

The best samples of malting barley, in England, are grown on moderately rich good soils, after roots or rape fed-off by sheep; but on very rich land, highly farmed, wheat is taken after roots, and barley follows the wheat.

In 1890, the then Minister of Agriculture imported 12 500 bushels of 2-rowed English barley (at \$2 00 a bushel), for seed, to be distributed among our farmers. This with a view to our growing barley for exportation. But we fear the English maltster was not pleased with what we sent over, as we have heard nothing more about it. The Americans will have nothing to do with 2-rowed, and their purchases of the other kind (6-rowed) are very large. In 1862, we imported *Chenilier* (2-rowed) barley for seed from England, and gave it away to the Chambly farmers, thinking to get the crop for use in our own brewery at that place. In three years, it had all run out, the soil or climate not suiting it.

By the bye, we saw the other day that some one had been writing in the papers against the use of brewers' grains as a food for milch cows! The letter was evidently from a milk-producer and is not worth the paper on which it was printed. We said enough on this subject in the March No. of the JOURNAL for the year 1896 (p. 308); in which number will also be found the opinion of Dr. McEachram, F.V.C., and Dr. Girdwood, in favour of the use of grains for stock of every description. Those who object to their use might just as well object to the feeding of milch-cows on green-corn.

"Fresh brewers' grains are three-quarters water. Considering this, their nutritive constituents run very high." Prof. Henry "On Brewers' grains as cattle-food."

Well! even if they do hold 75 per cent. of water, how much water does a swede contain? Or a mangel? Or green-corn?

	Brewers'		
	Swedes.	Green-corn.	Mangels. Grains.
Water—	87 per cent ;	83 p. c. ;	88 p. c. ; 75.2 p. c.

Of course, if you are going to cram a bushel of grains a day down your cow's throat, with nothing but straw as "roughage," the milk will not be very rich; but with plenty of other foods, such as pease-meal, crushed flaxseed, etc, and half a bushel a day of grains, your cows will give plenty of good, creamy milk, and will do very well as regards their health.

*The calf*—The United States Secretary of Agriculture, late Director of the Iowa Experiment Station Prof. James Wilson, in the *Jersey Bulletin*, gives some advice on the weaning of calves with which we agree thoroughly; probably because it is in exact concordance with what was our own practice as long as we bred calves: he takes away the calf as soon as the cow has dropped it, never allowing the dam to see its progeny until it has thoroughly forgotten all about its birth, and advises the skim-milk to be fortified with crushed flaxseed, instead of linseed-cake (oil meal), assigning, very sensibly, as a reason, that the latter contains, as its chief constituent, lots of protein, a principle in which the skim-milk is rich enough already; whereas the skimmer having deprived the milk of its fat, that constituent is easily replaced by the flaxseed, 35% of which is oil.

If the young cow is never sucked, she never expects it. Of course the calf should have the *colostrum*, the first milk, as it is nature's laxative that expels all the indurated feces from the calf's bowels.

It is astonishing to us that these simple truths are not yet appreciated by the general run of farmers. In the very same issue of the paper from which the above is condensed, we find a well known breeder giving the following as the proper treatment of newly born calves:

"When the calf is dropped we allow it to remain with the dam for a few hours, usually just long enough for it to get a good square meal of the mother's milk. It is then removed to a comfortable box-stall and taught to drink from the pail as soon as possible. We find that both the cow and the calf fret much less over the separation when his plan is followed."

And, again, another breeder speaks in the same strain:

"When a calf is dropped we leave it with its dam until it is perfectly dry and on its feet. We let it suck the cow perhaps once or twice, then remove it either to a box stall by itself, or tie it up along with other calves, but never close enough so that they can suck one another."

Far better cover the calf over with lots of the softest straw to be found, and leave it for six hours, or so, before any attempt is made to teach it to drink from the pail. What earthly good can be derived from "letting the calf suck once, or twice"?