

ral. It must be admitted that the class of farmers who largely use pork, are as healthy and as free from scrofula as any other class. The American people of the rural districts are not tainted, or affected by scrofula. If you will inquire within the circle of your acquaintance, you will find this to be a fact. But consider how large an income the farmer derives from raising and selling his pork—how extensive is the commerce in this branch of business. Go, for instance, to Cincinnati or Chicago, and visit the slaughter houses and pork establishments, and you will be astonished at the extent to which the pork business is carried.

In conclusion, we are forced to say, that instead of wishing the quantity of pork to be diminished in our country, we would rather wish that it might be greatly increased; for no other kind of animal food can be its substitute and meet the wants of the community.—*Iowa Homestead.*

Farm Stock.

THE raising and care of stock demands the attention of every farmer. The manner in which he performs this part of his labour, is a very true criterion by which to judge of his merits and success as a farmer. The man who keeps a lot of lean, hungry looking cattle, is not the man to stand high as a farmer, nor to find farming very profitable in the long run. Far too little attention is paid to the choice of stock. Very many farmers, because they can get a little more money from the butcher for a nice calf than for a common one, sell the best and raise the other. But this course, except for a very short time, is far from being profitable. It is a law of nature that "like produces like," and from this law there are few deviations. Now, the farmer who raises an inferior calf, not only makes sure of one inferior animal, but all the descendants of that animal will be a low grade. This is an item worthy of consideration. The difference in the value of a good and an inferior cow, for the purpose of raising stock, is very much greater than the difference in the price. Feeding is an important part of the care of stock. The best breeds of animals, unless well fed, will be of little profit. Many farmers seem to think that the greater the number of cattle they can keep on a given quantity of hay, the more profitable it will be. But this is a mistake. The old maxim, "anything that is worth doing at all is worth doing well," is eminently true of feeding stock. It is cruel and unprofitable to keep an animal so short for food as to have it grow poor. Cruel, because nearly all the comfort and happiness of animals consist in gratifying the appetite. Unprofitable, because they are losing flesh, when by a more liberal feeding, they would be gaining in flesh and value. Some farmers sell their best hay and feed their poorest, and seem to think they are on the high road to wealth. They are on the road; but they are moving backwards. Good cattle can no more be raised on poor hay than a good house can be built with shaky boards. In either case there is an utter impossibility, because the materials used are not of the right description. Good breeds, good care, and last, but not least, good feed, are the three principal, essential elements of success in this department of farming.—*Cor. Rural American.*

FEEDING PEAS.—When peas are to be fed to swine without threshing, those who practice feeding them prefer putting in large stacks. Then, those that are wet by rains can be fed out before they have been injured. If designed for sheep next winter, it is better to house them, or put them in long and narrow stacks, and cover with a lean-to roof of boards.

BLEEDING HOGS.—A recent writer says: "Bleeding is a remedy for most of the diseases to which a hog is liable, and one of the best places to bleed a hog is in the roof of the mouth." He objects to bleeding from the artery inside the fore-arm just above the knee, because it is more difficult to stop the flow of blood there than in the roof of the mouth. In the latter place it is stopped by applying a cloth well saturated with cold water.

A NEW DODGE FOR GETTING OVER A DIFFICULTY.—Riding a high-couraged mare the other evening up a narrow lane, I met a threshing machine coming smoking along towards me. Of course, when within fifty yards, there was a sudden bolt round. One of the men came forward to lead the mare past, but she reared up, and would go no nearer; the other then came up and said, "Let me have her, sir, and I'll warrant she'll go, for I never saw one that I couldn't get by yet." I then got off the mare—for there was barely room for her to pass between the machine and the hedge—and he began rubbing her nose with his oily hands, when he took her by the rein, and led her by the machine, without further trouble.—*Continued in The Field.*

CHARCOAL FOR SWINE.—Give your swine charcoal. Its nutritive qualities are such, that they subsist on it for weeks together without other food. Geese, when confined so as to deprive them of motion, and fattened on the grains of corn let ured, have become fat in eight days. Hogs eat it voraciously after a little time, and are never sick while they have a good supply. It should be always kept in the sty, and fed to the inmates regularly like all other food.—*Iowa Homestead.*

HOW A HOG SWEATS.—Not like a horse or a man, but through his forelegs. There is a spot on each leg, just below the knee, in the form of a sieve. Through this the sweat passes off. And it is necessary that this is kept open. If it gets closed, as is sometimes the case, the hog will get sick; he will appear stiff and cramped—and unless he gets relief it will go hard with him. To cure him, simply open the pores. This is done by rubbing the spot with a corn-cob, and washing with warm water.—*Rural World.*

"KEEP A PIG AND A COW."—Good advice where one has a fancy for pigs, but I confess I have no such fancy, and so far as a pecuniary gain my experience has been against rather than for the pig. For some years I kept pigs, feeding on weeds, sour milk, slops, etc., until the time of sweet apples, then fattening on apples, and ripening off with corn, but I found the money paid for my pigs, and the value of my apples and corn, at twenty-five cents a bushel, amounted to more than my pork would sell for when taken to market. I now practice a compost heap of my weeds moistened with slops, using occasionally a sprinkling of salt, and plaster paris (gypsum.) I prefer it to the pig practice.

The cow is indispensable to comfort in the country, and a great deal might be advanced in her favour. Aside from daily usefulness there is additional beauty added to every scene by some addition of active life in the landscape.—*Cor. Gardener's Monthly.*

CLEAN PIGS AND DIRTY PIGS.—Pigs enjoy the reputation of having a real liking for dirt; and, certainly, the way in which they are kept on some farms would show that their owners are determined to give them ample opportunities for carrying out this liking. No notion can, however, be more erroneous than this, as none is certainly so productive of loss to the keeper. Let any one not convinced of this try the two modes of pig-keeping—the dirty and the clean—the food in both cases, and other general treatment, being the same; and the result will show him which of the two is best in the end. A great deal depends upon the mode in which they are housed. Mr. Raines, of Mills, adopts the following:—A large out-house is enclosed at the sides, so as to be warm and dry. The floor is paved, and sprinkled over with burnt clay, and ashes obtained by burning weeds. In this the pigs are fed; while for resting and sleeping they have a compartment raised off at the other end, and which is amply provided with clean straw. In another case, the principle of box feeding has been applied, the pigs being kept in a pit, into which the manure from the ox or cow stables and the horse stables is put. The pigs tread this down, and enjoy themselves amazingly. In one case, where this plan has been adopted, the farmer states that his pigs have given him a profit by their meat, and left the dung—as good as guano—for nothing.—*Scottish Farmer.*

SHORTHORN CATTLE IN FRANCE.—The *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique* has an engraving of Ben, a pure Durham bull, which carried off the prize for young bulls at the district show in Erreux in 1864. M. de Grosourdy de Saint-Pierre, the late owner of Ben, writes: "He was born at La Vente, in the commune of Silly-en-Gouffern, in the Orne, December 25, 1862. He has been sold to M. Paul de Dannes, at Angers. His father is Balzac; his mother, Dogberry, by Dapple; his grandmother Cendrillon, by Gambol; his second grandmother, Marinette, by Morning Star, &c. Cendrillon, the grandmother of Ben, was a very good milker; she gives four kilogrammes of butter (a kilogramme is the fiftieth part of an English cwt.) per week, and maintained her milk up to the period of calving. I cannot say anything as to the offspring of this bull; but I can testify that the best Durham blood runs in his veins. It is sufficient to name to you the most perfect bulls of the Pin, such as Verax, Tinker, Duchesne, and Baltic. I began to form a herd in 1841, and I have endeavored to select bulls obtained from milking cows. Being a neighbor of the Pin vachers, I often assist at sales, and by this means I am enabled to recognize the best milkers. Thus I have constantly 30 to 34 animals of the pure Durham breed, among which I count 10 to 12 cows or milks with their first calf. All my cows give about 7-8 kilogrammes of butter per cow per annum.

The Dairy.

Widow Jones' Cow.

MR. WELD, editor of the New York *Despatch*, tells the following story:

"Widower Smith's waggon stopped one morning before widow Jones' door and gave the usual signal that he wanted somebody in the house, by dropping the reins, and sitting double, with his elbows on his knees. Out tripped the widow, lively as a cricket, with a tremendous black ribbon on her snow-white cap. Good morning was soon said on both sides, and the widow waited for what was further to be said.

"Well, ma'am Jones; perhaps you don't want to sell one of your cows, no how, for nothin', no way, do you?"

"Well, there, Mister Smith, you couldn't have spoken my mind better.—A poor, lone woman like me, does not know what to do with so many creatures, and I should be glad to trade, if we can fix it."

So they adjourned to the meadow.—Farmer Smith looked at Roan—then at the widow, then at Brindle—then at the widow—at the Downing cow—then at the widow again—and so on through the whole forty. The same call was made every day for a week, but farmer Smith could not decide which cow he wanted. At length, on Saturday, when widow Jones was in a hurry to get through her baking for Sunday—and had ever so much to do in the house, as all farmer's wives and widows have on Saturday, she was a little impatient. Farmer Smith was as irresolute as ever.

"That Downing cow is a pretty fair creature—but—" he stopped to glance at the widow's face, and then walked around her—not the widow, but the cow—

"That ere shorthorn Durham is not a bad looking beast, but I don't know—" another look at the widow

"The Downing cow I knew before the late Mr. Jones bought her." Here he sighed at the allusion to the late Mr. Jones. She sighed, and they both looked at each other. It was a highly interesting moment.

"Old Roan is a faithful old milch, and so is Brindle—but I have known better." A long stare succeeded this speech—the pause was getting awkward, and at last Mrs. Jones broke out:

"Law! Mr. Smith, if I'm the cow you want, do say so!"

The intentions of the widower Smith and the widow Jones were duly published the next day, as is the law and custom in Massachusetts, and as soon as they were "out-published" they were married.

THE HOOF OF A GOOD COW.—A correspondent of the *Rural American* says:—"For a good dairy cow, choose one with a striped hoof; she will never fail. A cow with dark hoofs may be good for a large quantity of milk, but it will not be rich. For a medium cow, choose one with part of the hoof striped, or any other colour except dark."

BOILED POTATOES FOR MILCH COWS.—A successful farmer informs us that he has practiced, the last summer, giving to each of his milch cows five quarts of cold boiled potatoes a day, and that they were worth half a dollar a bushel for this purpose. His old potatoes were worth nothing in the market, and so he boiled up some twenty-five or thirty gallons at a time. He says that he could see no benefit whatever from giving them old potatoes in a raw state. There is a period from the first of July to the first of August when cows need some additional food, and if boiled potatoes will help them hold out their milk till it is time to feed out the Southern corn, we may hope to carry cows through the whole summer season in a condition to yield a good profit, especially on farms remote from the market.—*Mr. Farmer.*

SELECTING MILCH COWS.—A correspondent of the N. Y. Farmers' Club, says that Col. Woodman, in the State of Maine, for about forty years has kept a dairy, and generally reared his own cows. He has always found, in his experience, that if a heifer's first calf was a male she never proved to be much of a milker—indeed, that she in subsequent years, never gave more milk than on her first calving; but if her first product was a heifer, she was sure to represent all the milking qualities of a valuable mother. He did not know how this might be in other's experience, but in forty years of his own, he had known of no exception to the rule above indicated. Coming from a man so trustworthy in every respect as I know him to be, I thought I should like to submit it for the consideration of our farmers and stock breeders.