



**SHEEP PORTRAITS.**

**Champion Shropshire of This Season and an Imported Lincoln.**

The first illustration shows a remarkably well built Shropshire ram that when 2 years old made the circuit of



CHAMPION SHROPSHIRE RAM.

the season's shows and was never defeated. He is perfect in the Shropshire size and shape.

This big fellow is owned in New York. No took first prize at the Madison Square Garden live stock show. He is an imported animal.

Another imported ram is seen in the second illustration, a long woolled sheep of the Lincoln breed.

English breeders of Lincoln sheep are making strenuous efforts to make the wool of these animals finer, longer and heavier. The result is a steady improvement of these heaviest of all sheep. Their fleeces sometimes weigh nearly or quite 30 pounds and a fiber of it is nine inches long. It is a wonder that more pains is not taken to acclimate the Lincoln in the United States. There are a few flocks of these long woolled sheep, but they are not common. This may partly be owing to the fact that the heavy Lincoln requires the most care of any breed, that it must have rich, juicy



IMPORTED LINCOLN RAM.

pastures and feed and good treatment. It is not adapted to the happy-go-lucky, roost out on the hillside nights style of sheep keeping of so many American farmers and ranchmen. With the best of care and feed, however, the Lincoln will produce at once the most wool and mutton of any sheep in the world.

**Horses For the European Market.**

The following is an extract from the address of F. J. Berry of Chicago before the farmers' institute at Springfield, Ill.:

I will divide the export demand into five different classes:

First.—Drivers and coaches, which must be well bred, of good color, from 15.5 to 16½ hands, with fine head and neck, plenty of bone and substance, with good knee action and plenty of quality. They must be good travelers, and if they have speed all the better. This class of horses has already advanced very much in price and very soon will be as high priced as ever. Present values range from \$150 to \$300 per horse.

Second.—The cab horse, weighing about 1,100 pounds, 15½ hands, a rugged but smooth made horse, with bone and substance and a fair traveler. Present price averages about \$75.

Third.—The bus horse, weighing from 1,200 to 1,400 pounds, 16 hands, smooth, rugged made and one that can move off at a fair gait and shape himself well in harness. Present price is from \$80 to \$125.

Fourth.—The draft horse, which should weigh from 1,500 to 1,800 pounds, should be rugged made, good bone and blocky built, with smooth finish and a first class draft horse in every respect. Present price is from \$100 to \$300.

Fifth.—The American trotter, which in all cases must be a high bred horse, with plenty of bone and action and substance, high finish, good disposition, and the more speed he has the higher price he will bring. He ranges in price from \$200 to \$500 per horse, according to his quality, size and speed.

All horses for exportation must be perfectly sound and without blemish and are bringing at present a higher range of prices than horses sold for any other market.

**Making Cob Coal For Hogs.**

One who raises from 100 to 150 pigs should aim to save at least 300 bushels of corn cobs for charcoal. Make a pit 4½ to 5 feet deep, 12 to 18 inches in diameter at bottom, 4½ to 5 feet on top. Have a sheet iron cover made large enough to cover the pit and project six inches over the edge. Start a fire in the bottom with shavings and add by degrees a bushel of cobs, and let them get well aglow. Then add three to four bushels more, and when well on fire add more, and so on, until the pit is rouding full. If they burn faster on one side than the other side, lift the side that is burning least with a pole. If you have an old iron rod long enough, lay it over the center of the hole so as to keep the sheet iron from sagging. When all the cobs are well aglow, even blazing freely, cover the hole with sheet iron and seal the edges with earth air-tight and leave it until the next morning, when the charcoal can be taken out, and if the job is well done there will be from 9 to 12 bushels.—Farm, Stock and Home.

**WORTH THINKING OF.**

**Money Might Be Made Feeding and Fitting Horses For Market.**

The high prices that feeders and stockers hold in the great markets and in the country notwithstanding the advance in the price of corn and oats prove beyond any further reasonable doubt the general correctness of the estimates made by the department of agriculture as to the shortage of cattle and sheep in the entire nation. With stockers and feeders bringing the price of the lower grades of beef cattle in the great markets from week to week and with advancing corn markets, the farmer may well inquire, Will it be profitable to feed? Were it not for the fact that there is a general advance movement in all prices which justifies a belief in higher priced beef cattle he might well answer this question in the negative. Many in fact will, and to these we make a suggestion: Why not feed horses? Good horses can be bought in many sections of the country at but a little advance, if any, over the price of a steer of the same age. The price of horses fit for market is already advancing and we believe will advance still more rapidly during the next year. Why, then, is there not more profit in feeding horses than steers? We are not venturing any advice. We are simply making the suggestion to farmers who think that it will not pay to feed steers at present prices. We simply put the question, Will it not pay better to feed horses? One of the great difficulties in selling western horses is that they are not properly fitted for the market. The eastern buyer does not want a thin horse. He wants a fat one and for two very good reasons—first, the horse must endure the hardships of a long journey by rail, and if he is to bring a good price he must be in good condition at the end of the journey, and he cannot be unless he is put in good condition before he starts. The ultimate buyer of the horse wants him in good condition. He pays more for a horse in that condition not merely because fat covers a multitude of sins, but because he is expected to do hard work and must be in condition at the opening of the spring.

There is no place where horses can be fitted so cheaply for market as on the western farm, where both grain and labor are comparatively cheap during the winter season. We have had no experience in fitting horses by the carload, and hence this article is merely suggestive and intended to set farmers thinking who believe that stockers and feeders both in sheep and cattle are too high at present prices.—Wallace's Farmer.

**Mule Foot Hog.**

The mule foot hog has been a subject of much comment and of as much speculation and has by many been regarded as a myth, but that there is such a distinct and peculiar breed of swine is a fact, as has been clearly demonstrated by the well known and progressive Berkshire breeders, Messrs. H. D. Nichol & Sons of Tennessee, who after diligent search secured a pair, a boar and sow, which they now have on their farm. The hogs are 9 months old and weigh 45 pounds each. They resemble in conformation the original razorback, being angular and built upon speed lines, which in the lower south, or what is termed the black belt, would make them a desirable breed in one respect, since they can "outrun a nigger," and this qualification counts for a good deal, especially when killing time comes around. The head is long and lean; ears long, standing forward, but not drooping; shoulders thicker than any other part of the body, which is long and wedge shaped; back sharp and slightly arched; hams very thin and lean; legs long, small, bony and sinewy; eyes are large and very prominent, resembling somewhat those of the eagle; hair coarse, long and harsh, and their feet are identical in every respect to those of a mule. They breed particularly. In disposition they are not inclined to be sociable, but respond in a distant or guarded manner to good, gentle treatment. They seem to prefer being let alone, as was evidenced by Nichol's pair, which were caught after an exciting chase by a party of five, ably assisted by nine dogs. They are an interesting pair of hogs, and Mr. Nichol, chief of the swine department of the Nashville Centennial exposition, placed them on exhibition there.—Farmers' Home Journal.

**Live Stock Points.**

It is claimed that a sure remedy for foot rot in sheep is the following: Across upon the ground in a gateway or narrow place through which sheep must pass every day put a tight, shallow, panlike box, either iron or wood, and fill it with a mixture of wheat bran saturated with kerosene. The mixture will be a sort of dough which the sheep will trample in, and it will heal the foot rot.

If a pig's tail becomes sore, as sometimes happens, put olive oil upon it. If a sow has a teat that gets sore, it shows the teeth of the pig suckling that teat are too sharp. You can find out which pig it is by watching the litter. The offending teeth may be removed.

Some fine heaves—Herefords they were—brought 6 cents a pound in Chicago before the end of September.

Breed now for early spring lambs. Ewes bred in November will bring their lambs in March.

Shredded corn fodder will entirely take the place of hay for sheep, horses and other animals, and they will do well on it. One man fed it all winter to 1,000 pure bred Shropshires with entire success. See that it is not too moist when you shred and bale it.

Star Pointer, the great pacer, is 7 years old.

An equal mixture of kerosene and lard rubbed along the backbones of cattle from ears to tail will destroy lice effectually. Repeat the application every other day for three times if the first one does not do the work.

**VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.**

In this column we will publish communications of a worthy and suitable character, received from subscribers to this paper. No communications should contain more than 300 words. Manuscript will not be returned.

**About Good Wheat Prices.**

**EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT:**  
A brother living at St. Paul, Neb., wrote me a few days ago: "The republicans are howling now about what good prices they have made on wheat. Now I do not know very much about politics, but according to a letter received from mother, it seems to me that this prosperity has other reasons than republicanism."

Here is a letter which I received from the same mother, dated September 1, Denmark, Europe, and I believe my brother's has been a similar one:  
"DEAR CHILDREN—It is a long time since I heard from you, but I hope you are all well. I am getting along in the same old way as always. I have had good work during the summer in the government forest, and have made 80 kronor, but it will soon be winter now, and then I will have no work but spinning and this will not keep the bread in the house, and there will be no other work because the harvest is poor. We have had such a drouth as we have never seen before, in the early summer, and a large part of the grain was nearly burned up. Now as harvest is going on we have had rain for nearly a month, and the rain came down like it was from a water spout. The rye—what little there was—we have got well in the house, but the barley and oats are rotting in the field."  
By S. M. SORESENSEN.

**The Two Tribes.**

**TO THE EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT:**  
NEB., Nov. 6, 1897—And it came to pass that there was a country lying to the westward and bordering unto the great and mighty river and the soil thereof was rich and did yield abundantly, and this country was governed by the tribe of Heels and verily they became corrupt and they did select rulers and set them up in the chief temple and other high places and these men were inclined to do evil and they did steal all in sight and lived off from the fat of the land and the tribe of Heels did continue to do these things for many years inasmuch that the treasury was empty and the credit of the land had sunk to ninety and four per cent and the people began to murmur and they spake unto one another saying: "Peradventure let us band ourselves together in order that we may right these wrongs." And these things came to pass as foretold and they did form a new tribe, which became known as the tribe of Heads and they grew and multiplied and waxed strong and they chose men from among the tillers of the soil and they sent them to the General Assembly to make laws for the people whereupon the leading Journal of the tribe of Heels declared that turning the Hayes into the legislature was likened unto the turning of swine into a parlor and it would take many weeks after their departure from the Chief Temple to clean out the filth. But the tribe of Heads heeded not these sayings, but did

many good things, but lo and behold, the chief propounders of the law were of the tribe of Heels and they did grant mandamus and injunctions upon the tribe of Heads to restrain them from enforcing the laws that were in favor of the common people, whereupon the tribe of Heads did select one Silas, who was surnamed Holcomb, and they set him up as chief ruler in the synagogue, but he was likened unto a kernel of wheat in a bushel of nice seed, for the tribe of Heels heeded not his wise sayings and doings, but continued in their evil ways, for they were like Ananias of old, and when the time came to choose new rulers, they said: "Behold your man Silas, he is the guilty one," whereupon Silas arose and explained his acts and deeds and the people believed him, for he was an honest and upright man, and they spake unto the tribe of Heels saying: "Depart from us for ye can no longer deceive and mislead us. Verily your days are numbered for we shall henceforth choose honest men from our servants and like Bacchus of old ye shall come down," and in the eleventh month of the ninety-sixth year these things came to pass as foretold, and the credit of the country grew and multiplied and waxed strong, for all the rulers were of Hayesed persuasion, save the High Court of the land and there was one Alfred the Post who was chief judge and propounder of the law and he was yet of the tribe of Heels and he sustained the wrong doing of his tribe and did many things that did not meet with favor in the eyes of the people and they spake unto Alfred saying: "Get ye hence" and peradventure they did cast him out and they placed in his stead one John, who was surnamed Sullivan, from the tribe of Heads, who was a man of much honesty, learning and ability. And when the tribe of Heels saw what had been done they went forth and sat down in sackcloth and ashes and wept loud and bitterly and the tears rolled down their cheeks, even to the size of black walnuts. Thus endeth the fourth half of the sixty-eighth chapter of Chronicles as translated and revised by L. H. Suter from the land of the Nephthites.

The more wealth the farmer produces, the greater is his toil in loading it into plutocracy's coffers—he gains only that

**Definitions From Fuck.**

A lawyer who gets \$5 for defending a disreputable person in a police court is a "shyster."  
One who gets \$50,000 for defending the interests of a disreputable trust is a "great legal luminary."  
The man who pays starvation wages to a few clothing makers is a "cruel and heartless sweat shop proprietor."  
One who pays starvation wages to miners is "one of our leading mine operators."  
The city lawmaker who gets his price in cash is a "boodle alderman."  
The national lawmaker who gets his price in sugar stock is a "clear headed statesman."  
The man who robs by violence is a "desperate and dangerous highwayman."  
The men robbing the whole country by the tariff are "great industrial and financial magnates."  
The man who sells policy tickets to dupes is a "pestilential policy shark."  
The man who sells stocks to dupes is a "great Wall street manipulator."

**Something to Think About.**  
Ever since the workmen have "thrown away their votes" on the old parties, and today they are in a worse condition as a whole than they ever were in the history of the country, notwithstanding the fact they have produced by their toil more than \$70,000,000,000 worth of wealth. Think of that when you vote.—Cleveland Citizen.

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**Suggestive Statistics.**

In 1873 there were 1,976 national banks that had \$340,000,000 for circulation. In 1897 the circulation of \$173,000,000, amounting to \$10 per capita, and loaned out \$2.48 for every dollar of their circulation. In 1893 there were 3,731 national banks that had \$183,000,000 of circulation, an average of \$48,500 to a bank or \$2.75 per capita, and they had loaned out \$11.03 for every dollar of the circulation. Since 1893 the number of banks have decreased about 1,000 and their circulation reduced about 30 per cent and the amount loaned out by these banks for every dollar of their circulation stands about \$17 for one. Friends, draw your own conclusions.—Denver Road.

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