

CARE OF STOCK IN WINTER.

I. "Saving!" That's the word. The whole secret of success in the management of a stock of cattle in Winter rests with the farmer. If he uses judgment and care in feeding, his stock will come out in the Spring looking well, and on much less fodder than if no consideration had been used in putting out the fodder. Farmers often complain that their cattle waste their hay, don't eat it up clean, and leave orts. The fact is, it is the farmers themselves who waste it. The cattle are not to blame, when twice the quantity of hay is put before them that they need, if they do pick out the best; but it is unjust to charge to dumb animals the faults the farmer himself is guilty of. Be saving of the fodder. Do not stint the stock; give them all they will eat, but no more.

II. Feed regularly, and give a good meal at a time. We know farmers who are in the habit of throwing in a light sprinkling of hay before their cattle and horses, whenever they go into the barn. As a consequence, they are always uneasy and always hungry. If lying down, when for any cause the farmer enters the barn for a moment, up they all jump and begin to stretch and bellow for something to eat. The stock of such a farmer is always poor and always hungry. The true system of feeding is to feed regularly and uniformly. Three times a day is often enough for all kinds of farm stock; although in very cold weather it may be well to feed four times, and on moderate days only twice, especially to sheep.

III. In clear days give stock at least three hours' sun in the open yards, and see that the stables and tie-ups are well lighted. Nothing is more unfavorable for the health and comfort of stock than to be confined all day in a dark, unventilated tie-up. When the cattle are in the yards, take the opportunity to clean out the tie-up, and litter the floor with the orts that may have been left in the crib. At no other time should they be removed.

IV. Milch cows demand and should receive extra care and extra feed. In cold weather a greater amount of food is needed to keep up the necessary animal heat, and where but a sufficient amount is given for this purpose, how can an increase of milk be expected—indeed is it not more generally the case that in winter the yield of milk diminishes? But with a little extra pains, which will be more than made up by the extra flow of milk obtained, this can be done. Good hay, plenty of water, and a small quantity daily of some provender, will be found to pay well.

V. No farmer should attempt to winter a stock of cattle who has not a good supply of water. Stock of all kinds can get along on a small allowance of hay, for it can be made up in some other form; but nothing can take the place of water. It is needed for the very substance of life, and they cannot be denied it, or put off with half enough. See to it that by some means, every animal in your barns and yards has as much water, daily, as it will drink.

VI. More than all this, and not less important, every animal has still higher claims upon man, who has dominion over it. Food and drink are necessary, and must be provided for the wants of those who give so much in return—but every creature has also demands of kindness and affection upon his keeper. The man who feeds his cattle, but at

the same time abuses and beats and overloads his oxen and horses, and kicks his cows, is more of a brute than they.—*Maine Farmer.*

THE SMITHFIELD CATTLE SHOW.

THE annual exhibition of the Smithfield Club, came off at Islington in the new cattle market for London, during the second week in December.—English agricultural journals, without exception, speak of it most favourably, not as presenting any features of extraordinary interest or merit, but as worthily sustaining the world-wide fame of the Smithfield shows and of British cattle. The highest prizes were awarded to Lord Aylesford for a Shorthorn steer, as the best animal in the show. Lord Aylesford's prizes in money and plate amounted to close on £300. As regards the various breeds of cattle, Shorthorns were, as usual, good; the Devons particularly good—as a class perhaps the best in the yard; Herefords were below the mark; and Sussex cattle unusually fine; there were also some very meritorious cross-breeds.

Her Majesty the Queen was one of the foremost exhibitors, with twelve lots, taking a first prize for a Shorthorn steer, second for a Hereford, and third for a Devon steer. The Prince of Wales also exhibited in several classes, and gained a first prize for a cow of the Sussex polled breed.

The sheep, though not making up a large collection, were beautiful specimens of their respective breeds; Lord Walsingham's Southdowns especially eliciting universal admiration. Lord Berner's took the lead in Leicesters. Cotswolds were very slenderly represented.

The show of pigs was larger than that of last year, and in general excellence quite up to the average mark.

In other departments of the exhibition, including agricultural implements and productions, there was a fine display, equal to that of any previous year. Some of the prize mangolds, we are told, exceeded forty pounds in weight. The general show of roots, however, particularly in turnips, was more distinguished by well-proportioned, well-grown, and solid specimens, than by mammoths, which are deservedly not much in favour, and are less nutritious and profitable than roots of medium size. Monster beasts are also less popular than formerly. The live weight of every animal is taken down as it enters the yard; that of Lord Aylesford's prize steer was a little over 2,100 lbs.—*Globe.*

NEW YORK STATE POULTRY SOCIETY.

The Second Exhibition of the New York Poultry Society, held at the Rink, on Third Avenue, near Sixty-third street, New York, was closed on Thursday, December 9th, and proved one of the finest and most complete collections of poultry ever seen in this country. In all breeds the competition was very close, and many more varieties were exhibited than at last year's show, which is an evidence of the work the Society is doing. Over twelve hundred entries were made, which, it is estimated, represented 100 dogs, 2500 fowls, 20 ponies, 12 rabbits, several cats, two fawns, a cage of ferrets, and last, but not least, a fish-hatching apparatus, showing the ova in shallow tin boxes,