Profit of Cut and Cooked Food over Uncut and Uncooked Food.

Proportioning the young stock by what they eat with full grown cows, we find we have a stock of 52 full grown animals, and they consumed 259 bundles of fodder on an average a week; corn meal 30 bushels, and bran 1,000 lbs.

250 bundles corn fodder at 6 cts	$15 00	
30 bushels meal, 25 bushels corn	16 00	
1,000 lbs bran	12 00	
		$43 00
3 days' work for one man, at $1 25 per day		75
Coal, ¼ ton per week		2 50
Interest on $1,000, for 26 weeks, per week		4 00
Total expense for one week for horses and cattle, counting extra time spent in cutting and cooking	$53 00	
15 bushels corn for pigs, made into mush at 50 cts	7 50	
Total expenses for all stock one week	$60 75	

I know some Chester county dairies that feed 2½ bundles of corn fodder per day to each cow, with hay in the stables, whose cows do not look any better than my own, if as well; but we will count the fodder alone:

42 head, 2½ bundles fodder per day, making 735 bundles per week at 6 cts	$44 10
Same quantity corn and bran	28 00
Miller's toll on 25 bushels for cows, 30 bushels for pigs at 1 16 for grinding, waste not counted	3 30
One-fourth of a day for man to go to mill, waste and tear not counted	75
Extra feed for pigs one week taking as much more corn	7 50
Two hours extra time required to feed	1 87
Total for one week uncut and uncooked	$85 52

In favor of cooked food $24 77; or about $650 for the winter season.

Besides this, the cows would not look as well, nor do as well in any way, for they do no better than mine when they have hay twice a day. In addition to this, the manure would not be as good, and perhaps we might have lost some of our best cows at calving. There is no feed equal to it for young cattle and for milch cows. It keeps the hair short and glossy, the skin loose and mellow, and the animal healthy in general; looking more as though they were on grass than upon winter feed.

We intend soiling entirely this coming summer, and have already nearly all our inside fence torn away to make good the live ones left. We have 130 acres of land, 100 of which are tillable. We propose keeping 40 cows, some 20 head of growing stock, 5 horses, 40 or 50 thorough bred pigs for shipping, and some good poultry.—*Cor. Practical Farmer.*

Is Occasional Change of Pastures Desirable.

We copy the following from Proceedings of Central New York Farmers Club. If any of our dairymen have experience on this point we shall be pleased to hear from them:

"Dr. L. L. Wight, of Whitestown, said, 'I believe it is now conceded that cattle do better by being confined to one pasture during the season than by changing from one field to another, as has at times been recommended. This is at least decidedly in accordance with my experience. There should therefore be but one pasture for cows, unless they number over 75 in a dairy, under which circumstances it may be preferable to divide them. Thus, on ordinary farms, more than one pasture is unnecessary for cows; another should be used if young cattle are reared, or horses or sheep. The meadow had also better be in the same enclosure with the plough-land, thus necessitating only three large lots for a farm of several hundred acres even.' The Hon. Samuel Campbell was 'much interested in the statement that it was conceded that a single pasture was better for the dairy herd. He had supposed that a succession of pastures was approved, but was glad to know otherwise.' Messrs. Bonfoy and Shull approved the one pasture system. The cattle are not restless, they are not subjected to the danger of over-feeding, and there is better yield. Morgan Butler would in the future have but two fields—ploughed land and meadow in one, and pasture in the other. He would not turn the cattle on the meadow until the crop is taken from the ploughed land. We cannot, he added, stand the burden imposed by the cost of fences. It must be reduced. Dr. Wight thought the two-field plan might answer for uplands, but the grass would grow too rank on the Mohawk flats, a flood might come, wash the sand among the grass, and the next year's crop would be short. Mr. Cleveland remarked that if he had his life to live over he would not build so many fences. 'Remove all your fences and soil your cattle,' said Mr. Cleveland."

Buying a Short-horn Bull.

Our opinion has often been expressed that in no way can a farmer so readily and cheaply improve the size, shape and value of his stock of common cattle as by the use of a good Short-horn bull. It is not necessary that such a bull should be especially fashionably bred. He should be well bred and a good animal. He need not be a high priced bull, but he will and ought to cost more than a steer of the same weight is worth for beef. From $100 to $300 will buy such bulls, especially if fashion in pedigree and color be not made essentials. Better bulls can be obtained for more money, but a farmer, or two or three farmers who feel poor, can get a bull sometimes nearer the lower than the higher priced named.

In selecting a bull for such a purpose, we should not make great size an essential—should rather choose a medium sized and rather compactly built animal; looking especially to depth and roundness of body, well developed hind quarters, back, flank, etc. At same price a young bull is to be preferred.—*Western Farmer.*

Swine—Breeding Sexes at Will.

A correspondent of the *Indiana Farmer*, who has been reading a work on the subject of breeding sexes at will, in which the writer claimed that animals bred during the early part of the heat would bring females, while those bred during the last of the heat would produce males, gives the result of experiments in this direction which would seem only slightly to bear out this theory. He says:

For years past I have been so feeding my breeding stock as to have both boars and sows as vigorous as possible about the breeding season, and, as far as I can arrange it, I have the sows to come in heat as near the same time as feed and being kept near company will bring it about. My boars are confined so as to restrain them from over service.

Of my breeding stock last fall, I bred ten of my sows, in the first flush of heat, to three boars, all under as high feed as they would take, and all on both sides in good condition for breeding. The result of this breeding was thirty-six boars and fifty-four sow pigs, or eighteen more sow pigs than boars. If there had been nine more boars and nine sows, then the result would have been even as to sexes. I give a full list of the ten, that your readers may have the variation of the result in the test:

	Sow Pigs.	*Boar Pigs.*	*Total.*
1	6	4	10
2	7	3	10
3	9	2	11
4	7	1	8
5	4	5	9
6	6	4	10
7	5	5	10
8	2	4	6
9	4	3	7
10	4	5	9
	54	36	90

There were six sows that brought more sow pigs, three that brought more boars, and some of equal number of pigs each. There is no mistake as to their all being bred as above stated, as they were closely looked after three times per day by myself. I particularly look after my own stock during the serving and farrowing season, and would like some of the advocates of the theory to do the same and give the public the result, which may be more favorable to the theory under different circumstances.

Mutton vs. Bacon.

We have never been able to account for the strange prejudice among our people against mutton—one of the most palatable, digestible and wholesome meats. An exchange paper, commenting upon some errors of dieting among farmers, says truly, that "a great many tillers of the soil drag out miserable days, simply because they will persist in eating salt pork, and salt hams and shoulders, in spring and summer, when a dish of good mutton would give them new life and strength." We mean to repeat a thousand times, or at least till what we say has some effect upon our countrymen, that a pound of lean, tender, juicy mutton can be produced for half the cost of the same quantity of fat pork; that it is infinitely healthier food, especially in the summer season, and that those who eat it become more muscular, and can do more work with greater ease to themselves. We know nothing more delicious than smoked mutton hams of the Southdown breed of sheep. Venison itself is not superior. By smoking a portion of the flesh of a sheep, most families can dispose of the four quarters in an economical manner before any part of it would spoil.—*Tennessee Agriculturist.*

Root Crop for Milch Cows.

Which to the space of land is the most profitable to cultivate for milch cows, the ruta-baga turnip or beets. Which will produce the most milk and best quality?—L. L. HASSELL, Orange Co., N. C.

The preference in flavor and quality of milk is on the side of the beet; and where the soil and culture are especially adapted to it, the preference in quantity is also with the beet. In a very rich, mucky soil, ruta-bagas and turnips will give the larger yield; in a light loam, especially a sandy loam, beets will yield best. On a loamy soil, not highly manured, the Hon. Harris Lewis raises 40 tons to the acre. This is more than could be obtained from that either of turnips or ruta-bagas, and indeed more than most beet raisers realise. Mr. Lewis is especially skilful in the cultivation of the beet. He uses refuse salt as a fertilizer and a protection against drought, sowing it once or twice in the dry part of the season, broadcast, at the rate of about 300 pounds to the acre. Successful beet raising also depends very much upon a judicious selection of varieties; the Orbitant Giant, Yellow Ovid, White Silesian and Vilmorin's Improved White are among the best. The yield of turnips also depends largely on the variety selected. Beets have another advantage on the score of aiding digestion. It is a point in bovine digestion that while the food lies in the first stomach, or pouch, waiting, or rather preparing for remastication, it should undergo a certain amount of fermentation. This fermentation is the first step in the process of digestion, and the acid developed is a direct and essential agent in stimulating the activity and strength of the gastric juice, when the food reaches the true or fourth stomach. The large amount of sugar in the beet contributes essentially to the requisite fermentation, besides furnishing an abundance of material for producing fat. Ruta-bagas and turnips are not altogether destitute of the same properties, but they possess them in an inferior degree. All are excellent, especially when fed in connection with dry food, and ought to be more extensively cultivated by dairymen, both for winter feed and for soiling.—L. B. ARNOLD *in N. Y. Weekly Tribune.*

HOLLOW HORN.—Saltpetre, one tablespoonful; blood-root, same; both ground fine. Give it in a mush; for three mornings if they do not lick themselves, repeat the dose.

THE PREVENTION OF HOG CHOLERA.—The *Rural World* says that one of the largest hog breeders in Missouri, who frequently has several hundred head at once, never has any sick. He gives them salt, just as he does other stock. In cooking food for hogs—which he does in a large wooden boiler holding thirty or forty bushels—he has the coals and ashes thrown in the boiler and boiled with the food. He also sometimes puts in salt and sulphur. His hogs eat burnt charcoal as freely as they do corn. They are sheltered from the cold and storms by movable sheds. Occasionally, he dissolves copperas (sulphate of iron) in water, and mixes it with their food. This destroys internal worms and is also a tonic. Hogs are as subject to colds and pneumonia as human beings. The internal organs of the hog more closely resemble those of man than any other animal.

FEEDING GROUND FEED.—At a meeting of the Little Falls Farmers' Club, held on March 27th, this subject was discussed. Mr. Harris Lewis said that he had fed ground feed in the earlier years of his dairy experience, feeding all he had dared to, and of different kinds. Buckwheat produced the greatest flow of milk, at expense of flesh; corn meal never increased quantity or quality of milk, oat meal increased flow of milk and flesh of cows. Wheat shorts is best of all, but would prefer oats if cost was not so great. He thought that Mr. L. W. Miller, of Chautauque County, would fail in his experiment of wintering cows on three quarts of corn meal each without other feed. He thinks that it does not pay to feed meal to cows when they can get good pasture. X. A. Willard thought that when hay is as high as at present, it pays to feed corn meal; also when pastures are short. He also advocated sowing corn for fodder, which Mr. Lewis thinks is almost worthless. Sweet corn is best for this purpose, in the opinion of several members of the Club. Mr. Lewis thought high feeding tended to produce disease, but Mr. Brown said that the dairy cows in England are healthy, and much higher fed than here. Mr. Josiah Shull fattened a cow this last winter, and as he increased the meal, the flow of milk fell off. Her value November 1st was $15; cost of feed till April 1st, $46 50. She has given 1,266 lbs. of milk, which at 1¼ cents is worth $15 82, and she was sold April 1st at $70. If manure pays for care, the profits were $24 32.—*Country Gentleman.*