

triplets. His sheep were grade Cotswolds and Oxford Downs, and ran on grape and turnips at breeding time last fall. The thriving condition of his ewes at breeding time no doubt explains the prolificacy of his flock.

The writer in *Farming*, who observes in the above paragraph, that the thriving condition of the ewes in question when put to the ram was the cause of their prolificacy, is indubitably right. We do not know that we ever saw many triplets in a flock of ewes, but in our part of England, we used to contrive to have as many twins as we could manage, and the plan followed was to do exactly what the farmer ought not to have done, if he wanted to reduce the number of lambs weaned, namely, to put the ewes into rape about three weeks before the ram was introduced to them. Not that any particularly amatory proclivity was attributed to the rape (or colesseed), but because it was the handiest and healthiest food to be had at that season.

By the bye, if any one wants to reduce the size of the individual members of his flock, the best way to set about it is to put the *ewe-tegs* to the ram, as we regret to say we observed to be done, some eight or ten years ago, with the tegs of a very neat little flock of Southdowns, not very far from Lachine. *Teg, hog, hogget*, are all local names for the same things, i. e., a weaned lamb (1)

From this evil practice, no doubt, springs the small size of many of the sheep in the country round Three Rivers, and St. Hyacinthe. In too many cases, the ram is allowed to run about loose all through the summer, and the poor little tegs get impregnated, to the utter arrest of all growth after they drop their lambs. How many young things have we seen at Sorel; where a great many head of stock used to be slaughtered for the supply of the steamers; not going over 20 lbs. to the carcase in November! And the early spring-lambs sent to Montreal, too, some of which are no bigger than a large English hare!

This is a good deal yet to be learnt about sheep-breeding in this country.

Clipping.—“Clipping horses in the spring is a most beneficial operation to horses that carry a heavy coat and are slow in shedding it. The only drawbacks are the liability of horses to take cold

during the first few days following the clipping, and the effect that clipping has in causing the coat subsequently to be rather harsh and staring. In fact, it is well known to horsemen that once a horse has been clipped a few times it is almost impossible to keep him looking decent unless he is clipped.”—*Ex*

We cannot say we approve of clipping horses in the spring. If clipping is done at all—a very useful thing it is when proper care is taken of the horses afterwards,—it should be done, in this country, early in October, and the horse *singed* once a month till the old coat is shed in the spring.

Cattle feeding for profit.—John McMillan, M. P., is well known as one of the very live practical cattle feeders of Ontario. At a recent institute meeting in East Essex he gave his views on “Feeding for Profit” as follows: It is in entire accord with the practice of L. H. Kendrick, as given on page 82 of this year’s Farmer. Mr. McMillan said: “Beginning with the calf, neither calves nor older cattle should be let go back. They should be kept growing all the time. I feed ensilage regularly, and have a good deal to say on the value of this as a food.” In answer to a question as to how often cattle should be salted, he said he fed salt with every feed. When asked if one could raise a two-year-old and sell at a profit, he answered: “Yes, at any time.” The calf must be taken away as soon as dropped, and be kept growing. He had raised them at a cost of \$47 and sold them for \$60.

Mr. McMillan, very sensibly, recommends that the calf should be *removed from its dam as soon as it is dropped*, and never allowed to fall back in condition from that time until it is fit for the butcher.

Stacks.—The proper way to build hay-stacks is very little understood in this province. They are put up just as it happens; the hay, generally far too ripe when cut, and made far too much, is thrown together anyhow; no bottom is prepared to keep it off the ground; the fact that compressed hay keeps better than loosely packed hay is utterly lost sight of, and no careful thatching is ever attempted.

The more workers there are on the stack while it is a-building the better. If the middle is kept full, and the sides upright, the whole, after sub-

(1) Until shorn. Ed.