

response to the American demand—the influence of the States buyer has led (the fault being with the English breeder) to an enormous amount of what may be termed “jury-building.” The forefathers of the present breeders in England, gave the latter more than a century’s start in the art of producing animal life for pattern.

England can breed horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs to shape with such certainty as no other can: simply because her farmers have dwelt there for generations, with no dread of a foreign invader, and little of any home disturbance, and have surveyed their quadruped dependents with all the greater regularity and care, because they did not trouble their heads at all with books and very little with politics.

England’s farm stock is what it is—the very finest in the world—because the farmers have been plodding, reticent and undemonstrative, but shrewdly observant men. They have known the antecedents of every beast on their farms, to what type its parentages would cause its offspring to approximate, and its constitutional peculiarities. Out of this half traditional knowledge, the first of what are now called “pedigree breeds” of stock were formed. Where the Americans adopted the principle, they have done it without the aid of settled families, without hereditary dependents, by help of which the formation of the chief English breeds became possible. The new registers, made to their order, want the chief factors that gave virtue to the earlier ones, viz., long connection between men and animals and a genuine love of the former to the latter which have never existed anywhere else, except it be between the Arab and his horse.

Many of the minor registers, got up to suit the American cry for them, are neither complete or regular. They have few supporters and those lend only intermittent assistance. To put registers of this class into the same rank as those of the leading breed societies is not at all a wise thing to do from any point of view, in fact it is something worse than unwise.

W. R. GILBERT.

FEEDING GREEN SORGHUM.

Because they have seen cattle eat young first growth and second growth sorghum and kafir corn, and in some instances pretty nearly subsist

on them without apparent harm, many persons are ready to maintain that these green growth are never dangerous. Yet, under circumstances and for reasons which no one is yet able to explain, other persons in numerous instances find to their sorrow that the plants are almost immediately fatal. This suggests that no one is justified in taking any chances by permitting cattle to have access to such “greens.” Among others, Secretary Coburn, of the Kansas Board of Agriculture, cites three examples of their fatal effects occurring but a few years ago. Thomas Feakes, of Lincoln County, turned his cows into an unused corral where a few scattering bunches of kafir corn were growing. In less than 30 minutes seven of the cows that had nipped the growing blades, were dead; several others were made very sick, but recovered.

John Kaser, of Covert, Osborne County, was driving a lot of young cattle through a pasture where there were stools of green kafir corn and sorghum. Within 30 minutes ten out of eleven heifers that had eaten of these sprouts were dead. C. F. Wadsworth, of the same county, at about the same time, lost six steers in the same way.

Losses such as these are of annual occurrence, and a list of them would be very long. The fact that results are not always fatal should not furnish an excuse for taking risks so likely to prove extremely expensive. Certain safety is only assured by absolutely preventing cattle from getting within reach of the plants named, even for the briefest intervals.—*Kansas Board of Trade.*

THE DANGER LIMIT IN THE USE OF SORGHUM.

A great many letters have come to the Experiment Station asking for advice as to pasturing sorghum. The publicity given to the injurious effects of sorghum through the investigations carried on by this Station to ascertain the cause has moved people, not heretofore acquainted with this occasionally exhibited peculiarity of the plant, to become suspicious of it. While no further positive information has been obtained on the subject, there yet remains a word or two that may be profitably spoken.

The records of this Station do not show any cases of sudden death from sorghum occurring in the eastern portion of Nebraska, with the except-