

In class 89, for heifers not over three years old, the Queen again took the first prize, with another Aberdeen-Angus, weighing 817 lbs., the second falling to the lot of the Duchess of Newcastle's Kerry, a perfect weight for the "West-end" trade, viz., 667 lbs.; the other two heifers in the class weighed respectively, 801 lbs., and 936 lbs., both cross-breeds.

We always found, when we used to send beasts to the London market, that a "home-bred" maiden-heifer, not too fat but fat enough, weighing about 80 stone London weight, i.e., 640 lbs., brought back the top price of the day. Big beasts are not the thing, in that very particular market, except a few at Christmastide for the butchers to make a show with.

The Queen's heifer is thus described by one who knows what he is talking about: "Very thick of lean on ribs, no waste anywhere." So both of the Queen's beasts must have been good indeed, as they won firsts both alive and dead.

"Sheep."—In the carcass competition for sheep, the jury of butchers evidently had no liking for fat lamb or mutton, Mr. Dudding's Lincoln lamb being passed over without notice, and, with the exception of a third prize given to a Border-Leicester, all the prizes for long-wools being awarded to cross-breeds, Cheviots, and Mountain sheep.

In the short-wool sheep and lamb carcass competition, in the lamb class, a Southdown, weight, 68 lbs., took the first prize, and a Hampshire the second, weight, 87 lbs., another of the same breed winning the third, weight, 95 lbs.

Of the oldest short-wools, those over one and not exceeding two years, a "Norfolk Horned," a breed we thought extinct, pleased the butchers most, weight, 106 lbs; a Hampshire second prize, and a Southdown third, two other Hampshires being reserved and highly commended, out of the six carcasses exhibited. A neat little carcass of mutton the Southdown, doubtless, but he only weighed 64 lbs., and was noted by the reporter of the "Agricultural Ga-

zette," as being "a menty sheep for the weight, with no superfluous fat." The three Hampshires are said, by the same authority, to have been (573) meaty and no waste; (574) weight, 162 lbs., good legs and shoulders, not too fat on loin, big kidney suet; while (569) the other Hampshire, was clearly too gross, as he was "too fat, though legs were good." Hampshires ought not to be kept so long; the above were probably over 22 months old, whereas they had most likely been fit for the best trade in the previous April.

Now let us see how the carcasses sold at the auction:

The lowest price paid for beef under two years old was 12 1-2 cts. a pound for a cross-bred (r. and h. c.) weighing 850 lbs.

The highest price was 18 cts. for one weighing 787 lbs., the winner of the first prize.

Of those over two and not over three years old, the lowest price paid was 9 1-2 cts. a pound for a cross-bred weighing 1188 lbs., and "too fat"; for the Queen's beast, weight, 878 lbs., and noted as being "colour dark, thick of lean, and no waste in brisket or flank"; a wonderful butcher's beast indeed; the highest price was paid, namely, all but 20 cts. a pound!

For the lowest priced heifer-carcass, rather over 13 cts., and for the highest, the Queen's Aberdeen-Angus, a fraction less than 20 cts. a pound was paid. The Kerry fetched a good price, as well only fair: 15 cts.

The above calculations will give our readers some idea of the style of beasts and sheep that is most likely to win favour in the eyes of the leading buyers of meat in our best market.

At the annual sale of "fat-stock" at the Queen's farms, at Windsor, the Hampshire-down wethers fetched an average of \$17.56 a head.

"Basic-slag."—Prof. Wrightson, whom we so often quote as a trustworthy au-