

VALUE OF WHEY FOR COWS.

Mr. Willard reports in the Utica Herald, the experiments of Mr. Hamlin, a dairyman of that region, who has been in the habit of feeding his cows whey, and believes it of considerable value in increasing the quantity and improving the quality of milk. The cows are fed twice a day, and two pails at a feeding. The patrons of his factory have been somewhat dissatisfied with this whey feeding, believing that the quantity of milk was increased in about the same proportion that quality fell off, thus making it decidedly an unfair partnership.

So many hints were given and so much was said about the matter, that it was determined on the part of Mr. Hamlin, to have the matter tested, and if it could be shown that the quality of milk become so much depreciated by feeding whey as it was claimed, then whey feeding should be abandoned. He suggested, therefore, that a committee of patrons meet at the factory, August 12th, and Hamlin's milk was kept separate from that of the company's. The milk of both parties was then tested by the Hydrometer, and stood as follows: Hamlin's ninety-seven degrees, and the company's ninety-three degrees. Although the instrument showed Hamlin's milk to be four degrees richer than the company's, the committee were not satisfied, and a further test was demanded.

Two hundred pounds of milk from each of the parties was then taken, and made up separately into cheese, the milk of both being treated alike. The process of manufacture was as follows:

Milk set at 80 degrees—first scald 85 degrees, stood thirty minutes, then raised to 101 degrees, stood three hours—company's cheese weighed 22½ pounds, making two pounds of cheese in favor of whey fed cows. The cheeses were placed side by side in the cheese house, and are to be further noted during the process of curing.

Experiments of this kind are interesting and valuable, and it is the only one on record where exact figures have been reached in regard to the value of whey as a feed for milch cows. We examined the cheese with considerable interest, and have the promise from Mr. H. to report further as the process of curing shall have been completed—all of which we hope in due time to make public.

NEW CLASSIFICATION OF WHEAT.—A new classification of wheat has just been adopted by the Merchant's exchange, of St. Louis, and went into effect on Wednesday last. Its features are as follows:—

"All quotations made according to this classification are to be known as of bulk fall wheat in elevator, other quotations will be known as wheat in sacks; choice white to be bright, sound, dry, plump and well cleaned; pure white winter to weigh at least 62 pounds per measured bushel; No. 1 white to be sound, dry, well cleaned; pure white winter wheat to weigh at least 60 pounds per measured bushel; No. 2 white to be sound, dry; white winter wheat, reasonably cleaned, and to weigh not less than 59 pounds per measured bushel; No. 1 red to be sound, well cleaned; dry red, or red and white mixed winter wheat, free from rye, to weigh at least 60 pounds per measured bushel; No. 2 red, to include all sound, dry, reasonably cleaned red, or red and white mixed winter wheat, below No. 1 red, and weighing not less than 59 pounds per measured bushel; No. 3 red, to include dry red, white, or mixed thin or bleached winter white, free from must, weighing not less than 57 pounds per measured bushel; choice red to be bright,

sound, plump, dry and well cleaned red, or red and white mixed winter wheat, to weigh not less than 62 pounds per measured bush. Rejected—all damp, tough, either smutty or unsound wheat, of any weight, and all light, trashy or dirty, thin wheat falling below No. 3 in wheat.

Miscellaneous.**The Australian Wild Horse.**

"The wild horse of Australia," says the Avoca Mail, "will unquestionably at no distant date, like the mustang of the South American pampas, occupy in vast numbers the almost boundless plains of the interior. On the South Australian border, in Victoria, where some few years ago wild horses were comparatively few in number, large herds are now to be found. During periods of great drought these herds travel great distances in search of pasture, and on some stations detract considerably from the value of the runs to the north-west. The neighborhood of the melee scrub at the present season appears to be a favorite resort for wild horses. Feeding on the plains in mobs of 15 to 30 mares, with colts at their feet. The sire, a stallion whose progeny are usually of one color, is most careful of his family on the slightest alarm leading his charge at full speed under the shelter of the almost impenetrable scrub. Several successive mustering of these steeds of the plains have been made of late, we are informed, and of the colts broken and sent to the market, but from the cheapness of horse flesh all over the Colony, the speculation had not paid. Many hundreds have been shot at the various stations, apparently without reducing their number. Wild cattle in the neighborhood of the melee scrub have also become a complete nuisance. On the sheep stations beef of excellent quality is supplied all the year round as rations to the men employed. The wild cattle are hunted like the Buffalo of the North American plains, and are said to be gradually increasing in numbers and spreading towards the far north. The most astonishing circumstance attached to these wild herds of cattle is, that notwithstanding on the stations near their haunts sheep and other stock are dying very fast from the effects of the drought, these denizens of the plain appear in excellent health and as sleek as moles. A most beautiful sight it is to see a large mob of wild horses startled on the plains, galloping at full speed, their unkempt manes floating in the wind, the speed of which they seem to equal, their tails sweeping the ground—they present to the eye a perfect embodiment of beauty and freedom."

COLORING FRUIT.—A correspondent of the *Dixie Farmer* writes:—Highly colored fruit is more admired generally, and I think is more luscious, certainly sells higher and more readily, than fruit deficient in color. Then we ought to grow fruit highly colored. The locality of the orchard has much to do with it, agreeably to my observations. When a physician is called to a patient, pale, feeble, and debilitated, he prescribes iron in some form; so in highly colored fruits, iron must abound in the soil. Very deep red clay underlies one ridge in the orchard; under another the clay was not so red, (the red in the clay is certainly imparted by oxide of iron.) The fruit on this red clay is more highly colored than on the lighter.

Some ten years ago I applied anvil-dust, cinders, etc., to the soil under certain apple trees; the effect for several years was more highly colored fruit than formerly, the streaks as finely drawn as if penciled, with a uniform waxen appearance. This was an experiment at home, to prove to myself the effect of iron on coloring. Now, if these views are correct, (and I believe they are,) a deep red clay, heavily charged with

iron, is indispensable in growing highly colored fruit, or we must supply the iron at considerable cost and trouble, to furnish the coloring matter.

DESTROYING STUMPS.—The Baltimore "Leader" suggests the following method for getting rid of stumps without making a large hole in the ground:

"We have heard of two methods of getting rid of stumps, which, as they appear feasible and inexpensive, we hope some reader will try and report upon: Bore with a two-inch auger to the heart of the stump; fill the cavity thus made with sulphuric acid, or with crude oil of petroleum. In the first case, the acid becomes the destructive agent within a few months; in the latter, when the stump becomes saturated with the oil it is fired, and will then burn out to the last particle, like a candle."

ORIGIN OF PRAIRIES.

We have always regarded Dr. Cooper's rainless theory of the origin of prairies as conclusive. As we go westward, no new forms of trees appear, while the number of those found farther westward rapidly diminishes. In the forests of the coasts, about 120 kinds of trees appear; 90 reach to the Mississippi, but only 8 or 10 struggle as far as western Kansas. The desert sage, the cactus, salt lakes, and saline efflorescences upon the soil begin to appear as the trees are lost in longitude 95° to 97°; till, when Nevada is reached, solid salt is found from six inches to three feet upon the plains. The forests fires upon the borders of the treeless tracks are themselves intensified by the dryness, which is the cause of the total absence of trees a little farther to the west; and the border regions of oak openings in which they prevail, where the plains are dotted with clumps of trees, which rise not from the underwood, but from the grass, are of the same character with the half-wooded plains of the back country of New South Wales where the climate is the same. Thunder showers must be left out of our consideration, as they have little bearing on the growth of trees, but the winter moisture appears of itself a sufficient test in almost every case of whether trees will or will not grow without irrigation in a given spot. On the Atlantic seaboard of the Northern States the winter rain fall is ten inches; in Michigan it is less than four; on Western Missouri it is less than three; in Western Missouri it is one inch; in San Francisco it is nearly 12. As a result, we find an abundant growth of wood at San Francisco and New York, oak opening in Michigan and Western Missouri, and a treeless tract in Western Kansas; although the total rain-fall of the year in the latter case is as great as it is in San Francisco, and all but as great as in the forests of Central New York. On the other hand, the summer rains of Colorado maintain a rich and valuable grass throughout the summer, and prevent the drying up of the rivers after the melting of the snows.—Atheneum.

Give your children fortune without education, and at least one-half of the number will go down to the tomb of oblivion—perhaps to ruin. Give them education, and they will be a fortune to themselves and their country. It is an inheritance worth more than gold, for it buys true honor—they can never spend nor lose it; and through life it ever proves a friend, in death a consolation.