

ice-houses that appeared in this periodical in 1879. Mr. Barnard gives the following description of them :

One thing must be especially attended to : the location must be so selected that all the water proceeding from the melting ice shall find an easy mode of dispersal, whether by a ditch filled with stones, or through a regular drain.

The cold chamber of No 1 only extends under part of the ice-house, but is sufficient for the needs of a private farm-dairy.

No. 2 is more costly, the cold chamber being as large as the ice-house. The engraving shows a deepish well, which is intended to receive the water before it is carried off by the drain. This well might be used to cool milk, cream or butter when necessary.

ED. A. BARNARD.

Summer-use of Ensilage.

Sir,—Many of your readers no doubt have been using ensilage as a winter food for some years, but have any of them tried it during the summer? If not let them put up enough this fall to carry them through next summer and they won't regret it. My farm being a very small one, I have no land to waste for pasture, so, three years ago, I adopted the soiling system. My only difficulty was in getting enough green-meat for the cattle, especially in early summer before the clover, pease and oats, &c. were ready to cut. This year the silo has removed that difficulty, and I find that my cows not only give more milk but that it is richer. I don't think it makes much difference what you put into the silo : corn, clover, pease and oats, marsh-grass—in fact you can fill up with anything you like. Still I think the best results will be obtained from corn, the cattle will eat all alike and relish it. But here let me say that ensilage alone is not a complete ration and that some grain must be fed with it. I found good wheat bran the cheapest. I have heard some complaints this summer that cattle fed on ensilage during the winter had not done well, and on making some enquiries I found the cattle had had no grain ; nothing but ensilage and a little straw—so I was not surprised. I fed ensilage morning and night with either a little chopped straw or marsh-hay, and bran mixed with it. After breakfast, they got a thin bran slop thrown on cut straw, and at noon, they got about a bushel of cut marsh-hay well dampened and a little dry bran thrown on. After dinner they got all the water they could drink. The total ration for the day was about 40 lbs ensilage, 10 marsh-hay, 5 straw, 5 bran. On that ration my cows averaged me one pound of butter per day. From November to the middle of April, the cows were never out of the stable. The water they drank stood in a barrel in the stable for 24 hours before they got it, so that it was about the same temperature as the stable and did not chill the cows. The cows were fed the above ration until the grass was long enough to cut, and the only change I made was substituting fresh cut grass for the marsh-hay and straw, at noon, and with their slop. I now give them all the grass they will eat at noon, and again when I let them out into the yard between 3 & 4 in the afternoon for a couple of hours. It does not seem to make much difference how much grass they have eaten, they are always ready for the ensilage in the evening.

The great advantages of this mode of feeding are : no inside fences are required ; the fertility of the farm is greatly increased by the large quantity of manure saved during the summer months, and every foot of arable land is available for crops. When the cattle are pastured, ensilage can profitably be fed to them night and morning when they are brought to the stable to be milked, and if they are kept in the

stable over night, the labor of bringing them to and from the pasture will be diminished and the manure-pile increased at little or no extra cost.

In feeding ensilage during the summer months, great care must be taken not to leave the ensilage in a heap after it has been taken out of the silo and mixed with the hay or straw, as the case may be. If left in a heap a second fermentation will certainly take place and it will become so hot that the animals will refuse it. My attention was called to this fact by the quantity of ensilage left in the boxes, and also by noticing that the cows occasionally took up a mouthful of bedding to cool their mouths. So I then took to spreading out on the floor enough ensilage to last at least one day ; fed it when cold, and had no further trouble. I have never put any salt in the ensilage, not even to get the cattle accustomed to it when I first began to feed it. One need not be surprised if the cattle do not take to it kindly for the first few days.

Now, if milch cows will keep up a good flow of rich milk and get fat on the above winter ration, will it not pay the farmer of this Province to raise beef on the same rations. Could not some of the Agricultural schools which receive government grant, be asked to try the experiment? The only time one hears anything about them is when they are after their annual grant. I have yet to learn of any of them trying any experiment that would be useful to the farmers generally, and I think it is about time they were asked to begin.

The weather has been frightful here the last week—August 24. Three days of rain, and at it again hard to-day. If it does not clear up at once all the grain lying out must grow. I fear, from what I gather from private telegrams, that at least one-third of the wheat in Manitoba and the North West has been damaged, if not destroyed, by the frost of the 21st and 22nd inst. and by the succeeding rain.

A. R. J. F.

I fed ensilage up to the 1st August and was very sorry when it was done.

CHAS. D. TYLER.

Fairfield ; Ste-Therese de Blainville, August 1890.

The London Mark Lane Express of July 7th, from which we reproduce the accompanying engraving says : "Dorset-Horn sheep have lately come into fashion, many of them being purchased for America, thus dividing with the Shropshires the attention of transatlantic buyers. Our animal picture to-day is a portrait of 'The Colonel,' a very fine ram, bred by and the property of Mr. Thomas Ghick, of Stratton, Dorchester. It was one year and five months old when the photograph was taken in May last."

"The London Live-Stock Journal" lately published an engraving, which we reproduce herewith, of the pure-bred Arab stallion "Speed of Thought," belonging to Capt. W. A. Kerr, and bred by the Gomassa tribe of the Anzrah. Captain Kerr describes him thus :

"He was a dark, rich chestnut without white, save a star. His near eye had been knocked out by the point of a lance in a *razzia*. (1) Height 14-3, girth 72 inches, measured 8½ inches below the knee, and stood on perfectly-shaped feet, tough as the nether millstone. He was possessed of superlative quality from head to feet, of great muscular development ; sinews clean and hard as pin-wire, and stood fair and square on the best of limbs and joints. High couraged, as proved when he beat the famous (?) horse Long Trump by a short head after a desperate race ; full of what the Americans term 'vim' ; (2) a strong vigorous galloper ; his bold, free and jaunty walk, quite up to five miles an hour, being the theme of general admira-

(1) Hence, our word *raid*.

(2) And why they won't use the nominative vis I cannot tell.

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