

**Curing a Kicking Cow.**

Among the early purchases, and among the animals that I promised well, was a dun cow, which it was found necessary, after a few weeks of full feeding, to cumber with a complicated piece of neck furniture, to forbid her flinging surreptitiously what properly belonged to the pail. Self-milkers are not profitable. I have faith in the doctrine of rotation, and the quick reconversion of farm products into the elements of new growth. Here was a case of reconversion so rapid, as to be fatal to all the laws of economy. It suggested nothing so strongly as that rapid issue of government money, which finds immediate absorption among the Governmental officials. Does the Government really milk itself? and can no preventive be found in the way of neck machinery, or other?

Another animal was admirable in every point of view. I found her upon one of the North River wharves, and the perfect outline of her form and high-bred action, induced a purchase, even at a long figure; but the beast proved an inveterate kicker.

The books recommended gentleness for the cure of this propensity; so does humanity; I concurred with both, in suggesting that treatment to Patrick.

"Gintle is it? And bedad, sir, she's too ould for a cure. I'm thinking we must tie her legs, sir; but if ye orders it, bedad i's meself can be gintle."

"Soh, Mooly—soh—(and a kick;)—soh, ye baste, (a little livelier,) soh (and a kick)—soh, blast ye!—soh, Mooly—soh—Katy—SOH—(and a crash;) oeh, you ould baste ye,—take that!" and there is a thud of the milking stool in the ribs.

The "gintleness" of Patrick is unavailing. But the cow is an excellent animal, and not to be hastily discarded. Milker after milker undertook the conquest, but with no better success. The task became the measure of a man's long-suffering disposition; some gave over and lost their tempers before the first trial was finished; others conjured down the spirit by all sorts of endearing epithets and tenderness, until the conquest seemed almost made, when suddenly pail, stool and man would lapse together, and a stream of curses carry away all record of the kindness. We came back at last to Patrick's original suggestion—the legs must be tied. A short bit of thick rope passed around one foot and loosely knotted, then passed around the second and tied tightly in double knot, rendered her powerless. There was a slight struggle, but it was soon at an end; and she made no opposition to the removal of the thong, after the milking was over. With this simple provision, the trouble was all done away; and for a whole year matters went well. But after this there came a reformer into control of the dairy. The rope was barbarous; he didn't believe in such things; he had seen kicking cows before. A little firmness and gentleness would accomplish the object better; God didn't make cows' legs to be tied. The position was a humane one, if not logical. And the thong was discarded.

"Well, Patrick," said I, two days after, "how fares the cow?"

"And begorra, it's the same ould baste, sir."

A few days later I enquired again after the new regimen of gentleness and firmness.

"Beggorra," said Patrick, "she's kicked him again."

A week passed, and I repeated the enquiries.

"Beggorra, she's kicked him again!" screamed Patrick; "and it's a devil's own bating he's been giving the ould baste."

Sure enough, the poor cow was injured sadly; her milking days were over; and in a month she went to the butcher. And this advocate of gentleness and firmness was one of the warmest and most impassioned philanthropists I ever met with.

The moral of the story is—if a cow is an inveterate kicker, tie her legs with a gentle hand, or kill her. Beating will never cure, whether it come in successive thuds, or in an explosive outbreak of outrageous violence. I suspect the same ruling is applicable to a great many disorderly members of society.—*Ik Marvel.*

**GIVE THE BOYS TOOLS.**—We have so frequently spoken of the importance of a good set of tools on every farm, that we fear our readers will think the subject a favorite one with us. So it is, and at the risk of trespassing upon the reader's patience, we again present it. There is, in man, what may be termed, a "making instinct," and our houses, garments, ships, machinery, and in fact, everything we use, are the practical results of this instinct. How important then that this faculty be cultivated, and that the idea be at once and forever abandoned that none but mechanics require this great element of usefulness and happiness. Whatever a man's occupation, whether he be a farmer, a merchant, an artist or a mechanic, there are hourly occasions for its practical application. Being thus general in its usefulness, the cultivation of this constructive faculty should be a primary consideration with parents, but more parti-

cularly with farmers, who have sons whom they design to be their successors upon the farm. Skill in the use of tools is of incalculable advantage to him who tills the soil. It enables him to do many things which others cannot well do for him, and do them better and cheaper. It gives useful employment to many an otherwise idle hour. It prevents him to add a thousand little conveniences to the house and farm, which but for this skill would never be made. In a word, it is the carrying out, in a fuller sense, of the design of the Creator, when he implanted this faculty of constructiveness within him. Let it then be cultivated in children. Indulge the propensity to make water-wheels and miniature waggon, kites and toy boats, sleds and houses, anything in fact which will serve to develop it and render it practically useful. Give the boys good pocket knives, and what is bette, give them a good workshop. Employed in it, they will not only be kept out of mischief, but they will be strengthening their muscles, exercising their mental powers, and fitting themselves for greater usefulness, when they shall be called upon to take their places in the ranks of men.—*Philadelphia Cultivist.*

**CARE OF HARNESS.**—T. Oliver Ayres, a practical harness-maker, Kent Co., Del., contributes to the *American Agriculturist* the following suggestions: "Harness should be kept hung up on wooden pegs in a clean dry room with a plank floor, so that it may be free from dampness. When soiled, it should be washed with castile soap-suds. Harness that is in constant use needs oiling four times a year; if only occasionally brought out, as carriage harness, etc., twice a year will be sufficient, if the washing be not neglected. To oil harness, separate all the pieces, and lay them in water until thoroughly wet through. Then wash them clean, and allow them to dry sufficiently. To know when they are in good condition for oiling, bend a strap, and if the water does not ooze out, it is dry enough. Train-oil (whale oil) is sometimes used, but neat's foot-oil is much better. Mix with it a little lamp-black, and with a brush apply it to both sides of the straps. About six hours after oiling, wash the whole with Castile soap and warm water, let them dry, rub well with a woolen cloth, and buckle them together."

**Markets.**

**Toronto Markets.**

"CANADA FARMER" Office, Jan. 11, 1864.

The supply of grain on the market is light. Flour in better demand for home consumption. Wholesale—Superfine \$3 60 to \$3 70 per bbl; Fancy \$3 90 to \$4; Extra \$4 25 to \$4 40; double Extra, \$4 70 to \$5. A good family flour may be had at retail for \$4 25 to \$4 75 a bbl., and Extra at \$5.

Fall Wheat—in limited supply but good demand at from 80c to 95c for common to good; 95c to \$1 03 for good to choice; \$1 04 to \$1 05 for extra.

Spring Wheat—very active and firm at 75c to 80c for common to good; 80c to 82c for good to choice.

Barley—steady and firm at 70c to 78c per bush.; extra samples bring 80c to 82c.

Peas—very active at 50c to 53c per bush.; extra 5c to even as high as 56c per bush.

Oats—in good demand at 40c to 42c per bush.

Beef—on the street by the quarter 3c to 3½c per lb for fore-quarters; 4c to 4½c per lb. for hind-quarters; extra, 5c per lb. Retail 3½c to 6½c per lb.

Mutton—in the carcass on the street 3½c to 4c per lb.

Pork—in good demand, but the supply has been short for the last week, it is in consequence firmer and a shade higher; \$4 37½ to \$4 50 per 100 lbs. for common to good; \$4 60 to \$4 90 for good to choice; extra choice and heavy brings \$4 90 to \$5.

Hay—\$9 50 to \$10 per ton for good; \$10 50 per ton for extra.

Straw—in good supply at \$5 to \$6 per ton.

Bran—\$10 per ton; Shorts, \$13 to \$15 per ton.

Hides—(green) 5c to 6c per lb.

Calfskins—7c, 8c, and 9c, per lb.

Sheepskins—\$1 60 to \$1 90. Lambskins at this season of the year the same price as Sheepskins. Pelts 30c to 45c.

Calves—\$1 and upwards.

Butter—scarce. Fresh, wholesale at 11c to 15c per lb., retail 15c to 25c per lb. Tub butter, dairy packed, wholesale, 15c to 18c per lb. for choice—inferior 10c to 14c per lb.

Eggs—wholesale, 12½c to 17c per dozen; retail, 18c to 20c and 25c per dozen.

Potatoes—25c to 40c per bush. wholesale, 50c to 62½c retail.

Chickens—plentiful at 25c to 40c per pair.

Ducks—30c to 45c each.

Geese—30c to 60c each.

Salt—\$1 50 to \$2 per bbl.  
Water Lime—\$1 50 per bbl.  
Apples—common to good \$1 to \$1 75 per bbl; extra \$2 to \$3 per bbl.

**London Markets.** London, January 9, 1864. Pork trade brisk. Current rates \$4 to \$4 75. Fall Wheat 90c to 95c per bushel. Spring, 70c to 75c for extra. Oats, 35c to 40c. Peas, 60c to 63c. Beef, \$3 to \$4 50. Butter, fresh, per lb., 14c to 17c; do. keg, per lb., 12c. Potatoes, 75c to \$1. Eggs, per doz. 20c. Wool, per lb., 39c to 40c. Hides, dry, per lb., 09c to 10c; do. green, 01c to 05c. Sheepskins, \$1 25 to \$2.—*Free Press.*

**Montreal Markets.**—JANUARY 9th.—Flour.—Pollards, \$2.25 to \$2.50; Middlings, \$2.60 to \$2.90; Fine, \$3.20 to \$3.40; Super. No 2, \$3.70 to \$3.80; Superfine, No. 1, \$4.20 to \$4.30; Fancy, \$4.50 to \$4.60; Extra, \$1.80 to \$1.90; Superior Extra, \$5.25 to \$5.50. Wheat.—U. C. Spring 90c. to 93c. ex-cars; U. C. Winter, 95c. to \$1. Oatmeal.—\$5.00 per bbl. of 200 lbs. Barley.—70c. to 73c. per 60 lbs. Peas.—Good, 65c. to 70c. per 66 lbs. Oats.—About 40c. per 32 lbs. Butter.—Fair to choice, 15c. to 18c.. Pork.—Mess, \$13.50 to \$14; Prime, dull, \$10 to \$10.50. Dressed Hogs.—\$5 to \$5.50. Lard.—Steady; barrels, 9c. to 9½c.; kegs 9½c. to 10c. Tallow.—8½c to 9½c. Fair business doing. Cattle.—Hams, sugar-cured, caarvassed, 9c. to 10c.; do. smoked, 6c. to 8c., Bacon, 5c. to 6½c.; Shoulders, 4c. to 5c. Prices strictly nominal; nothing doing. Ashes per 100 lbs., Pots, \$5.17½ to \$5.20; Inferiors, \$5.20 to \$5.22½; Pearls, \$5.50 to \$5.55. Petroleum.—Dull, at 35c. to 40c.—*Witness.*

**Chicago Markets.**—JAN. 6.—Sales were at the range of \$1 17½ to \$1 18½ for No. 2 spring, and \$1 11½ to \$1 12 for No. 2 in store—closing firm but quiet. Corn—92c. to 92½c. for No. 1, and 91c. to 91½c. for No. 2 in store. Now corn was in demand at 82c. to 81c. in store. Oats—Quiet; No. 1 in store at 63c. to 66½c. and at 63½c. to 64c. for No. 2 in store. Rye—\$1 06 to \$1 07 for No. 1 in store, and at \$1 03 for No. 2 in store. Barley—Sales on track at \$1 25 for No. 2, and \$1 09 for rejected. Beef Cattle—firm at 3c to 4c for medium grades. Dressed Hogs—Were in light supply; sales at \$6 10 to \$7 35.—*Times.*

**CATTLE MARKET.**—Hogs—The entered sales to-day at the various yards amount to 2,057 hogs at \$5 00 to \$6 50; but the bulk of the transactions have taken place at \$5 70 to \$6 50 per 100 pounds—the highest range on record for a considerable period. Beef Cattle—The whole receipts to-day amount to about 60 head of beef cattle; and the entered sales to 106, at prices ranging from \$3 25 to \$4 37½ per 100 lbs.—*Tribune.*

**Albany Cattle Markets.**—January 9.—Receipts of every quality have advanced half cent. per lb. live weight. Prices ranging from 5c to 6½c for the outside for choice extra. Demand quick. No premium in market. Receipts, 2,500. Sheep—In active request at 6½c per lb. for light common to 7c for fair; 7½c to 8c for good to extra heavy fine woolled. Receipts for week 5,000. Hogs—Sell quick at 7½c to 8c. Receipts light. Dressed hogs 9c to 9½c.

**Brighton (U.S.) Cattle Markets.**—Jan. 6. Beef Cattle—Extra \$9 00 to \$9 50; 1st quality \$8 50 to \$8 75; 2nd do \$7 50 to \$8; 3rd do \$6 to \$7 50 per 100 lbs (the total weight of hides, tallow and dressed beef.) Hides—9½c per lb. Tallow at 9c per lb. Lambskins—\$2 25 to \$2 50. Sheepskins—\$2 25 to \$2 50. Stores—Two years old \$16 to \$25; three years old \$25 to \$50. Working Oxen—\$85, \$100 to \$125. Milch Cows—\$25 to \$60. Sheep and Lambs—Lambs \$1 50 to \$7. Sheep 6c to 7c per lb; extra 7½c. Fat Hogs—7c per lb.

**Buffalo Markets.**—Jan. 8.—Flour at \$6 00 for extra State; \$6 25 for extra Wisconsin; \$6 75 for Canada bakers; \$7 00 to \$7 50 for double extra Ohio and Indiana. Corn nominal at \$1 15 to \$1 20. Oats—Market nominal at 71c to 72c for Canadian. Western 75c from store. Barley—\$1 30 to \$1 35. Rye—Nominal at \$1 25 to \$1 30. Peas—Quiet at \$1 04 to \$1 05. Seed—Timothy quiet at \$2 75 to \$3 for fair to choice. Clover quiet at \$7 00. Dressed Hogs—Sale 77 Canadian this morning at 8½c averaging 220 lbs.

**New York Markets.**—Jan. 11.—Flour—market firm; superfine State \$6 30 to \$6 50; extra \$4 80 to \$7 00; common to medium extra Western \$6 96 to \$7 65; Canadian flour steady; common \$6 80 to \$6 95; good to choice extra \$7 00 to \$8 90. Wheat firmer; Chicago spring \$1 46 to \$1 50; Milwaukee club \$1 48 to \$1 62; very choice amber Michigan to 56 to \$1 61; winter red Western \$1 56 to \$1 61. Corn quiet; shipping mixed Western in store \$1 26