

THE JERSEYS.

Mr. Clarke, of Brampton, was the only witness examined who represented the Jersey breed of cattle. Mr. Clarke does not pretend that the Jersey is of special value for anything but yielding a liberal supply of milk, capable of producing rich butter. From six cows he has, he says, without extraordinary feeding, got 1,800 lbs. of superior butter in a year. He does not claim that his bulls are particularly impressive or prepotent, for he says:—

"The Jerseys in some cases rapidly convey their milking properties to the common animals of the country—not in all cases; some of the bulls leave their impress much better than others."

He has crossed them with the Durham with fair results, and says:—

"The result of crossing a Jersey bull on a Shorthorn cow was, that I got good milkers of a fair size. The milk was very rich; the cross seemed to partake of the Jersey with regard to its milking qualities, and seemed to have more of the Durham build about it. In that case the male did not impress himself so much on the make of the animal as on its milk."

For family use, or where the sole object is to command a high price for very choice butter, the Jerseys are a useful breed of very docile and manageable little animals, but to the ordinary farmer they are, and are likely to remain, practically unknown.
—Report of the Ontario Agricultural Commission.

PREPARING CATTLE FOR WINTER.

On this practical subject, the *National Live Stock Journal* says—"The man who, thinking to build cattle up for winter on turnips, containing only ten per cent. of starch and no oil, or on parsnips, generally counted as pretty good feed, yet with only eleven per cent. of starch and no oil, will make very slow headway indeed. Preparatory to the coming on of cold weather, cattle require concentrated food, such as is the opposite of being watery and washy. A moment's consideration of the fact that oats or corn standing in value as seven to one, while the food value of turnips or carrots is as one hundred and fifty to one, will show that the latter should not be relied upon when strength and flesh need to be obtained without undue delay. It is intended to show by this statement of the relative values of the articles named, that seven pounds of oats or corn are equal in flesh-making value to a hundred and fifty pounds of the roots named. These are proper articles for use in connection with grains, but an animal cannot be built up as is required at this season of the year, taking on such vitality and vigour as will enable it to resist the cold weather of the winter months, on these alone."

TRAINING VICIOUS HORSES.

What the *Philadelphia Record* refers to as "a new and very simple method of training vicious horses" was lately exhibited in that city, with "astonishing results" in the case of the most fiery and untamed steeds:

"The first trial was that of a kicking or 'bucking' mare, which her owner said had allowed no rider on her back for a period of at least five years. She became tame in about as many minutes, and allowed herself to be ridden about without a sign of her former wildness. The means by which the result was accomplished was

by a piece of light rope which was passed around the front of the jaw of the mare, just above the upper teeth, crossed in her mouth, and thence secured back of her neck. It was claimed that no horse will kick or jump when thus secured, and that a horse, after receiving the treatment a few times, will abandon his vicious ways forever. A very simple method was also shown by which a kicking horse could be shod. It consisted in connecting the animal's head and tail by means of a rope fastened to the tail and then to the bit, and then drawn tightly enough to incline the animal's head to one side. This, it is claimed, makes it absolutely impossible for the horse to kick on the side of the rope. At the same exhibition a horse which for many years had to be bound on the ground to be shod suffered the blacksmith to operate on him without attempting to kick, while secured in the manner described."

FRENCH HORSES.

The *British Quarterly Journal of Agriculture* says: "The horses of Normandy are a capital race for hard work and scanty fare. Have never elsewhere seen such horses at the collar. Under the diligence, post-carriage, or cumbrous cabriolet, or on the farm, they are enduring and energetic beyond description. With their necks cut to the



JERSEY BULL.

bone they flinch not. They keep their condition when other horses would die of neglect and hard treatment." The superiority of French stallions for crossing on the common mares of America is established. This fact has caused the development of the largest importing and breeding establishment in the world, M. W. Dunham, of Wayne, Ill., having imported and bred nearly 1,000, and has now on hand some 400.

STRAP CURE FOR BALKING.

This is a remedy of one who has had considerable experience in the handling of balky horses, and which he says has never failed him. Two persons are required for the trial. One should hold the reins while the other fastens a short strap or rope—a halter strap, always at hand, answers the purpose well—just below the fetlock of a fore leg; then going forward, he should pull on the rope until the horse lifts his foot; continuing to pull, the foot will be brought forward and set down a little in advance of the other. The horse thus thrown out of a natural position, will move forward to gain his equilibrium. Another pull will cause another move forward. This may be repeated several times, or until the horse moves without having the foot pulled forward. Usually the first or second pull will start him. Three or four such reminders will do the work. When the start is made it is generally an easy one. Sometimes, however, it has the appearance of the horse being in a hurry to get away from the pro-

voking man with the strap; therefore a steady hand should manage the reins; I have never known a horse under this treatment to kick or act mean in any way other than to try to run. When he does start off the hold on the strap should be given up. After having gone twenty-five or more yards the horse should be gently brought to a stand and the strap removed. Then try to start him without the strap. If he does not move off at once apply it again. He will soon tire of being thus annoyed, and will give you no further trouble in this way.

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF HARNESS.

A harness that has been on a horse's back several hours, in hot or rainy weather, becomes wet; if not properly cleaned the damage to the leather is irreparable. If, after being taken from the horse in this condition, it is hung up in a careless manner, traces and reins twisted into knots, and the saddle and bridle hung askew, the leather when dried retains the shape given it when wet, and when forced into its original form damage is done the stitching and the leather. The first point to be observed is to keep the leather soft and pliable. This can be done only by keeping it well charged with oil and grease; water is a destroyer of these, but mud and the saline moisture from the animal are even more destructive. Mud in drying absorbs the grease and opens the pores of the leather, making it a prey to water, while the salty character of the perspiration from the animal injures the leather, stitchings and mountings. It therefore follows that to preserve a harness, the straps should be washed and oiled whenever it has been moistened by sweat or soiled by mud. If a harness is thoroughly cleansed twice a year, and when unduly exposed treated as we have recommended, the leather will retain its softness and strength for many years.

WATERING HORSES.

There is a certain want of common sense and humanity in the habit many persons have of watering horses three times daily. The only reasonable or sensible or prudent plan to pursue is to give the animals water according to their real wants. This is a different matter from giving it to them capriciously, or according to their fancy. If we give way to the latter, we will find the animal becomes as cunning as a monk, and will play the old soldier at every opportunity, pretending to drink and make believe, so as to gain time and shirk work. But it is cruel to compel a team to plough or work from morning until noon, or from noon until night, without allowing it the privilege of a refreshing draught.—*Planter's Journal*.

If a horse is shy and hard to catch, take finely grated castor, oils of rhodium and cummin. Keep them in separate bottles, well corked. Put some of the oil of cummin on your hand and approach the horse on the windy side. He will then move toward you. As soon as you can reach him rub some of the cummin on his nose, give him a little of the castor or anything he likes, and get a few drops of the oil of rhodium on his tongue. After this you can make him do nearly everything you want. Treat him kindly, feed well, handle gently, and your victory is certain.—*Turf, Field and Farm*.