

not by any means due to the wool, but arises entirely from the careless mode of slaughtering too often practised in the country. We have ourselves seen a dozen or more sheep and lambs with their throats cut and their necks broken, left on the floor of the slaughter-house, for an hour or more, before they were emptied of their bellies. It is this vicious practice that confers the bad flavour on the meat: the wool has nothing to do with it.

The American potato-crop is by no means so large as it might be. As may be easily calculated from the subjoined figures, the average crop of potatoes in the States is equal to 74 bushels, of 60 lbs. each, equivalent to about 80 bushels, English weight, of 56 lbs. each; in other words, as the average crop of potatoes in England is 220 bushels to the acre, the English crop is $2\frac{3}{4}$ times as large as the crop in the States.

AMERICAN POTATO-CROP.

Yield in bushels

Crop of	Acres potatoes	Per acre	Total crop
1898,	2,778,000	73	203,264,000
1897,	2,745,000	64	174,116,000
1896,	2,865,000	86	245,480,000
1895,	3,204,000	88	286,350,000
1894,	2,914,000	64	185,000,000
1893,	2,605,000	72	183,000,900
1892,	2,506,000	62	155,000,900
1891,	2,660,000	93	250,000,000
1890,	2,606,000	58	150,000,000
1889,	2,601,000	76	218,000,000
1888,	2,533,000	80	202,000,000
1887,	2,357,000	57	134,000,000
1886,	2,287,000	73	168,000,000
1885,	2,226,000	78	175,000,000
1884,	2,221,000	86	191,000,000
1883,	2,289,000	86	208,000,000
1882,	2,172,000	78	171,000,000
1881,	2,042,000	53	109,000,000

As we have noticed before in this periodical, the yield of wheat in the States bears nearly the same proportion to the yield of wheat in England, as we have seen is the case in the potato-crop.

Wireworm.—T. W. S.—Will any of your readers kindly inform me if rape cake should be used in a powdered state, and what manurial value there is in it, also good firms to buy from? [Rape cake for wireworm should be well broken, but not

reduced to flour. We do not give here the name of firms, but advise you to consult our advertising columns. The manurial value of rape cake is high, and it is an excellent fertiliser, apart from its powers of preventing wireworm. Use 4 or 5 cwt. per acre.]—*From Agricultural Gazette.*

A good deal of damage is done every spring by this queer little creature. The *elater lineatus*, or wireworm, attacks all sorts of crops, potatoes as well as grain, and any means of getting rid of it would be very welcome to the farm. From the egg, it passes three years of its life as a worm, and then changes into a soft white pupa, which remains in a cell in the ground for a year, at the expiration of which period, the body hardens and the eggs are deposited.

The Cornell Station, of New York, after trying all sorts of remedies, came to the conclusion that the only successful one was fall-ploughing! Paris-green, tar, copperas, strychnine, kerosene, the sowing of crops on which the wireworm will not feed, such as buckwheat, mustard, rape, etc.; thus, so to speak, starving the pest to death; all proved futile.

Among other things, trapping by lanterns was tried at the Station. Eighty specimens (*click-beetles*), were caught, attracted by six trap-lanterns lighted every night from May 1st to October 1st! Really, if the funds so liberally devoted to the promotion of agriculture by the States are wasted in this manner, no wonder practical farmers cry out against such extravagance; for, though the oil may not have been costly, a man must have gone every night to set the traps, light the lanterns, etc., and every morning to empty the traps and extinguish the lanterns, etc. Well, the proceeds of the *chasse* were: 6 lanterns for 153 nights are equal to 1 lantern for 918 days; so that, as 80 beetles were caught, it took one lantern $11\frac{1}{2}$ nights to catch one beetle. May it not, there be truly said of such work as this, that "*Le jeu ne valait point la chandelle?*"

In the experiments with rape, the Station authorities had probably heard of Mr. Charnock's prize-article, "On the Farming of the West-Riding of Yorkshire," published in the Royal Society of Agriculture's Journal, in, we think 1849 or '50. Mr. Charnock, now with God, whom we knew well at Lennoxville some 20 years ago, described an experiment with rape-cake, for the destruction of the wireworm, which succeeded perfectly. The cake was not crushed into meal, but broken up