


vantages of to-day retained to be added to those of yesterday, to which end not only must the kind and the quality and quantity of the food be attended to, but the circumstances under which this food can best give out its good qualities to the animal. This will never be done if proper housing be not provided, in which ample room, pure air, and thorough cleanliness be attended to and secured. Good exercise ground in the shape of ample spaced yards should also be provided. One thing is essential in the housing of calves, and not seldom is it neglected, and that is good, clean, sweet bedding. It is really pitiable to see sometimes the damp, wet, nay, sloppy, bedding upon which poor calves are forced to lie. This induces, we believe, diseases which often puzzle the farmer; and there can be no doubt of this, that dirty breeding and pens do increase the plague of lice, to which calves are even under favorable circumstances too liable. Let, then, the pens and the bedding with which they are provided be clean and sweet, and the calves also be well curry-combed, or rubbed with rough and clean straw, and lice and some forms of skin complaints will be in a great measure kept down. And here, while on the subject of housing and bedding of calves, we may note that, important at all times to be attended to as it is, it is doubly important in wintry, cold, or damp weather. We know of no notion—and we regret to say that it is a very commonly-received one—that has done and does so much to keep in our stocks, so to speak, so many poor specimens of the bovine race as that which inculcates the necessity for what is called the “hardening” or “roughing” of young stock. The latter is a peculiarly suggestive term, for roughing it assuredly is. Yet, how often do we see young stock kept exposed for days to the bitter biting blasts of winter, to the chilling winds and rains, and the discomfort of these intensified by scanty supplies of food, and this, too, of the least nutritious nature, which are given to them; and all this done with the view to harden and so to improve them. In defiance of all good rules of breeding is this done, as, indeed, it is in defiance of all rules of an enlightened humanity. “This system of roughing,” says an eminent authority on breeding and feeding, “has the effect of weakening their constitutions; and this system pursued towards the young stock for two or three generations will ruin the best breed of cattle in the country. The offspring after this time will


have lost all the quality, early maturity, and propensity to fatten of their ancestors; and it will require years of the greatest care to recover what is thus lost.” If, then, this be true, as indeed it will be difficult to prove it to be otherwise, in what condition must the stock be in some districts where the plan of roughing is kept up now as closely as it has been kept up for years, as the wisest and the best thing to do? Difficult, indeed, does it seem to be to persuade those who uphold this pernicious custom to give it up on account of its cruelty; but surely if they for a moment considered the whole bearings of the case they would give it up on account of its wastefulness.—*The Scottish Farmer*.

#### HIGH PRICES FOR SHEEP.

HEEP breeders will be interested in the following paragraph which we clip from a Vermont paper:

E. R. Clay of Middlebury, recently sold to Jerome Cherbino, of Weybridge, and Milo Williamson, Cornwall, a ram lamb four months and a half old, for \$1,000. This lamb was sired by Gold Drop, and from a ewe bred by Henry Lane of Cornwall. Milo Ellsworth of Cornwall sold to Aspah Drake of the same town, a yearling ram for \$1,000. Col. Stowell of Cornwall, sold to Henry Huff, of Jonesville, Michigan, his yearling ram Searcher for \$3,000. A. N. Saxton of Waltham, sold to Messrs. Ainsworth & Twitchell of Middlebury, his stock ram for \$1,500. Oscar Bacon of Waltham, sold two yearling rams to Ellis & Bingham for \$2,500. S. S. Rockwell of Cornwall, sold to Judson Wright of Weybridge, a yearling ram for \$2,500. Edgar Sandford sold to Ellis & Bingham, a yearling ram for \$2,500.

#### ESTIMATING WEIGHT OF CATTLE BY MEASUREMENT.

HE Canada Farmer, in reply to a correspondent, says:

Many experiments have been made by graziers and salesmen to ascertain the net weight of cattle by measurement, and a number of rules and tables have been formed of the results obtained. None, however, can be regarded as absolutely correct. With the most accurate measuring is required a practical acquaintance with the points and forms of animals, and allowance must be made according to age, size, breed, mode and length of time of fattening, &c.; conditions which require a