

£8/10/- to £14/10/- (three special) £9/17/6 to £15, others, £7/2/6 to £11/7/6; heifers, £6/7/6 to £7/10/-; cows, £7/7/6. Prices equalled 21/- to 26/- per 100lb, up to 27/6 for special.

**Rat Sheep.**—Medium entry, comprised chiefly of good quality wethers and some prime heavy ewes. The sale opened easier, but finished well up to late rates. Good to prime woolly wethers brought 25/- to 28/6; others, 22/- to 24/6; prime woolly ewes, 25/- to 28/-; others, 21/- to 24/6; shorn wethers, 18/- to 21/3; ewes, 17/9 to 20/3; merino wethers (in wool), 17/4 to 24/11.

**Lambs.**—Only 64 were penned, keen competition resulting in increased prices. Best lambs brought 21/6 to 23/-; others, 18/- to 21/-; and a few sold at 15/9.

**Pigs.**—The entry was small, chiefly baconers and porkers coming forward, which met with good demand, but stores failed to find buyers. Baconers made 45/- to 60/-, equal to 4½d to 4½d per lb; porkers, 28/- to 38/-, equal to 5d to 5½d per lb.

## A Popular Expression

'A feather in his cap,' an expression signifying honor distinction, arose from the custom prevalent among the ancient Syrians and perpetuated to this day among the various savage or semi-civilised tribes of Asia and America of adding a new feather to their head-gear for every enemy slain. In the days of chivalry, the maiden knight received his casque featherless and won his plumes as he had won his spurs. In a manuscript written by Richard Hansard in 1598, and preserved in the British Museum, it is said of the Hungarians, 'It hath been an ancient custom among them that none should wear a fether but he who had killed a Turk, to whom onlie yt was lawfull to shew the number of fethers in his cappe.' In Scotland and Wales it is still customary for the sportsman who kills the first woodcock to pluck out a feather and stick it in his cap.

## Orange Blossoms

Orange blossoms are not the flowers that all brides wear when approaching the nuptial altar. In different lands various poses are supposed to be of good omen when a maid is beginning her wedded life. In Germany the bride wears myrtle; in Italy white roses. Red roses and carnations crown the bride of Spain. The bride of Greece wears vine leaves. Crowns of silver deck the brides of Sweden, Norway, and Servia. In Bavaria and Silesia pearls, glass, and gold wire are used. Orange blossoms were worn by Saracen brides, and since the time of the Crusaders have been worn occasionally throughout Europe as the emblem of marriage. Finally, French milliners introduced them definitely into the bridal outfit, and among French and English-speaking people the orange blossom has almost become symbolical of marriage.

**MYERS & CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street.** They guarantee the highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for ten shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—\*\*\*

**A**N OLD SUBSCRIBER OF THE 'TABLET' is anxious to receive information from our country readers acquainted with any district where a good

## General Blacksmith Business

could be established. The applicant has a Thorough Knowledge of the Business in all its branches, and would give entire satisfaction. Kindly address letters to

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Engines, Boilers, and all kinds New and Second-hand Machinery Bought and Sold.

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## Tobacco Growing in Ireland

It has been demonstrated time and again that the tobacco plant can be grown in Ireland. Hitherto the industry (says the 'Farmers' Gazette') has not been attempted on a large scale owing to the want of proper facilities for the curing and manufacture of the leaf. The expense was also considered to be too great in the event of failure for an individual to launch out heavily. Now, however, an experiment on a considerable scale is being carried out by Colonel Everard, Ranelstown, Navan. The minimum quantity required to be grown by the Government was twenty acres, and Colonel Everard undertook to carry out the work. The twenty acres of tobacco plants are now (September) reaching maturity on the farm of Major Everard and others in the vicinity. Soon this crop will be harvested and then will come the test of curing, which should settle once and for all if tobacco is a profitable crop for this country.

Everything is being done on the most approved scale, so that the experiment will have a fair chance. The crop is, to all appearance, an excellent one. The seven acres grown in the vicinity of Ranelstown is a fair specimen of the whole crop. The ground is tenacious clay, and the crop has been grown after all sorts of ordinary farm crops. Some of it was grown after oats, two-year-old lea, cabbages, mangolds, potatoes, or wheat. The manuring consisted of farmyard dung, artificials of various kinds, and special manure compounded by Captain Everard, from information he received from growers in the United States. The ground was prepared as for a green crop, and every care was taken in regard to planting and hoeing. The plants were grown in frames from seed, and after they got to a certain height they were planted out in beds. Here they came on rapidly, and were at the right size transferred to the drills. The seed was procured from the State Company's farm in Virginia.

The plants were put in forty-two inches apart every way, and there are upwards of 3600 of them to the acre. The plant grows in a single stem which sends out leaves in every direction. When about ten leaves have made their appearance the upward growth of the plant is stopped by having the point broken off. The whole forces of development are then centred on the leaves formed previous to the breaking off, and these grow very large. Some of those we measured at Ranelstown were upwards of forty inches in length, by twenty-two inches at the widest point. The stems averaged four and a half feet in height, and besides having the top nipped off to prevent more leaves forming than would be fully developed, care has to be taken to pick off any suckers which form, so that the leaves will not be robbed of any nourishment.

The handling of the splendid crop in the curing process and quality of leaf are the things which count. As to quality much has to be left to chance, but no expense is being spared in having the curing carried out on the most approved principle. President Roosevelt has kindly placed at the disposal of those interested the services for a time of the United States Government expert from Kentucky. Meanwhile, the drying barns are nearing completion. These barns are perfect of their kind. They are divided into ten rooms each, twenty feet every way, and capable of holding the produce of one acre. The plants are split up to the butts and hung over spars to dry, supported by the small part or end not cut through. It is estimated that two tons of moisture will be evaporated from the produce of each acre, and this will be accomplished by means of hot air process. The building is a substantial one, composed of concrete foundations, six-inch walls up to a certain distance, iron columns, wood, and corrugated iron. The walls are packed with sawdust and the roof course covered with a non-conducting and fire-proof felt. The floors are concrete to avoid damp arising from the ground. The doors are also specially fitted with insulating material, and everything is arranged in such a manner that the temperature can be regulated with the greatest ease. The thermometers are fitted in such a way that they can be read without going into any of the rooms. Each of the apartments can also be regulated as to temperature independently of any of the others. Colonel and Captain Everard have entered into the labor in the most public-spirited manner, and the country owes them a deep debt of gratitude.

Dr. Farley, Archbishop of New York, has made a regulation that none but Catholics may take part in the musical services of the Church in his archdiocese.

**£15 ANGLO-SPECIAL CYCLES £18**

**NOTHING BETTER  
OBTAINABLE**