Sheep Busbandry.

The two articles following are extracted from an address delivered in farms stocked with sheep, and rota-Wisconsin by Hon. Eli Stilson, and first published in the National Live Stock Journal :]

IMPROVED BREEDS OF SHEEP.

The present improved breeds of sheep present so many points of superiority over the stock from which the sprang, that they challenge our admiration. Some have been bred with almost exclusive reference to the production of mutton and early lambs, the wool being considered as of secondary importance. The Southdowns are of this class, and the territory in which they can be grown with profit is more circumscribed than with either of the other Improved breeds. The wool is light, short, and lustreless, and deficient in felting qualities for good clothing wool, being best adapted for flannels; but this kind of sheep excel for mutton, and the ewes are good nurses, and well calculated for the raising of early lambs for market.

The Leicester, Cotswold and Lincoln sheep all have a long lustrous wool, peculiarly adapted for combing wool. The sheep are of large size, and mature earlier than the Merinos, but are only tolerably hardy. They are fair nurses. They require good keeping, and to be constantly kept in a thriving condition, without which their wool cotts badly; and they will thrive in large flocks. The demand for combing wool is good; and with stability in wool tariff legislation, and good keeping and care, there is no apparent reason why the growing of combing wool sheep in small flocks cannot be made remunerative. These breeds differ somewhat in several particulars, but all occupy about the same position in wool growing. Under the most favorable circumstances, they can be made to combine wool growing with mutton production successfully. The demand for combing wool is far greater than the supply of home grown, and with the rapid increase in its manufacture, there is no immediate danger of over production.

The Merinos and their grades are strictly calculated for the production of clothing wool of a high felting quality, fine and soft to the touch, and of good style; and some of the longer staple Merino wools, are well adapted for delaines and a great variety of ladies' goods, shawls, etc. For the production of mutton, the the production of clothing wool they stand unrivalled, notwithstanding all the prejudices against them that have been fostered by those engaged in the introduction of other breeds. There is ample room for all these improved breeds, and all of them have an important place in the econunitedly for the future as we openings shall become well dotted other words they produce the worker with the stately Short-Horn and other improved breeds of cattle, and with the improved Merino, Cotswold, Leleester, and Lincoln sheep, then armers and workingme his pencil.

Sheep Promote the Pertility of the Soll.

When viewed in this connection, sheep have earned and acquired the envious title of the animal with the agriculture, and soon lean, gaunt ing one of the main pillars on which improved English agriculture rests have unissed their queen that they go he work meanfacturing several queen colls, generally from six to tury. With the increase in the number of sheep kept on arable lands, they have been a corresponding in a part of them, ceiled over, with the crosse in the production of grain and

other crops. Sheep and turnips, in a fatty or creamy substance, called, ted with clover, corn, and wheat, more wheat per acre than lands continuously kept under the plow. When wheat was at its highest price, this extra production of wheat on my of the State, brought me nearly as material. This, I believe, is almost much money as the wool of the sheep, which was then low in price.

Wool-growing in Wisconsin can only be pursued for a series of years as mixed husbandry, and it is in this way that it is of the greatest value to the individual and to the State. Thus, while the products of the farm are converted into valuable marketable commodities, and at the same be made from any egg that would time enrich the soil, they are also hatch a worker bee, as before menlike an army of scavengers, freeing the farm from weeds, and encouragingclean tillage. Wheat, sheep, and clover go well together. A single farm in the county of Winnebago, has produced over 10,000 bushels of wheat in twelve years, averaging over 22 bushel per acre in that period; and the productive power of that farm is not only unimpaired, but is con-iderably more productive than at the commencement of that period,-and that farm raises large quantitles of clover, and is heavily stocked with sheep. A farm with clay soil in that county, was sold, as the owner said, because he could raise no grass, and without grass he could keep no stock, and therefore make no manure; yet the first application of twelve loads of sheep manure to the acre rendered it so productive, that it yielded two and a half tons of clover hay per acre, and twenty-five dollars per acre in clover seed, the same year.



BKES-RAISING THE QUEEN.

BY JOSEPH ALLEN, HLLINOIS.

There are, perhaps, some bee-keepers who have not made the habits of the honey bee a study. To such it will not be uninteresting to learn that the queen is the only perfectly developed female in the hive. That the workers are females but their genital organs are not developed, except in a few instances where some of them lay eggs from which drones only are reared; but this never oc-Merino sheep are only fair, but for curs except the hive becomes queenless. These bees are called fertile workers. The drones are the males and perform no part of the duties or labors of the hives except that of fertilizing the young queens.

The queen bee is the mother of a whole colony or swarm. Queen raising is, therefore, a very important of the above named goods, sud are offering them omy and industries of this country, subject, but before proceeding I will and it becomes us wool growers to la- state that there are but two kinds of have for the past, to build up the whole colony from, female and male. wool and woolen industry of Ameri- The first mentioned and largest numca. When our beautiful prairies and ber are to raise workers with, or in which are fewer in number, are eggs from which the drones are batched, and are called the lazy fathers. All the artist can find our splendid land-scapes worthy of the best touches of being female in their sex; and the being female in their sex; and the workers have power to change any egg of female sex into a royal queen by preparing a special cell for the purpose and placing the egg from one of the worker cells in the royal cell and feeding it what is termed royal golden hoof, turning the land on jelly. This royal cell differs very which he treads into gold. And so materially in its appearance from any true is this figuratively, that, strike out sheep husbandry from English hive. It looks like a peanut fastened of the worker or common cells in the on the side of the combs, generally famine would stare the people of that hanging perpendicularly with the

the English order of rotation and as before stated, royal jelly. But I production, form what sheep and have yet to discover that it differs in clover should in this country. We any way whatever, from the food fed have abundant examples here of in common to the common worker grub. That a radical change takes place I do not deny, but from all the producing from 50 to 100 per cent. observations which I have made, and that, too, often with considerable care, it is my opinion that the change depends entirely upon two things; the first is, the different shape in own farm over the unmanured lands which the royal cell is made, and the all farina or pollen, which is more commonly known as the dust of flowers, and is gathered in great quantitles by the worker bees and used as food for the young. It is also well understood that the eggs must be transferred into those royal cells before they get too far advanced in the grub or larvæ state. A change can be made from any egg that would tioned, up to seven days old; after which age it will not become a royal Hotel, Eugene City, Oregon.

Willamette street, second door to the St. Charles Hotel, Eugene City, Oregon. queen. The head of the queen is always downwards, and in about twelve or fifteen days after the cells are sealed over the young queen will be seen emerging from her prison and going at will and pleasure over other bees, until she is fertilized by the drone. This usually takes place about four or five days after she is hatched, and is for life. About the fourth day after this fertilization takes place, the young queen can be Wall Paper, seen laying eggs quite rapidly. I have noticed a young and vigorous queen laying at the rate of seventeen eggs in three minutes, which would be three hundred and forty per hour, and it is asserted that they lay as many as three thousand eggs per day, which I somewhat doubt, yet I do believe they can produce as many as fifteen hundred in twenty-four hours, when the honey and pollen is plentiful.

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