

a state of growth have long been admitted to be the most profitable kind of grazing." J. D.

Mr. Long, mentioned above, is the English Minister of Agriculture. At the luncheon given by the Duke of Portland to his Welbeck tenants, Mr. Long quoted certain figures showing how enormously the imports of dead meats had increased.

*Basic-slag.*—This phosphatic manure, which is becoming popular everywhere, will be largely used this autumn in England. We have no information as to its price here, but at Liverpool, the brokers quote it at the following rates :

Prime quality, guar't'd 30 to 35 0/10 phos	in bags,	\$7.44 to \$7.56
" " " 35 to 40 0/10 "	" "	7.92 to 8.10
Finest " " 38 to 45 0/10 "	" "	8.28 to 8.88

All at the depot, and per ton of 2240 lbs. As a fair dressing seems, from all accounts, to be about 600 to 700 lbs. an acre, it cannot be esteemed an extravagant manure. Like potash, it should be applied in the fall, as it takes some time to become assimilable by plants.

We wish some careful farmer would try the following experiment on land in preparation for swedes: Four hundred and fifty pounds of finest basic-slag spread on the ploughed land, now, or at any time before frost; 250 lbs. of best super-phosphate (mineral) drilled in with the seed in the last ten days of May next. No dung. Perhaps Mr. Principal Le Moynes will try this.

*Treacle*, as the English call *molasses*, is once more looking up as a cattle-food. The price quoted, less than a cent a pound, seems reasonable enough, and when it is desired to get cattle to make away with a great bulk of straw, few things can compete with a dose of molasses and water sprinkled on a lot of straw-chaff, and the heap allowed to sweat for a few hours. Of course, it will help to fatten all sorts of stock.

*Kerries and Shorthorns.*—Lord Aylmer's letter, on page 175 of this number of the JOURNAL is worthy of attention. Our opinion of the Shorthorn dairy-cow is too well known to our readers of the last 20 years to need reiteration. Of the Kerries we have no practical knowledge, but Lord Aylmer's recent visit to Ireland doubtless enabled him to renew his acquaintance with the breed, and hence this recommendation of it.

We fear that the editor of *Hoard's Dairyman* will not be pleased with the statement that "This breed of cattle (Shorthorn) has ousted all other breeds in all the large dairy-counties, both in England and Ireland, through its remarkable combined qualities, as a milk and beef producer."

Mr. James Cochrane, of Hilchurst, who, as we mentioned some months ago, is importing a herd of pure-bred Shorthorns of the best milking tribes, will, doubtless before long, favour our readers with an account of his newest acquisitions.

### THE ROMAINE AUTOMATIC AGRICULTURAL MACHINE

Last week, in company with Mr. Wm. Ewing and Mr. R. J. Latimer, of Montreal, I had the pleasure of inspecting the latest development of the Romaine Automatic Agricultural Machine in operation on a field in the rear of Mr. Trenholm's farm at Long Point, Montreal. The machine at present weighs about 6,000 pounds, and is driven and operated by gasoline engines. It is arranged to work the land in four foot widths, and, while it will work any depth required in ordinary lands, it was being run but five inches deep. Anyone acquainted with the Long Point clay (which might be fairly described as equal to hard pan) will readily understand that five inches was a good deal there. The action of the machine can scarcely be called plowing, in the ordinary sense, as it is rotary. Nevertheless, as the knives travel around at the rate of about 100 turns per minute, they really act like a lot of small plows working in a circle. They are not forced down into the ground, but get their depth and hold it by a draft similar to that of the plowshare. The present machine has two of these revolving discs, with four plough knives on each, and, as the discs are two feet in diameter, a four-foot land is worked. The machine moves steadily along at the rate of ten inches to each revolution of the knives, and, there being four knives on each disc, each one takes about two and a half inches' cut ahead. Travelling around in their circle, the knives again traverse or cut through the soil which has been loosened, and the result is a most complete pulverization of the soil, which is rarely attained, even in favorable soils, except by the spade. There is no doubt in the world as to the quality of work done by the machine, and as it can be done at a