

On the Farm.

GOOD FEED FOR DAIRY COWS.

The first thing to ensure a successful production of butter is a herd of good butter cows, but butter from the very best can be spoiled in the manipulation writes Mr. H. H. Childs. In fact, I believe the feed and care of the herd have more to do with the product than the breed. The milk cow is in a great measure a machine, the feed the raw material, and the milk, butter or cheese the manufactured product. As a manufacturer cannot turn out all wool from shoddy, neither can a dairyman make the best of butter from poor feed, and by poor feed I mean brewers' grains, sour or fermented foods, or anything that will cause garget or other injurious effects on the health of the animals.

My herd consists of a mixture of breeds, Jersey predominating. My feed is hay and corn stover with grain. For a grain ration, the best I know of from many years' experience is corn and oats - 4 bu. to 3 respectively ground together, with wheat bran and cottonseed meal. Feed an equal quantity of ground corn and oats, and wheat bran with a moderate ration of cotton seed meal, never exceeding a quart to a feed of the latter. At every feed add some salt. By a regular feeding of salt there is a constant flow of milk, a more healthy condition of the secretory organs, a better assimilation of feed better digestion, the product is always uniform, the cream rising and the butter coming every time just right.

My plan is to first clean out my stable in the morning, then milk and remove from the stable as soon as milked and strain into creamer. I then feed the cows their ration of grain and sometimes roots immediately after milking, and no unpleasant effect will be produced in milk or butter. I give a bushel of turnips well cut up to 10 cows, with grain and salt. To prevent the scattering of grain, I moisten very lightly, but do not stir it up. I simply turn in some water, having it warm in cold weather. After the feed of grain I feed hay, or corn stover cut and mixed with hay, sometimes moistened, but a feed of something dry immediately afterward, so the cows will go out and drink. After watering I give a feed of poorer quality of hay. I want nothing but early cut English hay with clover predominating, but most farmers have other varieties and must plan to make the best use of them. The cows are through eating by 9 a.m., and get nothing till 3 p.m., when they are fed again, watered, have their grain ration and are then milked and left for the night.

Upon frequent inquiry I am unable to find many farmers who pursue the same course with regard to the salting of their stock. I use good, clean table salt. I have no garget or other malady among my cows, and I lay much stress on the amount and daily feed of salt, and each returning year feed more of it. I do not always feed the same grain ration but think an occasional change beneficial. Corn and oats being so costly this winter, I have substituted middlings, or five feed, as it is called. I think they will make full as much milk to the pound of feed as corn and oats. I have some high grade Jersey cows giving 25 per cent. cream on a ration of two quarts bran one and a half quarts middlings and a pint of cotton seed. I give this at each feed, adding a tablespoonful of salt. With regard to cottonseed meal, I do not think there is any feed that will increase the amount of fat in the milk equal to it. I have experimented with it and found that I made enough more butter to pay for it. I am aware some people say it can be tasted in the butter. All I have to say is, if it is cottonseed which makes my butter taste so well I wish everybody would try it, that there might be a more uniform product. I do not think calves would thrive on the milk of cows overfed with cottonseed meal.

BUILDING A PIT FOR STORING VEGETABLES.

Having more vegetables than I can store in my vegetable cellar, I am building a pit which will make a very good substitute of an expensive vegetable cellar, and will certainly be an improvement on the earth pits often used in market gardens for storing vegetables. Wheat, beets, carrots, turnips, potatoes, etc., are to be stored in pits out of doors, the usual way is to dig a pit three or four feet deep and about six feet wide, and of the required length. The vegetables are placed in the pit in sections three or four feet wide, and to a height of the level of the ground. Between the sections, spaces two feet wide are left, which are filled with earth. When the earth is put over the top you have several small pits, and you can take out the vegetables from one pit without exposing the rest of the vegetables. Most vegetables, too, keep better when stored in small bulk. Such a pit, says a writer in American Gardening, has the disadvantage that one must often dig the vegetables out of frozen ground

for marketing in the winter, which is a difficult and disagreeable operation. For the market gardeners who do not wish to expend money in building vegetable cellars, I submit the following plan of a pit which I am building. First dig out for the pit a space three feet deep and six feet wide, and of the required length. Planks two inches thick are placed against the sides and ends, then sections are made six to ten feet long by putting in a double portion of planks, leaving a space between them one foot wide to be filled with earth. The top of the pit is also planked to a width of about three feet, and a plank set on edge along the top to hold the earth in place that is put on the plank. The sides and ends of the pit are well banked with earth and the planks on the top are covered to a depth of one or two feet. When the pit is filled with vegetables, planks are laid over the uncovered part of the pit, and openings left for ventilation, which are filled with straw in freezing weather. When more covering is needed, I cover the planks with straw, two or three feet deep, or enough to keep out the frost in the coldest weather and place boards on top of the straw to hold it in place. When the vegetables in one section are to be taken out, the boards and straw are removed from the part of the top not covered with earth and the other sections left covered. It is much easier to get at the vegetables in this way than to dig up the frozen earth to uncover the pit. Besides the vegetables first mentioned, the pit may be used for storing cabbage if the roots are planted in the soil. By fitting a small sash in one side of one pit to admit light, it will also make a good place for storing cauliflower and celery. I expect to use the larger part of the pit I am now building for storing celery for the late winter and spring supply.

HOW TO CARE FOR MANURE.

Farmyard manure should be kept as near the surface of the soil as possible. The rain water as it percolates through the soil has a tendency to carry the soluble plant food downward and out of the reach of plants. Consequently an attempt should be made to delay the downward progress of plant food instead of assisting it by plowing the manure in deeply. Then again, nitrification is most active near the surface of the soil. Therefore, manure kept near the surface is under more favorable conditions for having its plant food made available and consequently gives quicker returns.

When a heavy application of manure has been plowed under deeply it is no uncommon thing to see lumps of manure brought to the surface by subsequent plowing, showing that it had never become properly incorporated with the soil. It is quite probable, too, that this deeply buried manure has lost considerable nitrogen through denitrification. Economical manuring consists in obtaining quick returns over as large an area of the farm as possible, and this is accomplished by moderate applications incorporated with the surface soil. Shallow covering of manure also increases the humus of the surface soil. As a result, the soil does not bake and crack in dry weather; it absorbs and retains water much more satisfactorily and works up into a fine tilth more easily.

TASTE AND SMELL.

Physics of These Senses Neglected - Higher Development in Animals.

While the physics of the senses of sight and hearing have attracted the attention of many philosophers and have been elucidated by numerous ingeniously contrived experiments, those of taste and smell have been comparatively neglected. The very phraseology by which we are accustomed to describe the impressions which we receive through these portals of sense is indefinite, obscure and uncertain. There are, indeed, several terms which would call up corresponding sensations in regard to the sense of taste, such as sweet, acid, alkaline, oily and mawkish; but our vocabulary is small in calling up sensations of smell and is almost limited to such general terms as pleasant and unpleasant, pungent and aromatic, fetid and fresh, which have none of the definiteness or precision that the terms blue or green possess in ordinary conversation or that the expression treble G gives to the musician. Our memory of odors is in general very imperfect. Attempts have been made, but not very successfully, to establish a gamut of odors, and it is difficult in many instances to dissociate the senses of smell and taste. Cuvier observed that these two senses are nearly allied to common sensation. In those animals which are only capable of breathing through the nose, like the horse, the extent of surface ministering to the sense of smell is immense as compared with that of man. A large area of the nasal cavities is covered with mucous membrane, which is thick in both, studded with numerous acinous glands, covered with stratified ciliated epithelium, supplied by the fifth pair of nerves, and is probably dedicated to other functions than those of smell, as, for example, the warming and moistening of the air, and its purification from dust before entry into the lungs, and a large portion also of the upper region seems merely to act as a periosteum to the frontal and ethmoidal cells, and to possess but a small share of special sensibility. The turbinal bone, on the other hand, the volutes of the ethmoid, and a considerable area of the septum between the nostrils, is covered with a thin yellowish-red membrane, the epithelium of which is unprovided with cilia, to which the branches of the olfactory nerves are distributed; the ultimate fibrils being traceable to the very surface covered by a thin layer of fluid and being well placed, therefore, for the perception of delicate impressions. Common observation shows that while man is capable of perceiving a great variety of odors, many animals surpass him in the acuteness of their perceptions. The nature of these emanations probably varies considerably. Water, which has no smell to man, can be perceived by some animals at considerable distances. Insects, and especially those of nocturnal habits, are guided to each other by their emanations. Judging from the actions of animals, the odors of plants are only in rare instances, as in the case of valerian, by the cat, perceived, or at least enjoyed, by the canivora. Putrid meat is devoured by the vulture and jackal, though it is not touched by many flesh-eating animals that feed on living prey, while it produces a kind of convulsion in many horses and madness in the bull.

DECORATED BY THE QUEEN.

Unusual Honor Bestowed Upon two English Military Dogs.

Army pets whose sterling worth is appreciated by their masters and their masters' cronies are numberless, but dogs who rise to the position of "regimental pets," who become part and parcel of the regiment at home and in action, and who receive official recognition, are comparatively few.

"Bob" was the regimental pet of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Berkshires, and a soldier dog to the backbone. He accompanied his regiment to Afghanistan and went through at the battle of Maiwand one of the most terrific days' fighting that has been known during the past generation.

Man after man was cut down, but Bob would not be denied his share in the fray. He kept on running to the front, barking fiercely at the enemy, until at length a bullet laid him low. The wound was serious enough, as it tore nearly all the skin off his back, but he recovered and once again accompanied his old corps into action.

When the regiment returned to England the next year Bob received great honor at the hands of the Queen, Her Majesty not only decorating him with the medal for the campaign, but tying it round his neck with her own hands when the regiment paraded before her at Osborne House.

Like many another warrior, Bob did not live long to enjoy the blessings of peace. In a little more than a year he was run over and killed in the Isle of Wight.

"Regimental Jack," the Scots Guards' dog, took part in the hottest fights in the Crimea. He became the pet of the guards in a curious fashion.

One cold winter's night he was found by a sentry in St. James' Palace Gardens. Some one had been brutally ill-treating him and had ended by flinging him over the high wall.

In befriending the poor animal the sentry left his post, and this dereliction of duty being discovered, he was placed in the guard room under arrest. The dog followed his protector, and on hearing the story, the officer was so touched by the dog's gratitude that the prisoner was released, with the proverbial caution.

Henceforth Jack's fortunes were to be bound up with those of the Scots Guards. When the regiment went to the Crimea he very soon showed the stuff of which he was made. At Alma he saved the life of his protector, and afterward carried a flask of brandy to the wounded.

At Inkerman he was wounded in the right foot, after literally performing prodigies of valor. With his two-legged comrades he charged, and with tooth and nail went for his country's enemies.

The fight over, the faithful animal went joyfully to find his protector. Find him he did, but it was among the slain, and Jack was disconsolate.

When the regiment came home the Queen graciously noticed Jack, and he was invested with a miniature Victoria Cross and the Crimean medals; but he pined away from sheer lack of interest in life, and one morning shortly afterward he was found beneath the snow, sleeping his last sleep.

SPAIN DOESN'T CARE.

News of the Final Defeat Didn't Interrupt the Madrid Bullfight.

If Sir Hugh Gilzen Reid be a competent observer, it would seem as if the citizens of the United States were much more interested in the effects of the war and the work of the Peace Commission than are the people of Spain, despite the fact that the results threaten still further disasters to their own country. In a letter to the London Echo he says:

"Even, in the capital, with all its activities, there is little, if any, real interest in the peace negotiations which drag their slow length along at Paris. On the very day that held the fate of Spain, and the decisive news from Cuba was expected, the bull ring, the Grand Casino, and all the theatres were thronged by light-hearted and pleasure-loving crowds, nobles and peasants alike callous to defeat or victory. When the fatal intelligence came, one who was on the spot tells me there was little, if any, emotion, and the wild festivities went on without interruption, the bull ring having a transfixed audience of over 14,000; history repeating itself; fiddling and the country in flames."

ANCIENT ROMAN BRIDGE.

Eighteen hundred years ago or thereabouts the Roman Emperor Trajan built a bridge across the Danube, the piers of which are found by the Roumanian engineer, solid enough to sustain a new structure, which will unite the towns of Ternu Severin, in Roumania, and Gladova, in Servia. In the middle of the structure the statue of Trajan will stand four square to all the winds that blow, as well as, deserves to that great conqueror and bridge builder for perhaps another score of centuries.

BOLD ENCOURAGEMENT.

She told me she wouldn't marry the best man in the world. What did you say? I told her that didn't impugna my eligibility.

CUBA'S STARVING CROWDS.

AWFUL SCENES OF SUFFERING IN THE INLAND REGIONS.

Thousands Implore Public Charity in the Towns and Railroad Stations - Too Weak to Work and No Tools to Work With.

It is difficult to describe the awful condition of misery and starvation of the people in the interior of Cuba, says a Havana letter. They die by scores every day either from hunger or from the effects of long-endured privations. Those who remain, especially in Matanzas and Santa Clara provinces, are so weak, as the result of fevers and need, that they are entirely unable to work. It is to be borne in mind that the poor country people now remaining in Cuba are only the remnant of the reconcentrados murdered by thousands by Gen. Weyler. After over 200,000 of them were killed by famine or by the dreadful machete of the Spanish guerrillero, the survivors, penned up in the cities and towns, were released over two years from insufficient nourishment and all the sickness which accompanies privation and asquor. They returned to their devastated lands without means for tilling the ground and they fed on roots and wild vegetables. They soon gathered again around the cities, towns and railroad stations to implore public charity. They are now the very images of

SORROW AND DEATH.

It is wonderful that they still live. When a gentleman went a short time ago to Matanzas and saw at the station hundreds of these starving, dying people, the majority of whom were unable to stand, the horrors of the Cuban war were before his eyes in all their ghastly truth. He had seen Santiago sacked by Spanish soldiers. He knew of the many instances of robbery and murder which during the three years of struggle between Cubans and Spaniards shocked the civilized world. He had seen the dire sufferings of people thrown into Spanish dungeons. But no misery or pain is equal, no crime committed by man can be superior, to the pangs of starvation and its ravages over a country. One poor girl, about 14 years old, was literally skin and bones. Her eyes almost hung from their sockets. She was a living skeleton. "She is the only one left to me," said the mother, whose appearance was no less terrible. "I had six children and my husband."

"When did you begin to suffer such hardships?"

"In April, 1896," she replied, "my house was burned and I and my family reconcentrated."

How they could have lived until now was the unanswerable question suggested by these last words. In the same condition are over 100,000 people who in normal times form the working country population. What is worse still is that the Cuban Army which could have afforded many laborers for the sugar and tobacco plantations, is also starving on the western end of the island. The soldiers do not die, because while keeping their organization they receive some relief from the committees of sympathizers organized to help them in the principal cities. But with the exception of the negroes, who are few on this side of the island and whose greater bodily strength enables them to resist privations more successfully than the whites can do, the Cuban soldiers, on account of famine, will be

VERY POOR LABORERS.

In Pinar del Rio many of them are actually perishing of hunger. Here is, therefore, a grave problem that will confront the Americans, during their military occupation of Cuba, when they start upon the work of reconstruction. The first thing to do is to raise crops. But where are the laborers?

The press censorship continues as strict as ever. By order of Gen. Blanco the censor does not allow to pass by direct cable a single word about starvation of the poor not anything in praise of the American people of Government. The Spanish officials believe that the red pencil of the press censor has not only power to stop the publication of truth, but to destroy the facts themselves. The red respondent and then the Spanish land that Cuba is the most happy land on earth, where every one has plenty, while the Americans are only a cruel nation of conquerors.

WELCOMING FRESH CARES.

"As far as fresh cares are concerned," said a man of mature years, "as I grow older I rather welcome them. They blot out the old cares completely, and so show how unsubstantial they were, and I know that in due course these new cares will be supplanted by others and will as completely give way to them. Thus I am constantly reminded that our cares really don't amount to much, except to see the day when I shall give up my room to them and not be disturbed by them at all."

THE BLIND.

Blind men outnumber blind women by two to one.



TAILOR GOWN WITH CUT-AWAY COAT.

A light gray cloth costume has the front of the skirt trimmed across the bottom with a group of overlapping folds of the cloth. The vest is framed in this same style of overlapping

folds. The coat has short pointed tails slashed in at the front, and curves down into long coat tails at the back. It has revers of gray silk showing a wide margin of cloth, and the same cloth margin edges the coat all round.

A MAN WITHOUT

NET ASHORE ON THE COAST - FORTY YE

Since then he hasn't spoken a word, and no one knows who he is. The blue books published by the province are, as a rule, pretty accurate, and that called the 'Yellow Book' is one of the driest of them. There is one line in the 'Yellow Book' which is the strangest mystery, years, still remains a Financial Returns given from the office of Treasurer—that is, made by the province. One line reads: Jerome.

Few, if any, members of the Legislature know who only know that it has many years, and then receiving \$104 every year, and what 'Jerome' should receive anything. The item was days before Confederation was any Dominion of Scotia was a separate One day, forty years ago, a man was seen on the rock and land on the Bay of Fundy Neck, observed

A SHIP ON THE Her movements were seemed to be aimless the same place. What she was still there, was an object of note to the fishermen who were the only residents in the neighborhood of that morning the vessel was a man, or piece of beach. His legs had the knees. The workly done and by a sk wounded stumps were aged. The man was 19 years old, with so blue eyes. His features and shape were that he was probably well brought up, was of finest linen, ments of good material differing from that fishermen had ever to be suffering from terrible shock. He beach, were a small bag of ship's biscuits. He was taken to the and nursed and eventually recovered, but silent. His vocal right but if the gutted were meant could make out who were faring men who foreign tongues was his language, if language to them. fort was made to or perhaps his sundered him unappreciated shock to his system were cut off duble

HE COULD Certain it is that have passed since the mysterious man has never conveyed by speech a single word. There was not any kind nor man give the slightest home, nationality, people called him they thought son made with his v but except for the for forty years a In time the poor felt they could not den of the waif they applied to to lieve them of him sioners of Digby why they should certainly was not They accordingly lature of Nova S him. Pending i slature appropriate for his mainte failed to discover already known, continued year. "Jerome" lives able French Ad place called Sau of Fundy shore, is on the main vance, and in by by coach would s about the man, b accustomed to s him that they w hand to him as h house sunning I ways been very though he had c mate. In the s in the sun. In d dies behind the He is still the was when he fi

KEEPING eating at meal placed before him read or write, any indication or not. Various stories vessel, of a sto of the way, of