

The Farm.

Herefords as Milkers.

A writer in "The Live Stock Journal" (English) defends the Hereford cow against the charge that she is a poor milker. This common estimate of the Hereford, he contends, is to a large extent a fallacy arising from inexperience and want of knowledge of the breed's capabilities. He holds that an average Hereford cow will give almost if not quite as much milk as an ordinary shorthorn cow, provided she is kept up to her milking after calving, and gets the additional food that a milking shorthorn requires. The truth of this contention, he further asserts, can be confirmed by the evidence of experienced breeders. One farmer of his acquaintance has his sheds filled with a hundred cows of the Hereford breed, all of which give satisfaction to the milkmen to whom the animals are hired. There is no reason to doubt that the Hereford is as pliable in the hands of owners as any other variety is. The breed can be cultivated for milk production or for the production of beef, or for both in moderate degree, just as the other specialist and general purpose varieties have had their respective properties developed.

But the fact remains that the milking propensities of the Hereford breed—probably because the requirements of the counties in which it chiefly abounds have not rendered the course expedient—have not been cultivated and encouraged to the extent its beef producing qualities have been. As a grazing breed the Hereford is unsurpassed and for its wide district unequalled; but it can scarcely be claimed that, as it exists at the present time, the breed is one that the farmer who sacrifices everything to milk production would care to adopt. At the same time, we have not the slightest doubt that the Hereford milks as liberally as her supporters require. In her ordinary condition she is far from being the big, massive, beefy animal we see her in the showyard. She can usually rear her calf, and something more, which is as much as can be expected of noted beef breed, and more than some of them are capable of accomplishing.

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Cosily Contrariness.

I know a man, and he is but one of a large company of the same sort, who never had a good vegetable or fruit garden, mainly because he thinks it would look as though he were being dictated by his wife in so doing. Let us look at the sort of table his contrariness provides. An abundance of coffee, liberal in strength and sweetness; salt pork, potatoes, bread, rich cake, rich pies with short crusts and other indigestible foods. The woman has done as well as she could with the material provided. What might she have placed before her family had she had access to a vegetable and fruit garden? Hardly a meal need be devoid of some vegetable or fruit, which would not only cheapen living, but improve health. The man in question is noted for his economy, but evidently he is not using means to the desired end.

He complains of a whirling head, weak stomach and numerous other ailments, and for remedies he scans the advertising columns, almanacs, etc. The local physician is also frequently called upon. He has probably laid out, at a very low estimate, for medicines, \$25 a year. Adding to this \$25 more which might have been saved in the cost of living, we have \$50 a year lost for lack of what he might easily have had. In the thirty years that they have kept house, this would amount to \$1,500 without interest. He and his wife have worked hard, but in the discomfort that always attends poor health. Nature holds out to us with a liberal hand foods that not only give variety to our fare and thus preserve health and comfort, but are much cheaper than the indigestible stuff that too often load our tables.—(C. M. D.)

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A Careful Buyer.

There were only four neighbors in Tucker's general store, at the crossing of the plank ridge and the State road, when Silas Slosson entered. "How be ye boys?" he said collectively. "How be ye Si?" was the reply. How's th' ol' lady? "About th' same; don't see much change." Silas crossed the store to the counter, behind which stood Tucker, his face

wreathed in mercantile smiles, his fat hands pressed against the varnishless table. "Whatte it be, Mistur Slosson?" he asked. "Haow much ye gittin' fer C. sugar?" replied the prospective customer. "Six cents." "Phew—w—w," whistled Silas, "gone up, ain't it? Didn't hev t' pay no sich figger fer 't las' I bo't." "That so?" inquired Tucker with surprise. "Haow much 'd ye hev t' giv'?" "Five cents an' a half." "That so? Haow much ye want?" "Paound."—Free Press.

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