

way. To do this varies with the animal, which must be watched, and various feeds tried; almost invariably an increase of the ordinary rations will answer; if not, change the grain, even if Indian meal must be used. Roots are most excellent, but often mangolds or carrots are not relished when potatoes or apples would be; in an obstinate case I found condimental food effectual.

Once the animal is decidedly on the gaining road, leave off—should they have been resorted to—Indian meal and condimental food. Keep her in robust health, guarding against feverishness, the main thing for this purpose being to keep the bowels rather loose than the contrary.

On the other hand, should the system be plethoric, the animal in high health, aim to keep her well and strong while reducing the flesh. This can usually be done by feeding solely on good hay—good meadow hay is often the very best food in such cases; roots will generally keep the bowels open; if not, give daily two quarts of shorts, with one quart *old style* oil meal.

As the time for calving approaches, say a month previously, the milk will, usually, decidedly decrease. This may be assisted by not stripping at milking time, then milking once a day, then less frequently, until scarcely any is given, when it will take care of itself. To get a cow dry, I should never reduce her condition; if, as is often the case with large milkers, she can not be dried off, water may be given sparingly; that is, she must not have all she will drink, but always enough to insure against thirst, and her food reduced as much as it can be without loss of condition, choosing also the kind that least tends to milk. Do not milk dry, but keep the bag easy, free from caking, by gentle manipulation. It seems to me that any purge, before or after calving, is unwise as reducing the strength.

As soon as the cow has licked the calf over, give her a gruel, blood warm, made of one quart of rye meal and one quart of shorts, quite liquid, with a tablespoonful of powdered nitre, well dissolved in boiling water, in it, and leave her in quiet to get rid of her afterbirth; in four hours give her another drink, made in the same way, should the afterbirth not have come away; if it has, of two quarts of shorts of the same temperature and consistency as before, and in either case with the nitre; also a handful, not an armful, of good sweet hay, free from clover. After this, feed three times a day a gruel made of one quart of ground oats and one quart of shorts, with the tablespoonful of nitre morning and night, and the handful of hay each time.

The grain for the gruel should be

thoroughly wet with cold water first, but not stopped; then *boiling* water poured on, enough to cook it, and the mixture cooled with cold water to the proper temperature; thus there will be about a pailful of liquid three times a day, which is sufficient for thirst. At the noon feed, when no nitre is used, put in half a spoonful of table salt; continue this treatment for 72 hours, when the cow and calf should be separated and a gradual return made to her full and usual feed, if all is right. There is always a slight feverishness after calving; should it increase instead of diminish, give 40 drops (about three-fourths of a teaspoonful) of tincture of aconite every four hours, until the fever is reduced, omitting the powdered nitre in the gruel.

If when offered her gruel at any time after calving, the cow refuses it, she is probably very ill, and the sooner prompt measures are taken against milk fever, the better.

Above all, guard against a chill at the time of calving and for four days after, both in winter and summer, and against overheating in the latter.—*From Country Gentleman.*

The following appeared in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, London, July 25th, 1885:—

The Apple Crop in Nova Scotia is a matter of so much concern to British consumers and British merchants that we hasten to lay before them the following communication from our correspondent in Nova Scotia, and in which the prospects of the apple crop are spoken of very favourably:—

"The spring season was a very favourable one for cultivators of the soil this year; the heavy covering of snow last winter prevented the frost going very deep, and in April we had the unusual phenomenon of the frost being out of the ground (as it is commonly expressed) before the covering of snow had left us. All crops started early; we had fine weather for seed time. Our apple orchards profited by the genial weather. Blossoming was abundant, and the early growth strong, but we had a long course of unmitigated dry weather in June. This seemed to shrivel up some of the newly formed fruit.

The most reliable reports I have received from the several counties in which fruit is raised, correspond very well with a very explicit statement made to me by Colonel W. E. Starratt, of Paradise, Annapolis County, who is himself owner of one of the finest orchards in the Annapolis Valley. He says that there will be an ample, if not unusually abundant, crop of fall (autumn) and early winter apples, and that the clean, healthy ap-

pearance of the trees gives every indication of good quality of fruit. We shall thus be able, it is hoped, to hold our own in the English market as regards quality and beauty of sample in early winter apples; and as regards quantity the number of barrels will certainly not be less than heretofore, as new orchards are coming into bearing every successive year. As regards late winter or spring fruit we cannot say as much. There is a decided deficiency in quantity, and what the quality will be remains to be seen. Nonpareils are, in many orchards, a complete failure. (The Yellow Bellefleur, or "Bishop's Pippin," as it is commonly called in Nova Scotia, has of late years become so spotted and small in size, that its vocation as one of our leading market apples is well nigh gone.)

"Our small fruits had a hard time during the June drought, but we have had abundant warm showers so far during the present month (July) which has brought about a great change on all our crops in field and garden. We are now in the midst of our strawberry season. The Sharpless appears to be the most showy one offering on market. Strawberries are now selling at from 10 to 15 cents a box (supposed to contain a quart), say from 5d. to 7½d. per quart."

[The reports from correspondents, in our last and present numbers, modify the Fruit Prospects as indicated in the above article. A synopsis of them have been sent to the London publication.]

In the evidence before the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Poor, we find some interesting statements by Mr. William Smith, farmer, West Drums, near Brechin, Scotland. In less than 20 years the wages of farm labourers have risen 50 per cent. The money wage runs from \$125 to \$170 per annum, but the usual allowances of meal, fuel, milk, &c., increase it to \$250 or \$275.

"By the Chairman—Then the condition of the labourers of the eastern counties of Scotland as stated by you is distinctly favourable. It appears at first sight to compare very favourably with that of the labourers of the south of England, and to compare very well even with that of the labourers of the north of England?—We have a very good class of men. They are well paid, and they are industrious and saving. I could give you some curious reminiscences if time permitted. Three of my first men have educated sons for professions. In the case of one of them his son is an advocate, another is in the management of a railway in South America, another is at the head of a foundry in Canada, another fills a responsible position in a mercantile house in Glasgow, and another has the management of Irish property. Those