

ring the lambing season, should the weather be cold or wet, the flock should be carefully watched, and any weak lambs should be tended to at once. A small dose of key has a good effect in reviving their spirits. Another method is, to dip them in warm water all except the feet, until they get comfortably warm revived, and then rubbing them dry with a cloth. This method will seldom fail if they are taken while they show any signs of illness. They should be kept warm for a couple of days after this warm bath, as it is then they feel the cold very severely.

es of the Garden and Farm.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS—PRIZES.

the four great Agricultural Exhibitions in Ontario this autumn, there were awarded large sums as prizes for the encouragement of agriculturists. Similar prizes were awarded in the other provinces of the Dominion. The heads under which the prizes may be classified are Live Stock, Crops, Horticultural Products and Agricultural Implements—all, doubtless, conducive of good results, and promoting general agricultural wealth of the country. It may, however, be reasonably questioned whether a portion of the money so expended would not be more judiciously awarded in a view to the improvement of agriculture than in giving prizes for a bunch of calves or heifers, and a bushel of potatoes or corn. A liberal encouragement of the breeders of improved stock and the growers of crops of a superior quality. What is really needed is not the growing or selecting a dozen or so of roots, or the preparing an exhibition of a bushel or five bushels of grain, by picking out of it the inferior kernels and seeds of weeds, but it is the best culture of a crop or a farm, as a whole.

Such prizes as are annually given in Great Britain and Ireland for the good and successful culture of a field of turnips or grain, for the best cultivated farm within a prescribed district, do more for the encouragement of the improvement of agriculture than any number of prizes awarded for small quantities of farm or garden produce. These prizes are examples of good farming throughout the whole district, and are incentive to improved agriculture to all who see them, and also to many who, from the published report of the judges, know the mode and successful application that have been deemed worthy of honorable record and prizes. The report of the judges and of others who examine the farms of the competitors are reprinted in the journals that are wholly or partly occupied with agriculture, and as may be seen in the ADVOCATE of November, are topics of no little interest in the agricultural papers of America.

In another column we give extracts from the official reports of the judges of the prize farms of members of the Banffshire Agricultural Society, Scotland, this autumn. We do not expect our Canadian farmers can follow in all respects the example of high farming of the agriculturists of Britain; but the success attained to these should stimulate us to incessant improvements, and let us bear in mind that it is only by gradual and slow advancement that Britain ascended to that pre-eminent position in agriculture that she now occupies.

GOOD FARMING.

Already have we spoken of, the lesson taught us by the season of drought through which we have just passed. If success in raising good crops is to be attained by good farming, to this the general superiority of the crops in England to those in America is mainly due. While 13 bushels of wheat to the acre is about the average, according to the U. S. Agricultural reports, the average yield in England this year is computed at 29 bushels at 61 lbs. per bushel. Mr. J. B. Lawes, in the Times, incidentally thus points out the advantage of farming well.—The English wheat crop of 1874.—Obviously the season has been adapted for the production of enormous crops under favorable conditions, whereas under unfavorable conditions the produce has been much reduced, or even below the average. It may be judged, that on the well-cultivated and heavier soils the yield will be generally very large; but that on a certain but unknown proportion of these it will be considerably reduced by "blight." On gravel and very light lands a deficient crop will be

the result of a deficiency of rain. And it may be concluded that even heavy soils, if badly farmed, will generally yield only, or under, an average.

The Telegraph, at St John's N. B., in an interesting description of that province, gives full details of the quarries and plaster mills in Hillsborough. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are the only known deposits of gypsum suitable for calcining on the Atlantic coast. In Virginia, and New York are found small formations of brown, earthy gypsum without marked value in itself, and so remote in the interior that even with an additional charge of two or three dollars per ton, provincial plaster would be the cheapest. These were shipped from Nova Scotia to the American Atlantic Seaboard, manufactured in 1870 about 148,000 tons of rock plaster, valued at \$148,000. This rock plaster when manufactured, possessed a value at least of \$900,000. The mills at Hillsborough are actually employed in its manufacture, but its financial prosperity is impoverished by the duty levied on it, when manufactured in the United States, where the principal market is.

TWO CROPS OF POTATOES IN ONE YEAR.

The Orillia Packet states, that A. McDonald, of that town, showed the first new potatoes later part of June, 45 days after planting. On the first of July he planted Early Rose potatoes in the place of those raised, and has had a second crop of good fine potatoes.

LARGE BRAHMA COCK.

An English poultry breeder is informed, that a Brahma cock is on Exhibition the present season in that country, which weighs over twenty pounds. One party claims for him the enormous weight of twenty-two pounds.

SWINE STATISTICS.

The following table shows the number of swine of all ages in the States named, as reported by the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

States.	1874.	1873.
Tennessee.....	1,420,900	1,596,600
West Virginia.....	334,000	351,600
Kentucky.....	2,008,000	2,173,700
Ohio.....	2,017,400	2,227,000
Michigan.....	510,800	513,500
Indiana.....	2,496,700	2,713,900
Illinois.....	3,409,700	3,706,300
Wisconsin.....	618,800	658,400
Minnesota.....	201,200	209,600
Iowa.....	3,693,700	3,847,700
Missouri.....	2,603,300	2,656,500
Kansas.....	484,600	457,200
Nebraska.....	128,500	121,300
California.....	448,600	427,300
Oregon.....	171,200	163,300
Total.....	20,547,400	21,783,760
Decrease.....	1,236,360	

The Texas cattle disease still exists at Stafford Springs, Conn. One yoke of oxen, belonging to the Westmore Lumber Company, have been slaughtered by Professor Cressy, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and ex-Governor Hyde who have gone to make an examination. The state commissioners have examined two of the suspected head of beef cattle belonging to the Dimock Brothers, and pronounced, them healthy. The remainder of the herd will be butchered under the direct supervision of Commissioner Hyde. The ease with which the disease is communicated is illustrated by the fact that one herd was infected by a yoke of oxen used to switch off a car containing some diseased animals.—E.

OUR EXPORTS OF ANIMALS.

The drain of animals from Canada into the United States has been very large of late years. If fact, the Eastern States depend to a very considerable extent upon the Province of Ontario for their supply of animal food.

Since Confederation took place, the value of our exports coming under the head of "Animals and their Products" has more than doubled. This will be seen at a glance by reference to the returns, which are as follows:—

Year.	Value of exports.
1865.....	\$6,893,167
1869.....	8,769,407
1870.....	12,138,161
1871.....	12,581,925
1872.....	13,416,613
1873.....	14,243,017

This is rapid progression in this department of farming, and there is reason to believe that ere long the exports of this class will be

greater than those classed as agricultural products, such as wheat, barley, and other grains. There is very little difference now, and that is likely soon to disappear as our own new lands begin to deteriorate for grain-raising. The number of animals exported from all parts of the Dominion during 1873; was as follows:

	Number.	Value.
Horses.....	8,782	\$922,233
Cattle.....	25,638	655,594
Swine.....	5,355	84,531
Sheep.....	315,832	957,721
Poultry.....		88,942

These figures indicate quite an exodus of live stock, but there appears to be no scarcity, and if the proposed Reciprocity Treaty becomes law, the drain will doubtless become still greater. During 1873, we also purchased a considerable number of animals from the United States. The returns are as follows:

	Number.	Value.
Horses.....	1,359	\$92,808
Cattle.....	2,757	70,491
Swine.....	5,355	84,531
Sheep.....	5,770	16,134
Other Animals.....		3,753

These imports are not large, but they are larger than we supposed they would be.

INCREASING TRADE IN FRUIT.

On Saturday last some seven cars were loaded with apples at this station alone, and on Monday and Tuesday there must have been fully as many each day. The total export of apples from Galt this season will reach 2,500 barrels. Mr. Bourcher alone shipped 1,500 barrels. These figures show that the trade in this fruit is larger in this section of the country.

P. E. ISLAND PROSPEROUS.

According to our private advice from P. E. Island, the province never was in a more prosperous condition than it is at present. Though a wet spring made cropping late, the harvest is one of the best secured for many years, and the weather for saving it has been most propitious. Even ungrateful man could desire nothing better. The wheat crop is better than it has been for many years; it is believed that the yield will be double that of any season since the midge made its appearance. As a consequence, it is understood that the import of flour into the island next year will be reduced by at least twenty-five or thirty thousand barrels. Barley and oats are also an average, if no more. Turnips and potatoes, too, are excellent. The mackerel fishing is fully double that of any former year. To cure the enormous catch, barrels had to be imported from Nova Scotia and the United States. Ship-building has been prosecuted with vigor, and we trust will prove remunerative. Trade generally is not counted very brisk, and yet it may be good, if we judge from the large increase in the revenue. The Islanders have abundant cause to be thankful and we are sure they never were in a better position to face the coming winter.—St John Telegraph.

Mr. Henlock Young, of Guelph township, has given the Guelph Mercury two apples which are a curiosity. In one of them a blossom grew right from the hollow near the stalk, and was well formed when the apple was plucked. The other contains near the stalk an excrescence like a small apple, and from that also grew a blossom, which came out into full flower. Both apples were full formed. This freak of nature is, to say the least, curious.

"Sharp Practice."—Under this heading a correspondent of the Country Gentleman describes several tricks usual in buying hops. One of these is for a buyer to purchase the crop of an old grower, nominally at a price several cents under the real market price, but with a "gift" of money enough to make the full price—the bill of sale showing the low price. With this bill of sale the buyer induces other growers to sell at the price named in it. On learning of the trick from the first seller, one of the ones deceived by it says that "he would like to kick that agent." This is a very natural feeling, but we cannot see why it should be directed against the buyer alone. The party who sold the hops was equally guilty—the main difference being that the buyer was deceiving strangers, while the seller was deceiving and wronging his neighbors.—Western Farmer.

Correspondence.

BROWNELL'S BEAUTY POTATO.

SIR,—As you wished to know last spring, when advertising the above named potato, what the result would be from different sections of the country, I give you the following:—

I received from you half a pound; it had twenty eyes. I made twenty sets, put them in a moderately rich loamy soil. They had the appearance of the Early Rose for rapid growth and early maturity, but for length and strength of stocks they resembled the Garnet Chillis. When dug there were one hundred and sixty-eight; three or four of the largest weighed almost a pound each. The yield was decidedly beyond anything I have had in the past and anything heard of in this section. My wife cooked a few for the table, and we found them quite satisfactory. The Japan Peas you sent never came up.

J. ROADHOUSE.

Bear Brook, Oct. 31, 1874.

From British Columbia.

NEW SEED WHEAT.

SIR,—With this mail I send to you a small quantity of spring wheat, raised here this year; also, a small quantity of fall wheat.—The weather here is very cool in summer, compared with that of Canada, the hottest day this summer being 85 in the shade; the weather is very mild now. We have had one light frost, not hard enough to freeze balsam flowers.

THOS. HENDERSON.

New Westminster, B. C.

[Our British Columbia correspondent will accept our thanks for the information he sends, and also for the grain. The samples sent are much finer than the grain grown by us; the heads are large and well filled. In one of the heads we find the wheat is set four grains in a row, the majority being three; our grains generally go about two, and sometimes three. We have placed the wheat in the hands of the following gentlemen, who have kindly consented to test it for us and report concerning it:—Major Bruce, London Township; W. Blyn and G. Jarvis, Westminster. Thus it will be tried on different kinds of soils. We shall be pleased to hear more accounts from British Columbia correspondents in regard to that country.—Ed.]

THE FARMER AND THE RAILWAY.

SIR,—As Mr. Sutherland was driving a span of horses across the G. W. R. R. track on Saturday evening last, the engine struck the horses and wagon, killing the horses and smashing the wagon to atoms; the driver was thrown 65 feet from the spot, and most probably will die. Mr. S. was a steady, sober man, and took as much precaution as any other person would.

Now, sir, I wish you to publish this, as you claim to be the farmers' advocate, and I want to know if we are to be killed on our own grounds without any just reason.—I have met with many narrow escapes from crossing railroads, and still fear mishaps. I think I ought to have a right to travel the Queen's highway without being in danger of losing my life.

I hope you may bring this before the public in such a way as to give us greater safety.

C. R., Dorchester.

[We are well aware that farmers' lives are often endangered by the railroad, and believe that not one-tenth of the loss of life is made known beyond the locality where it occurs. The subject is of importance, and should be discussed at the farmers' meetings. Even the Patrons of Husbandry might properly debate on this subject. We presume the question would result in greater protection for farmers, at the expense of a higher charge for passengers, as it is the rapid passenger trains that send the farmers to their long home. We, as farmers, have a right to the highway. The railway is an intruder on our rights; it is their duty to give us safe crossings. Guards or gates should be kept at every dangerous place. In England the crossings are by means of bridges. In France the protection from danger is effected by guards at each crossing.—Ed.]