WILLAMETTE FARMER: SALEM, OREGON, SEPTEMBER 3, 1884.



The Shropshire Sheep.

The most popular breed of sheep in the United Kingdom at the present moment is, undoubtedly, the Shropshire, says the Colorado Live Stock Record. It is held in high estimation alike in England, Scotland and Ireland, and is found to be adapted to the varying climate of all three countries. At the last meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, there were 397 pens of sheep exhibited, in 36 classes, for 13 different breeds, and of that number no fewer than 1274 entries were Shropshries. The have often seen a yearling ewe pointed Shorpshire is the only breed of sheep for out as being a novelty for an artist. The which there has been established in Hampshire Downs are the largest and England a flock book for the official first-class as mutton, but don't mature registration of pedigrees. These unvarnished facts prove that we do not in ordinary calf's head. The Lincolns are the slightest degree exaggerate when we excellent sheep, but the Border Leices-describe this as the most popular British describe this as the most popular British breed of sheep of the present day.

The Shropshire is clearly composite or mixed in its origin, and it is only comparatively recently that it has been recognized as a distinct breed. Neither low or Youatt mention it, as it now exists, in their histories of British sheep. In fact, it was only at the Gloucester the American Dairyman : "Let a drop Show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, in 1853, that it obtained classes. It again dropped out of the prize schedule; but, in response to the power ful representations of breederse the Sational Society formally and permanently accorded it separate classes, although it was not until 1861, at Leeds, that its first great impression was made; on the minds of the agricultural public us a larged possessing special merit and vslue. In 1548 the breed was christened "Shropshire," by Mr. W. G. Precee, o Sh ewsbury, who rendered ycoman service in establishing and spreading the fame of his favorites

We have roughly indicated what are supposed to have been the sources from which the Shropshire breed has been d. rived the native sheep of Shropshire and Staffordshire, comprising the old Shropshire, the Morfe Common, the Longmynd, the Clun Forest, and the Cannock Heath. These several varieties are thus described by Yonatt: The old Shropshire—horned, with black or mottled faces and legs about the size of the Southdown, hardy, weighing from fourteen to sixteen pound per quarter, the fleece about 21 pounds. The Morfe Common—small horns, speckled dark or black faces and legs, the wethers weigh ing about thirteen pounds per quarter the fleece of remarkable fineness, weigh ing about two pounds. The Longmynd —horned, with black faces, weighing about twelve pounds per quarter. The Cannock Heath—polled, gray-faced, or of every intermediate color between black and white, the low weight the same and white; the legs usually the same color as the face, thin in proportion to their length; mutton good, fattening with moderate food, and capable of grow ing to a very great weight. Says Mr. Meire, one of the chief im-

provers of the breed; It is not attempted to be denied that the Shropshire is a cross.bred sheep. The original breed was horned, and the first attempt at improvement was to get rid of these incum brances, and there is little doubt that this was effected by a cross of the South-down. This sheep was well adapted for the Downs, but for the enclosures something more docile was required, conse quently recourse was had to the Leices Wilson says the Cotswold Professor was also resorted to as a cross, and it is further all-ged by some that the Hampshire was curployed. The Shropshire is, indeed, compounded of all the best material that could be found, and is truly an epitom of all that is excellent in British a second regards mutton, wool, constitution, prolificacy, and early maturity. Los nutton is excellent, and the breed is recommended by its highly The nutton is excellent, and the profitable and rent-paying qualities. Rams of the Shropshire breed are much used for crossing inferior classes of sheep, chiefly for the purpose of rearing lambs for the batcher, and we would not be surprised if this should be the breed chosen meet inegely by American agric culturists when they set themselves to produce a find description of mutton. Beston Journal of Commerce,

are very hardy and docile. The Borde Leicester has also too many good qualities to compare with long-wooled sheep. I have seen Shröpshire rams sell yearly at \$200 each, and Border Leicesters at \$100 each, and that without going to an odd extra one, that brings up

to \$500. I have no interest at present in those breeds, but merely write to set any one right that wants to breed sheep. I feel certain that any man laying the proper foundation for a flock of Shropshire Down sheep in this country, would just lay the way of making a rapid fortune. Sheep require a certain amount of care, and for that little care will pay more than any other animal. I really think you have made a mistake in naming the breeds in your letter. The Border Leicester is the nicest headed among sheep; coarsest sheep of the English breeds; early. They have heads as large as an Sign of Frequency in the Cow

As this condition in the cow so frequently commends itself to the attention of the farmer, especially after this cason, we note that Prof. Heath, a New York veterinarian, says in an article in pure water. If the milk promptly dis-seminates itself through the water, the cow that, yielded the milk is not with ealf; but if it sinks to the bottom nine constitutionally different charac of the glass as it falls upon the ters. Some will not stay at home if water, and does not produce but little of there are any neighboring flocks; some a milky cloud, the cow is pregnant. The cannot be kept out of the house; some specific gravity and viscility of the al-buminous nilk being heavier than water, thus retains the crop of the milk lay and some will not set, and most of and causes it to sink."

tested.

The Smut of Wheat.

Professor C. E. Bessey of the Iowa Agricultural College describes in the Northwest Farmer Low smut grows in wheat, as follows :

The term smut is popular applied to plant. In this country it generally means disease which leaves the grain nearly its normal size and shape, but filled with a black and stinking dust; this is the one doubtless referred to by a Wyoming inquirer-accordingly it alone will be considered here. It may, however, be well to say that the wheat smut of the books, and also of the English farmers, is that which turns the whole head into a black, dusty powder, and is known in some parts of this country as blast, black blast, black blight, etc. The names by which the wheat smut is gen-

erally known in England are bunt or a parasitie plant.

threads of microscopic size which in- which produced the disease are kept unt sinuate themselves between the cells and introduction of the two services and disturbed. Filth in some form or other is the

Poultry.

Pure Breeds or Mongreis.

If it is not generally known it should be, that thoroughbred fowls generally require far less labor and trouble in their management than the common fowls of the country. We know that a contrary opinion widely prevails, which

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we consider ample justification for this article. Above we have stated a fact as stubborn as a Mexican mule, and all the contrary opinions of the vast multitude of people who don't know anything about the matter can't affect it, though they may work mischief in other di-

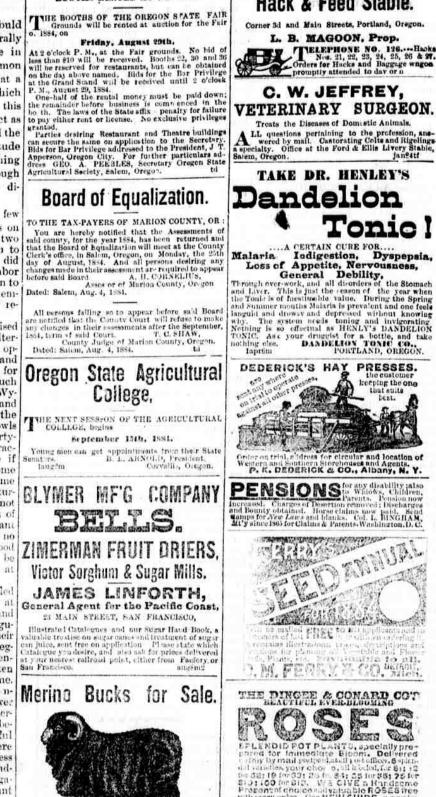
rections. In conversation with a fancier, a few days ago, even he took issue with us on this very dictum, and it was full two minutes before we could bring him to confess his error. What he really did alieve was that it required more labor to properly attend to fine poultry than to let common poultry attend to them-selves, which is not even distantly re-

inted to the question at issue. For a number of years we have raised both kinds simultaneously and alter-nately, and have thus had abundant opportunity to form a correct opinion, and claim that we have done so. Take, for instance, any of the docile breeds, such as Brahmas, Cochins, Langshans, Wy-andottes, Plymouth Rocks, etc., and compare their habits with those of the wild, unmanageable barnyard fowls which, in a flock of fifty, will show forty-This is certainly an easy method of them to do; (and candor requires no testing this condition and will be of more) some are good layers and good great practical value. Let it be rigidly mothers. How can such a flock be mothers. How can such a flock be properly managed? Can it be done at

Pure preeds are docile, easily handled and easily restrained; they can stay at home without getting into mischief, and lay and set and lay again with the regularity imparted by their blood. Their treatment can be managed with the regularity of clock-work, converting the entire operation from an irksome, and often two quite different diseases of the wheat exasperating task, to a pleasant pastime. Thoroughbred poultry is not incom-patible with a good vegetable or flower garden. The reader probably understands the relations which subsist be tween common fowls and these useful adjuncts to the family comfort. There is one point, which in a spirit of fairness we admit the common possesses an advantage over pure breeds; their variegated size and color enables one to count them with much greater ease than a flock uniform in every particular. Southwestern Poultry Journal.

Concerning Poultry Disease.

Causes .- With some things in life the effect is so far from the cause that we are often driven to our wits' end to find stinking smut, and under these it has the connecting link, but where poultry often been described. It is a true disease, diseases are concerned, cause and effect and, like many of the diseases of animals are not far apart. When disease first and man, is the result of the growth of appears among a flock of fowls the poultry-keeper ought at once to ascertain and This wheat parastic, known to botanists remove the cause, for it is almost useless as Tilletia caries, consists of slender to doctor sick fowls if the conditions



FAIR !

STATE

BOOTHS RENTED AT AUCTION.

Mosers, Jno. G. Wright and E. C. Cross, have, and will offer for sale, FOCKTERN HEAD OF EHENCH MERINO BUCKS, which will be sold on the Fair Grounds at the next annual fair, anless sold prior to that at private sale. They belong to the estate of Themas Cross, ducoased. The stock can be see at the acht at private sale. JNO. G. WRIGHT, E. C. CROSS, Administrators. all creek farm, and Call on or andress:

FINAL SETTLEMENT.

FINAL BEAM TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, ad-ministratry of the estate of U. L. Rivgs, decensed, filed her floal account of said estate in the County Court of Marion ecounty, Oregon, and that the Court has appointed at the Court House, in Salem, Oregon, September 6th, 1883, at I o'clock P. M., for hearing indjections to said account field for the settlement of the same SARAH W. RIGGS, Administratrix:

Hack & Feed Stable. Corner 3d and Main Streets, Portland, Oregon. L. B. MAGOON, Prop.

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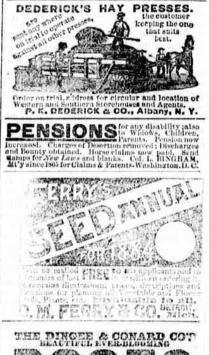
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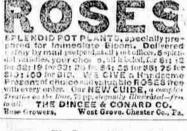
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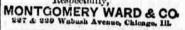
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The EUVERS' GUIDE is is sued March and Sept., each year: 216 pages, 81 x 111 in hes, with over 3,300 illustrations-a whole pic-ture gallery. Gives whole-

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Sheep for Mutton

Enquirer writes I read your letter in here and there in order to more certainly the Enquirer of July 23d, and feel certain that you have set forth the real reasons why Americans do not eat mutton, as the mutton raised here can hardly be called mutton when compared with that of Great Britain. I quite endorse your views as to necessity of American farmers to at once look to their interests, and prevention or remedy, the disease being breed sheep for mutton as well as weel, an internal one as shown above. So far but cannot agree with you as to the two as I am aware there is no variety of wheat which is snut proof or even breads you name being the best. I am approximately so. Where a farmer is quite familiar with all breads of sheep obliged to make use of seed which is raising, and only left the old country two-years since. The breeds you name are excellent, but cannot compare with the Shropshire in short wool, and the Border Leicoster in long-wooled sheep the Shropshire has taken the lead far in the Shropshire has taken the lead far in the first thoo oughly wash the wheat the Shropshire has taken the lead far in the structure of the disease will be the shropshire has taken the lead far in the first the source of the disease will be the shropshire has taken the lead far in the first the source of the disease will be the shropshire has taken the lead far in the first the source of the disease will be the shropshire has taken the lead far in the first the source of the disease will be the source of all others, particularly for the institute of the source of the disease will be the first the source of the disease will be the source of all others, particularly for the institute of the source of the disease will be the be the source of the disease will be the first the source of the disease will be the source of all others have as the base as the source of the disease will be the first the source of the disease will be the source of the disease will be the first the source of the disease will be the source of the source the general the bill of the source of the source the general the bill of the source of the disease will be the source of the source of the source the general the bill of the source of the much milk or care for their limits as a form, care should be taken with the tinge. A "rich egg" retains its shape as well as the Shropshire. They are the seed as above, and in addition there is as possible, and yields to the beating earliest to mature, their matters sells one should be a rotation of crops that a

and thereby reducing considerably the resembling a microscopic bladder, filled will surely cause disease. with protoplasm, water and some other substances. Were our eyes stronger the the interior of a young wheat plant would appear not much unlike a barrel of potatoes, the potatoes representing the cells. The cells in the plant, much is the potatoes in the barrol, have ompty or vacant spaces between one another. Now, if we can imagine some slender plant growing up between the potatoes in the barrel and drawing nourishment from them, we will have a crude illustration of the way that the smut parasite attacks the wheat plant. The parasite. however, not content with growing in between the calls of the wheat plant, and A correspondent of the Cinternati them, thrusting in branches and suckers

secore their muritious contents. solution of blue stone Λ sulphate), is also much used by English farmers for the same purpose, and ap-pears to destroy the life of the spores without injuring the wiseat.

It is utterly useless to make an appli- fleman. cent per pound over all others, their wool considerable interval will intervene be brings the highest price next to the twon each succeeding wheat crop-Merino, and is mowin demand, and they Rural Home.

and tissues of the young wheat plant, prime cause of some of the worst ills that drawing therefrom the nutrient matters, ailliet chicken flesh, and it surely aggraand thereby reducing considerably the general vitality of the affected plant. As is well known, an ordinary plant con-sists of a great number of cells, each sists of a great number of cells, each whatever form taken into the system, it

Dampness is another direct cause of It does not hurt fowls to run lisense about in the rain, provided they have paddling about in the wet, but it does hurt them to roost in a house that is always damp. The poultry-raiser who keeps fowls in damp houses must expeet to fight roup, canker, colds, sore eyes, diphtheria, gout, rheumatism and ousumption.

Roosting in draughts is also responsi le for many of the ills enumerated thave. Fowls that roost in the tree-tops right through the winter never take cold : it is the current of air that comes through some crack or crevice r kes the fowls while on the roost that causes the mischnel.

Strange fowls sometimes introduce disease into a healthy flock. The careloss poultry-keeper buys a breeding cock. or perhaps a few hens, and at once turns them loose among the old stock.-Fanny Fields, in Cultivator and Country Gen-

Rich Eggs.

The difference between an egg laid by a plump, healthy hen, fed with good, resh food daily, and an egg laid by a thin, poorly-fed hen, is as great as the

