1870, in THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE. The essays will all appear in the Daily, Semi-Weekly, and Weekly editions of THE TRIBUNE. He means to demonstrate that Agriculture in the future is certain to be very different from what it has been in the past, and hopes to embody words of cheer as well as hints for guidance to the future farmers of our country. The first essay was published in the WEEKLY TRIBUNE of Jan. 1.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE SHOW. Some time since a telegraphic dispatch brought us the information that rinderpest had broken out at the Smithfield Club Cattle Show. It now appears by the detailed reports of our exchanges that the real state of the case was somewhat different, and far less serious. On the last day of the exhibition, and after the larger number of the animals had left, it was discovered by Professors Simonds and Brown, the veterinary inspectors appointed by the Privy Council to keep observation of the Show, that a Devon steer was affected with foot-and-mouth disease. The diseased animal and all the rest, numbering forty-five, that had not left the Hall, were detained. Three others were found similarly affected. The origin of the outbreak is attributed to the proximity of some of the show animals, while on the train, to a drove of foreign beasts driven past them. One of our latest exchanges states that all the animals detained were subsequently ordered to be slaughtered.

BRITISH AGRICULTURAL RETURNS.—From the agricultural returns recently published in Great Britain, the Agricultural Gazette give the following items: According to the official returns, there were in the United Kingdom in June, 1868, 9,083,000 cattle, and 35,000,000 sheep. The Irish returns for this year give 3,727,791 cattle, and 4,658,158 sheep for Ireland. With respect to the number of animals annually slaughtered for consumption, and the mean number of pounds of meat furnished by each animal, we have only conjectural estimates. Assuming that 2,600,000 head of cattle are annually brought to the shambles, and that the average of all is about 500 pounds, we have a total of 650,000 tons of beef and veal, and if we reckon half the sheep slaughtered, and the average weight of 66 pounds per head, we have a further total of 415,000 tons mutton and lamb.