

A Few Words About Horses.

Hay and oats make the best feed for horses that are obliged to work hard and regularly. If the hay is cut and the oats bruised or ground, the whole mixed and moistened, the horse will eat his rations quicker, digest them sooner, and thus have more time for resting and renewing his power for labor. Farmers' horses that work little during winter may be kept cheaper by cutting and mixing bright straw and hay in equal quantities, and adding a ration of steamed potatoes or raw carrots. Colts should be fed liberally on good hay—bright clover is best—and bruised oats; give them a roomy box stall in stormy weather and during nights. Litter freely, and do not let the manure accumulate under them. Sawdust or spent tan makes good and convenient bedding; in cities and villages they are often cheaper than straw. Groom horses well, and let them have exercise every day, a run in the yard is excellent. See that stable floors over basements are good and strong. Arrange the feeding racks so that the dust and hay seed will not fall into horses' manes or eyes; some horsemen build their mangers too high, thus forcing the animal to take an unnatural and painful position when eating. Farm horses that are not working should have their shoes taken off, and those that are driven on the road should be kept well shod.

Well Bred Horses.

From a letter by Henry Ware, of Louisiana, to the *Rural World*, we take a brief extract, showing the advantages to be derived from raising well bred horses, and the early training and good treatment of colts:—

"In the first place, well bred horses are generally admitted to be the safest, healthiest, hardiest and most intelligent horses. My own experience confirms this opinion, so far as handling the Ethan Allen and Seth Warner stock of horses is concerned. Good qualities will most generally be found in well bred horses. Early training has much to do with the qualities of animals as well as human beings. Well bred colts are generally better cared for, handled earlier, and make the kindest, safest and best animals for all purposes.

The first thing is the blood—the family; next the early training. The well bred horse is not only the handsomest, safest and kindest, but the advantage and pleasure of quick travel is really great, especially to men of business and means. And lastly, the well bred horses will endure more and last longer than the plug.

I am of the opinion that when breeders raise the best families of the trotting horse for actual service, as well as speed, and select horses to breed from of good size and kind disposition, with all the natural gifts for harness and the saddle, with undoubted pedigree, it will pay.

One should begin to handle the colt when a day old. It will soon become attached to you. Under kind treatment it will learn to fear and respect you. Animals of such qualities, with speed and durability combined, will always find a market among ladies and gentlemen of taste and means.

There are some things it never pays to doctor. If you have a sick fruit tree of any kind dig it up at once, and in so doing dig a big hole ready for a thrifty tree next spring.

The Hullet Agricultural Society.

The Hullet Agricultural Society are just about establishing a monthly cattle market at Clinton. The first market takes place on the 6th of March. The society have an annual dinner, and they keep up the old English plan better than any other society in Canada. The dinner takes place on the 6th of March. Go and see how they manage.

A correspondent of the *Rural Home*, speaking of the benefit which birds render the farmer, says: Recently, while at work near a wheat field, my attention was called to the fact that some of the wheat had been picked from the heads in certain parts of the field. As my neighbors seemed to think that the mischief was done by yellow birds, I obtained a gun, and killed one of the supposed offenders. Although interrupted while taking his breakfast, we found in his stomach only three grains of wheat, and, by actual count, three hundred and fifty weevils.

The Difference Blood Makes in Steers

J. B. Latta, Grandview, Louisa Co., Iowa, very briefly gives one instance from his experience in handling steers, illustrating the advantage and profit resulting from the presence of good blood in beeves, and the higher price commanded in the market, as compared with scrubs. Some four or five years ago he purchased a lot of sixteen steers to round up a lot he was ready to ship. Of these, fourteen were good, fair native steers, three years old past, and two were three-quarter-bred Durham, two years old, or one year younger than the natives. None of them were corn-fed, and they were taken direct from the farmer's pasture where they were grazing; placed upon the cars and shipped to Chicago market. The three-year-old native steers were sold for \$48.50 per head, and the two-year-old grades brought \$75 per head.

These figures are suggestive. Had these fourteen native steers been grades like the others, they would have brought \$371 more money, without allowing for the difference in age. When we come to consider the difference in age, however, and

make the proportionate allowance which the selling price indicates for the earlier maturity of the grade steers, we find these native steers brought (\$597), almost six hundred dollars less than they would have brought had they been good grades.

It would seem from this that general farmers who have no thought of going into the fancy or blooded-stock business, could afford to pay a good round figure for a thoroughbred bull, even if the number of steers raised by them be very small. There is nothing strange, in the light of figures like these, that farmers raising native steers complain of hard times. — *National Live Stock Journal*.

Hay, Grain and Water.

Hay and rough feed should be fed in racks; the simpler and cheaper, if durable, the better.

The practice of placing in the racks enough hay to last a week or more is open to objection. If in the yard it is damaged by the sun and storm; if in the shed it becomes tainted with the breath of the stock; then the stock will select the best first, which prevents even feeding. As a rule it is preferable not to fill the racks with hay and not put in more than enough for the day.

For the farmer with good hay, corn in the

ear is the cheapest grain and answers a fair purpose unless for special feeding. It seems to be the general experience that fine cornmeal ferments in the stomach, and unless feed with fine-cut hay or straw, is less profitable than whole corn. Where corn or cornmeal is used it is desirable to give a mess of wheat bran at least twice a week with a little salt in it.

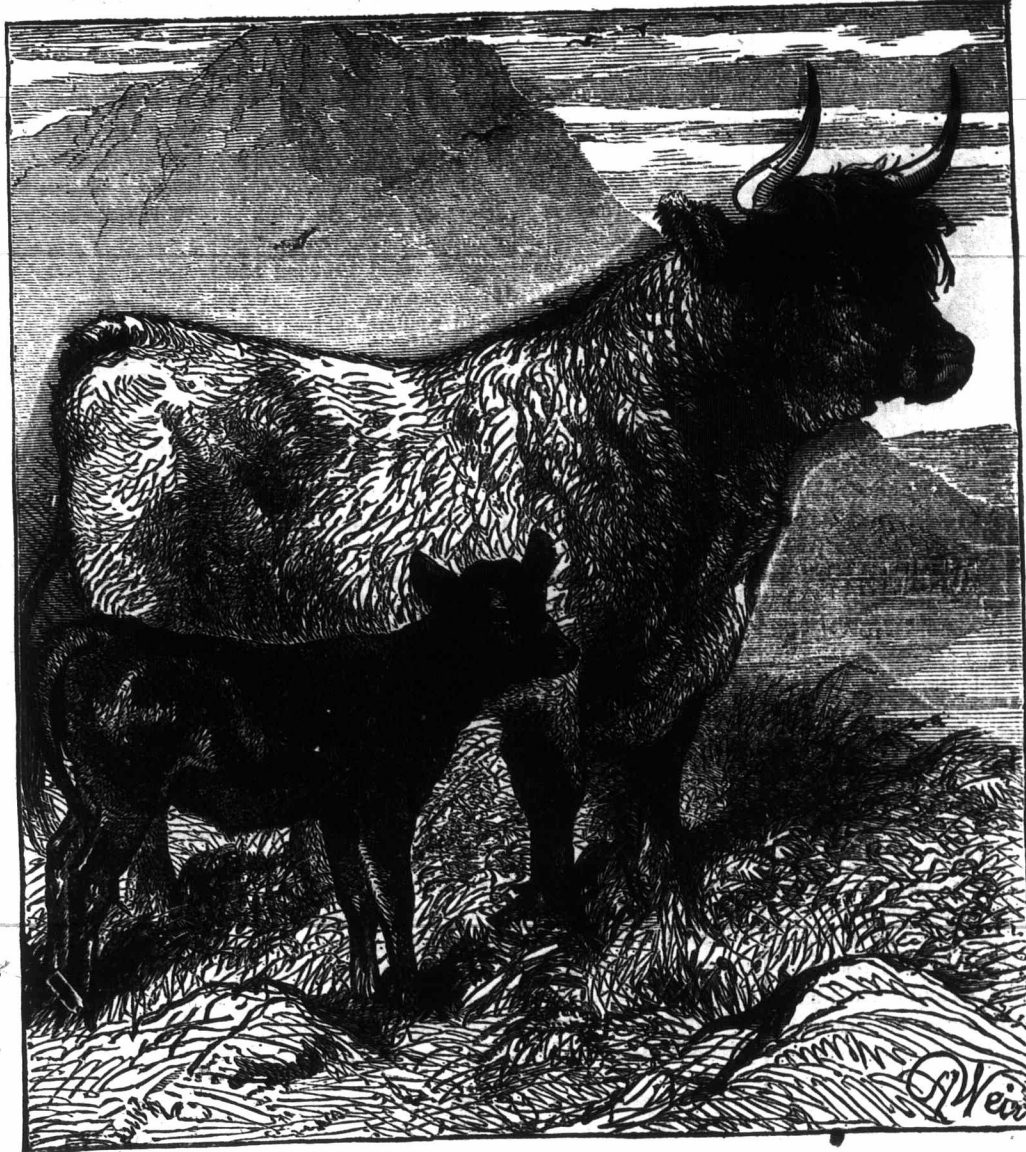
We have a poor opinion of a creek or run for winter watering of stock:

1st. The approaches are deep with mud or covered with ice to the great detriment of the stock. Frequently fear of the one or the other deters an animal from taking water as often as it requires.

2. The water is too warm in the summer and too cold in the winter.

3. Through an alluvial soil, surface water, unless in a rapid stream, retains quite a portion of the poisons resulting from vegetable decomposition.

Water the stock twice per day with water fresh from the well when the reservoir system is not in use.



THE KYLOE WEST HIGHLANDER.

Stock.

The Kylor or West Highlander.

There is a breed of cattle that we have not yet given a representation of to our readers, and which might be advantageously introduced into some parts of our vast and greatly diversified country. The Kylor or West Highlander is well adapted to the rough pastures of the districts where it is bred. It yields, at four or five years old, the very best of beef, when fed for some little time on more southern grazing lands, to which they are annually driven in large droves. Their characteristics are long, upturned horns, a shaggy coat, of a yellow dun, or black color, and well-made, compact little body. They are natives of Scotland, as their name implies, and are rarely found out of that country.