

LIVE STOCK GLEANINGS.

Boiled potatoes and boiled peas mashed together, and fed with sour milk, it is said, will put flesh on hogs faster than corn.

A Main paper asserts that "Nathaniel Stetson, of Durham, recently lost a valuable cow by having swallowed a darning needle."

A Missouri newspaper claims that the hogs of that State are so fat, that, in order to find out where their heads are, it is necessary to make them squeal and then judge by the sound.

The Farmer (Ky.) *Home Journal* states that the best age of cattle for grazing, is that of three and four years. Let such ages be selected of good high grade or thoroughbred, and liberally fed, and the result we will have no reason to be dissatisfied with.

The New York *Tribune* says:—"If cattle are well fed with roots and some meal, the grubs that burrow under their hide and give them so much uneasiness, will not grow. They are most annoying to poor animals which have only common hay. A rich and varied diet is the best preventative of many ailments, as, saith Scripture, "to him that hath shall be given; and from him that hath not shall be taken even that he hath."

A farmer friend at Rolling Prairie, Indiana, writes as follows:—"I have a little sheep news for you. I had fifty-six sheep, out of one hundred and eighty-six, killed and wounded in one night by dogs; damage assessed at one hundred and eighty-one dollars."

The *Carolina Farmer* says North Carolina is well adapted to sheep husbandry, but owing to the insecurity of flocks from destruction and injury by dogs, very many persons are prevented from enlarging in this most profitable branch of stock raising, and those already engaged in it are prevented from enlarging their operations. Therefore, it suggests that everybody in the State sign petitions entreating the general Assembly to lay such taxes as shall greatly diminish the number of these destructive curs.

J. H. Wallace, furnishes the *Country Gentleman* with facts of some interest, relative to breeding from stallions of various ages. These show that celebrated horses have been raised, that were by stallions from twenty to twenty-seven years old, while equally famous horses have been produced by stallions only three and four years old. The writer concludes that the question of age is not so important as that of condition.

The Gonzales (Texas) *Inquirer* says the Kansas cattle trade next year will not be confined to beefs, as heretofore, but will embrace stock cattle of every description, such as cows, calves, yearlings etc. The *Inquirer* reports that the ruling price for beef

cattle is \$12 per head for first class, and \$10 for second. In the counties west of Gonzales, the stock-raisers are demanding \$15 for choice beefs, but drovers are reluctant.

A farmer in Massachusetts cut an acre of red-top and clover, June 19th, 1868 and stored the hay by itself. On the first of March following, he commenced feeding this hay to ten cows, which had been kept previously on hay of the same variety cut after the middle of July. The early cut hay spent quite as well as the latter cut, and the immediate increase in flow of milk arising from the use of the former, amounting to a daily average of one quart per cow.

A new process for drying roots for feeding stock, has been patented in England. The method consists in applying heat in such a way as to partially cook and dry them without extracting any of the nourishing qualities. It is claimed that the bulk of food being thus reduced, cattle and sheep will consume more nourishment and fatten more rapidly. Another advantage would be less liability to destruction by frost. But it will be a long time before the above-named patent will command a very high price in this part of the country. Corn is a much surer crop than roots more convenient to handle, and affords more fattening material per acre.

The Friend Home recommends salt for swine. It says swine are such greedy feeders that not a few farmers pay very little attention to their feeding. The swill-barrel is often very little better than a sink, and the poor hogs are expected to eat anything and everything which is refused by the other animals, human and brute alike. This short-sighted treatment however, works its own cure, or punishment rather, for swine thus treated make poor pork, and often die before killing time. Others who are particular about feeding their pigs forget to supply them with salt, as they do other animals. They require to be salted, however, just as much as cattle, horses, or sheep, and suffer as much when neglected as any of these animals. If the food be not regularly salted, there should be a trough or box in every sty in which salt may be deposited regularly for the use of the animals. Salting the food judiciously would be much the best way.

An Ohio hog raiser advocates the system of pasturing on clover during the summer. He presents, as the advantage of this plan, the statement that an acre of ground in clover will pasture five hogs four months, and that it will take the corn from half an acre to feed them the same time. The cultivation of the corn he counts equal to the rest of the other half-acre. He farther claims that hogs pastured on clover are in far better condition than if fed on corn, as they are better framed, healthier, and eat better, and also states that the land is enriched by the clover pasturing.

In the year 1817 a speckled ewe was brought from Shetland and given to Mr. Buist, of Ormiston, who, unwilling to kill what he received as a gift, has kept it ever since. This ewe, which died recently, was twenty-eight years old. It may safely be said of it, without the risk of contradiction, that it was the oldest sheep in the British Islands.