

THE DAIRY.

TO CURE A KICKING COW.

It was in the heat of Summer and the height of fly time. I had just bought a cow and a calf, writes a correspondent to an exchange, which was said to be true, but it wasn't. As milk was what I wanted, the calf was taken away at once, and I proceeded to milk; but such a storm of heels as played about the stable for fifteen or twenty minutes never has been portrayed in prose or poetry! Fire flashed from her eyes, lightning from her tail, and thunder from her hoofs. In short, she was a notorious kicker, and the owner knew it. I tried hard to let patience have her perfect work, but it didn't work on the cow. Nearly disgusted, I went to the house, picked up *The Rural*, my eye caught the "Vices of Cows," by Dr. Stewart, and mentally I exclaimed "Eureka!" But, alas! it suggested only a lesson in moral suasion. However, I tried it again and again to no purpose. It was not moral suasion that she wanted, but a lesson on the fitness of things, and I proceeded to fit her in this way. She was securely fastened in a stanchion, and a stout strap with ring and rope attached was buckled around her right leg. Her leg was drawn back to the natural position and the other end of the rope fastened a few feet in the rear. Of course the kicking went on with vigor, but it did not interfere with the milking, as she could not get her foot forward of the perpendicular. She soon tired of that game, but commenced with the left foot, and she did it with such science that I could hardly keep the foot out of the pail. I then fastened that one back and let her kick it out. To her great consternation she was mastered, and I milked her with the calm assurance that she couldn't kick me or put her foot in the pail. I continued to fasten the right leg for awhile, until, like the Western emigrant's hens, she came to rather like to have her foot fastened, and would put it back to position when she felt the strap. And now she is as kind as any cow in the herd.

HOW GOOD COWS ARE RUINED.

Milking is an art, and the farm hand who knows how to milk properly is more valuable to the careful dairyman than any other help. Of course, anybody can milk, and some can milk a dozen cows before breakfast. The careful manager, however, is not so anxious for fast help as he is to employ those who are careful. The operation should never be hurried, but the milk should be drawn steadily and as it flows, naturally. Some cows have very tender teats, and the rapid milkman forgets this fact in his endeavour to make speed. The cow that is naturally impatient and fretful does not like to submit to rough handling, and her disposition is soon ruined by such treatment. With the constant irritation she will fail in quantity, and be less productive, just as any human being would fail to perform faithful service when labouring under mental affliction or trouble. As the udder becomes distended and filled with milk, the desire on the part of the cow is to be relieved of its contents, and she willingly submits to it for the relief it occasions. The constant practice of being milked at stated intervals

impresses itself strongly upon her, and she will seldom offer resistance without cause. When a cow, therefore, that has been a patient deliverer of milk becomes fractious, the fault can always be traced to the milkman. The careless dairyman is the one who complains of the failure of his cows to keep up the flow, and bloody milk, garget and other evils are the results of his own bad management. There is another point in the treatment of cows that demands attention, and that is allowing them to stand a long time waiting to be milked. With cows that give large yields it is very painful, and when the udders have been filled to their utmost, and the milkman is not on hand to relieve them, they become exceedingly nervous and restless. This will do more to cause a cow to go dry before her period than anything else, and many a good cow has been sent to the shambles through diminution of quantity, simply because nature has revolted at her sufferings and allowed her to dry up because her storehouse was not emptied at the proper times. She should also be milked to the last drop, if possible, and as the last portion of the milk is claimed to be the richest, the udder should be left with nothing in it. With regularity in feeding and milking, and kind treatment at all times, the cow will not only become gentle and remain so, but will milk on several weeks longer than otherwise. An experienced dairyman needs helps that are skillful, and he knows how to judge the milkman's work by the behaviour of his cows. When a stable of cows begin to give trouble in milking, it is only necessary to observe the manner in which they are milked in order to cure the evil. The udder of a cow is a very delicate structure, and she quickly rebels at rough usage or improper periods of milking.—*Practical Farmer*.

RICH BUTTER.

If milk and butter you would have—
A rich delicious treat—
Keep churn, and bowl, and milking pail—
Most scrupulously sweet.
With boiling water, day by day,
Cleanse each with utmost care;
Then rear them at your window sills,
To dry in open air.

A GOOD COW.

She's long in her face, she's fine in her horn,
She'll quickly get fat without cake or corn,
She's clear in her jaws, and full in her chin,
She's heavy in flank, and wide in her loin.

She's wide in her ribs, and long in her rump,
A straight and flat back with never a lump,
She's wide in her hips and calm in her eyes,
She's fine in her shoulders, and thin in her thighs.

She's light in her neck and small in her tail,
She's wide in her hips, and good at the pail,
She's fine in her bone and silky of skin,
She's a grazier's without and a butcher's within.

EFFECTS OF ODORS ON MILK.

Upon this question, Prof. Arnold, in the work "American Dairying," says: "The London Milk Journal cites instances where milk that has stood a short time in the presence of persons sick with typhoid fever, or been handled by parties before fully recovered from the small-pox, spread these diseases as effectually as if the persons themselves had been present. Scarletina, measles and other contagious diseases have been spread in the same way. The peculiar smell of a cellar is indelibly impressed upon all the butter

made from milk standing in it. A few puffs from a pipe or a cigar will scent all the milk in the room, and a smoking lamp will soon do the same. A pail of milk standing ten minutes where it will take the scent of a strong smelling stable, or any other offensive odor, will imbibe a taint that will never leave it. A maker of gilt-edged butter objects to cooling warm milk in the room where his milk stands for the cream to rise, because he says the odor escaping from the new milk while cooling, is taken in by the other milk, and retained to the injury of his butter. This may seem like descending to little things, but it must be remembered that it is the sum of such little things that determines whether the products of the dairy are to be sold at cost or below, or as a high-priced luxury. If milk is to be converted into an article of the latter class, it must be handled and kept in a clean place and sweet vessels, and must stand in pure fresh air, such as would be desirable and healthy for people to breathe."

FEEDING HAY TO COWS.

There are two kinds of economy in feeding cattle. As much real wastefulness may be shown in stinting the feed unduly as in feeding extravagantly. If anything, the former is the more wasteful of the two, since with a short supply of food there cannot fail to be a serious diminution in the value of the animals—a much greater loss, in fact, than is likely to result from overfeeding. But while *stinginess* in feeding cattle is to be avoided, there is such a thing as wise economy in portioning out the daily rations. Dairy men often talk, says the *National Live-Stock Journal*, as if the height of skill in taking care of cows in winter was to get all the hay down that it is possible to cram into them. This it justly regards as a grave error. It is a good thing to feed cows well, but it is not a good thing to stuff them with a great bulk of hay of any quality. True skill in feeding is shown in limiting the amount of hay fed to the quantity the cows have time to remasticate, supplying their further necessities with some easily-digested concentrated food. The *Journal* lays down the rule that the quantity of hay given should not exceed what the cows will eat up clean, and twice a day is often enough to leave time for properly ruminating.

THE cattle breeders of Holland object to having their fine cattle called "Holsteins" when brought to this country. Dutch Friesian, or Dutch simply is the proper term.

GRAZING land in Friesland, "the garden of Holland," which a few years rented for \$30 to \$40 per acre, now brings but \$10 to \$15, owing, an English agriculturist says, to American competition.

THE faster and more gently a cow is milked the greater will be the amount given. Slow milkers always gradually dry up a cow, and for the reason that if the milk is not drawn about as fast as it is given down it will subsequently be withheld, and that withheld is, as a matter of course, what is known as the *strippings*—in fact, the upper surface of milk is the udder.