

Exports and imports of horses, 1867-1886.

of breeding. Between the 1st July, 1867, and the 30th June, 1886, no less than 242,971 horses have been exported from this country, 233,934 of which went to the United States 4,614 to Great Britain, and 423 to other countries, an annual average of 12,787. During the same period, 25,297 horses have been imported, principally for the improvement of stock.

Stock on the ranches in the Territories.

444. The number of acres held under grazing leases in the districts of Alberta and Assiniboia was 3,793,792, and the total number of stock on them as reported by the lessees up to 31st December, 1886, was as follows, the figures for the preceding year being given for comparison :—

	1885.	1886.	Increase or Decrease.
Cattle	46,936	74,999	+28,063
Horses	4,313	6,318	+ 2,005
Sheep.....	9,694	16,431	+ 6,737
Pigs.....	50	52	+ 2
Poultry845	679	— 166

When the stock owned by the settlers is taken into consideration, it is estimated that there are in the district of Alberta about 90,000 head of cattle, and their numbers are said to be rapidly increasing.

Experimental farms.

445. At the session of Parliament in 1886, an Act was passed providing for the establishment of experimental farms in each of the Provinces, and in the Territories. The central one has been established near Ottawa, and sites in the other Provinces will be located in due course. It is proposed that the experiments shall relate to agriculture, horticulture, stock raising, butter and cheese making, and forestry, and that the results shall be published in bulletins as often as considered necessary, and distributed among the farming population. There can be very little doubt that this idea, if properly carried out, will be of immense service