

Stock.

Our Illustration.

The future can frequently be glanced at with pleasure and profit. It is pertinent to know where, how, or when our present system of feeding for exhibitions, records, etc., is going to end. The *how* and *where* are explained in the illustration; the *when* can be found by comparing the last entry in the Government Herd Book with the number inclosed in brackets.

As is seen in the illustration, it is astonishing what can be accomplished by the drug-store system of feeding. It is painful to think that there are so many aristocratic stallions in the

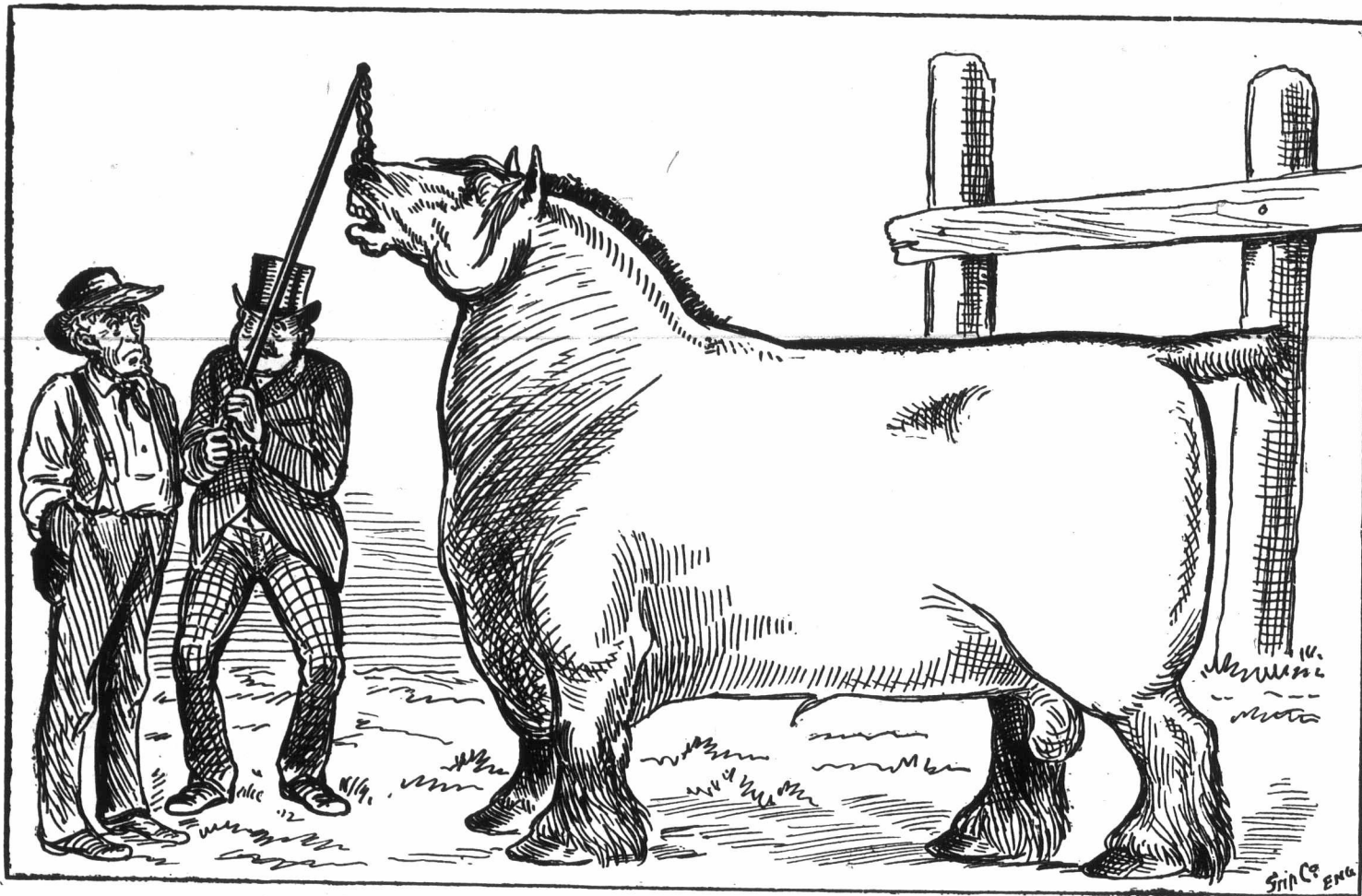
A Chatty Letter from the States.
—The Indian Leases.

[FROM OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT.]

The question which of late has caused most disturbance among the cattle men of the West has been that of the refusal of the Government to recognize the leases of Government lands made by the wards of the Government, the Indians, to cattlemen. The order of the President declaring such leases in the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservations to be void, and notifying the cattlemen to remove their herds inside of forty days, has caused not a little consternation. The state of the case is simply this: The Indians formerly allowed cattlemen to graze their stock in that part of the territory

Teller informed the cattlemen that so long as the Indians were satisfied the Government would probably not interfere. And so, on this color of authority, the cattlemen went in there, and at the time of the recent proclamation there were not less than 250,000 cattle in the two reservations, belonging to white men. In ordering the removal of these cattle in forty days the President was rushing matters a little, but was doing what he believed to be the greatest good to the greatest number, as the Indians for some reason were becoming dissatisfied, and outsiders were becoming jealous of the rights controlled by the favored few white men in the territory.

The cattlemen made a great ado about being unable to comply with the order, claiming that



Variation of the Species; or, the Survival of the Fattest.

FARMER JONES—"Mighty fine stallion, neighbor; he'll get the red, sure."

STOCKMAN—"Hush, Dick, don't squeal. Why, this is my finest Shorthorn [927,684]; I'm feeding him up for the government fat stock show. Do you think the judges will know any difference?"

country which have become victims to our exhibitions. Being useless for any other purpose, it will be quite consistent with past experience to expect a boom in the direction indicated. Grease is grease; and so long as the body of any of our domestic animals can be transformed into a barrel of this material, no questions should be asked with regard to the species to which it belongs. It is the barrel that is to be judged, or rather expeted upon, not the head, limbs, or tail.

Between 1842 and 1869 England lost from contagious lung plague, it is estimated, 5,548, 780 head of cattle, worth \$400,000,000. During the following nine years she lost about \$1,000,000 more.

for a consideration of 50c. per head per annum, but it was difficult to collect the taxes, owing to the trouble of knowing how many cattle were there. Under that regime the Indians of the two reservations mentioned only received about \$40,000 per year for their immense pasturage. There was more or less dissatisfaction, and it became evident that some change was necessary. Some shrewd men conceived the idea of forming a syndicate to lease all of the grazing lands in the two reservations. This the Indians seemed willing to do, and accepted an annual rental of \$100,000 per year for their grass, which otherwise would have been converted principally into smoke. The National Government refused to formally authorize the leases, but through Secretary

most of their cattle were directly from the South, and were not allowed to go into Kansas or any of the adjoining states or territories until after frost, that the ranges of the surrounding country were all overcrowded, that there was no place where these Indian cattle could be moved, that the cattle in the territory, old and young, fat and lean, steers and cows, and all, would have to find an outlet in the beef markets of the country, and that this hasty marketing of such vast numbers of cattle, in addition to the regular supplies of beeves steadily coming forward, would so badly demoralize the market as to cause incalculable loss to cattlemen generally, because of course a flood of even cheap beef would, more or less affect all branches of the market. But when the