

and inferior in digestibility and wholesomeness, during the greater part of her term of milking. He must also expect a depreciation in yield. The liberal flow of milk which follows for a few months after dropping her calf soon begins to fall off, and continues to diminish till, sooner or later, she becomes dry, it may be two years. Perhaps one cow in a thousand may continue to give milk continuously for five or six years, but nine-tenths cease at the expiration of two years, and the yield of the second year is but half that of the first. The milk of a farrow cow costs, for the second year, double that of the same cow fresh in milk, besides being inferior in quality and wholesomeness. It is therefore neither desirable nor economical to farrow a cow to protract her season of milking to the end of two years instead of one. The short interruption in the supply which it prevents does not compensate for the greater cost and inferior quality. The writer has found by experience as well as from the study of milk, that it is much cheaper and more satisfactory when a single cow is wanted, to select one which will hold out milking through, or very nearly through the year, or till she comes in again, which is not difficult, and let her come in fresh at intervals of a year or a little more. There will be a few days just before and just after dropping her calf that the milk will not be fit for use, otherwise the supply will be continuous, and be cheaper and more desirable, whether the calf is raised, vealed, or given away.—*Prof. Arnold in N.Y. Tribune.*

#### HORSE CRIBBING.

Two methods of curing a horse of cribbing are going the rounds. One is that "a horse was cured of the habit of gnawing the manger and halter straps by saturating the wood-works and straps with kerosene oil. One thorough application produced a permanent cure." The other, by a correspondent of the *Country Gentleman*, is as follows: "Get some cayenne pepper (red pepper pods will do) and make a strong pepper tea. Wash the stall, manger and feed-box thoroughly with the tea boiled down very strong; also wash the neck-yoke and waggon or sleigh tongue, if driving the horse daily. Do this once a week for several weeks, and if it is a young horse it will most likely cure him. A good many old ones have also been cured."

#### BREAKING COLTS.

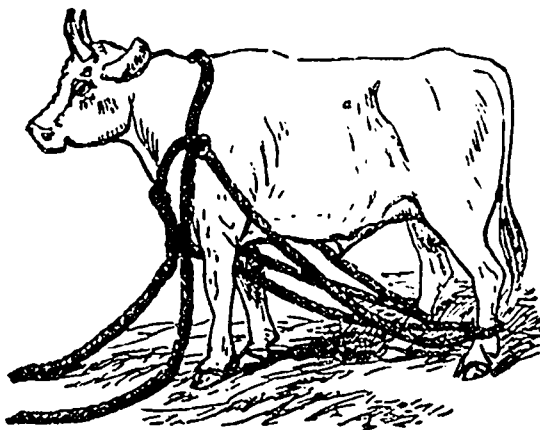
Colts should be broken to harness at three years old, and used in light work for two years, when they will become matured and fit for full work. If they are used for hard service before their joints become settled, or surrounded by a full-grown texture of muscle and sinews to support them, they are liable to become strained, causing spavins, or bony enlargements, that will destroy their future usefulness. Any imbecile can break down the colt; but it requires good sense to build them up after they have been crippled by ignorant task masters. It is not worth while to risk the experiment of converting sound colts into invalids, when they will live longer and perform more service if suffered to ripen into the full matured horse before being put to hard work.—*National Live Stock Journal.*

#### BARREN HEIFER.

The cases of barrenness in heifers which are likely to yield to treatment are such as where the animal shows signs of heat at regular periods, but where impregnation is rendered impossible from mechanical obstruction, etc. Where the animal never shows any signs of heat, this may, among other causes, be due to disease or degeneration of the ovaries, etc. If the barrenness is due to a mechanical obstruction that can be reached with the hand, such as occlusion of the entrance into the womb, this may be removed by simple manipulation or with the aid of surgery. Medicines administered internally are not likely to prove serviceable.—*Breeder's Gazette, Chicago.*

#### HOW TO CAST AN ANIMAL.

Pass a rope first around the neck, a noose being formed in the centre of a strong rope, the ends of which are carried between the fore legs, each respectively drawn through the ring upon the hobble put upon each hind fetlock, and afterwards through the rope collar upon each side. The head being secured,



force is applied to one rope, in a line with the body, the pullers being behind, and the other at right angles, or from the side. When the animal falls the ropes must be secured by drawing them into knots at the collar or around the fetlocks of the hind feet.

#### FACTS ABOUT FEEDING.

The editor of *The Massachusetts Ploughman* contrasts farmers of his acquaintance in respect to the important matter of feeding all animals. Some with sixteen pounds of hay and four quarts of cornmeal per day to each cow keep their dairy herds in better condition than others on a ration nearly twice as large. Regularity is of great advantage and the proper supply is the point to be most carefully considered:

"Over-feeding results in the derangement of the digestive organs, the loss of appetite, and finally the loss of flesh. An animal thus injured cannot be brought back to as good condition as can one that has grown poor by feeding half rations. A hog that has once been overfed is rarely ever brought back to a good, healthy condition. In fattening hogs great care should be taken to never give them more than they will readily eat up clean. Whenever a hog fails to eat at once what is placed before him, it should be taken away. While it may not be as important to make other farm stock eat up clean all that is fed out, it is never good policy to permit food to

lay before any animal, after it has satisfied its appetite. We have always noticed that successful feeders of cattle are particular to clean out the cribs as soon as the cattle have done eating."

From *The Germantown Telegraph* we take this advice about feeding horses, many of which are irreparably injured by mistaken liberality with rations:

"At times horses are habitually overfed, and their systems become so disordered by it that their health suffers and the power of digestion failing, they lose flesh instead of gaining it, and will recover condition only by diminishing from one-fourth to one-half the quantity of their allowance. Frequently old horses become thin on account of their teeth wearing unevenly, so that it is not in their power to masticate their food. In such cases a farrier should be employed to file them; or the owner if he possesses the particular kind of file used, can file them himself. In this case, much less food will soon restore the horse to a proper condition. Rock-salt should of course be ever present in the manger, as a horse was never known to take too much of it."

Mr. A. W. Cheever cites, in his *New-England Farmer*, an incident in proof of the fact that "a great many animals are seriously injured by over-feeding" (and of course abused) and he refers to a point in his own successful practice:

"We knew of a barn full of cattle that were fed almost nothing the past winter but good, merchantable upland hay, grown by high culture and liberal manuring. The cattle were kept warm, were nicely bedded, the stables were cleaned often, and water was freely provided, yet the cattle came out thin in the spring and made but little growth. The difficulty was that the good hay was given far too freely, or certainly too much at a time. There was plenty of hay in the barn, and the attendant wanted to make a good showing of his skill in stock feeding, so he filled the racks and mangers full at each feeding. At first the cattle, coming in from a short pasture, would eat heartily, but, with little or no exercise, there was less food called for, and the quantity given was greater than the system required. Of course, a portion would be left uneaten after the whole had been picked over and the choicest portions taken out. The rest was breathed over till nothing would eat it, when it was hauled under foot, trodden upon and wasted. We have for many years made it a practice to feed cattle but two meals per day, one in the morning, the other in the afternoon, aiming to divide the twenty-four hours as nearly as convenient into two equal periods, though the time between night and morning is usually a little longer than the time between morning and evening. A cow's stomach is so constructed that she can easily take enough good food into it to last her twelve hours, and we have long been of the opinion that food is more thoroughly digested when but two meals are given."

The following is said to be a good preparation for brittle hoofs: Beef suet, resin, Barbadoes tar, of each two parts; beeswax and castor oil, of each one part. Melt over a slow fire, or in a pan of hot water.