

## GINGERBREAD PUDDING.

This is an excellent family pudding, especially in the winter time, when fruit of all kinds is scarce and dear. For it you will need 6oz. of fine bread crumbs, 2oz. of flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. treacle, a little sugar, 1 teaspoonful of ground ginger, and 2 eggs. Put the dry ingredients into a bowl, add the treacle, then the well-beaten eggs. Pour into a buttered mould and steam two hours.

## GINGERBREAD FINGERS.

What child does not like gingerbread? I often wonder that mothers do not make more gingerbread for the youngsters than they do. It is wholesome and digestible, and far better than chocolates and various other sweets which children are always consuming. Here is a recipe for gingerbread fingers which I am sure will be appreciated. Rub two ounces of butter and two of lard into three-quarters of a pound of dried flour, add half an ounce of sliced candied peel, a teaspoonful of ground ginger, the same of baking powder, and a quarter of a pound of the brown cooking sugar. Mix well, and pour in six ounces of golden syrup warmed to a liquid state. Mix briskly, and roll out in a sheet about an inch thick; form into strips, and bake on a greased tin for half an hour in a moderate oven. Store in an air-tight tin.

## PRUNE TRIFLE.

Stew half a pound of prunes until quite soft, mash them, and take away the stones, add to these half a pound of sponge-cake crumbs, soaked in a little prune juice. When well mixed, stir in a cup of cream, whipped till stiff, and powdered sugar to taste. Place this mixture in a fancy dish and set it on one side for an hour. Pour over a pint of cold custard, scatter chopped almonds over, and serve. This is an excellent and simple sweet.

## The Grazier and Breeder.

## PEDIGREE IN FARM STOCK.

It can hardly now be gainsaid that what for want of a better word, is called pedigree in animals has, within the last quarter of a century, seen a great increase in the popular recognition of

its value. With most varieties of farm stock every specimen which is capable of breeding rises or falls in price according as it has or has not a pedigree. A test of the correctness of this assertion may be found by comparing the average rate paid for those lots having an authenticated list of ancestors, which are sold annually by auction with that of others of similar type which are sold in the open market without any such record.

It is certain that what breeders, as a rule, exact, is no more than that pedigree in their cattle and sheep shall put money in their owner's pockets; and results have proved this confidence to be rarely without foundation. Yet pedigree deserves to be regarded from a higher point of view than this, for in it is involved a principle, and that one of very real importance.

A good deal of the erroneous notions about pedigree in animals arises from the fact that the term had an antecedent meaning before this secondary application of it came into use. The notion of the importance of pedigree began with men, and with them the term involved two distinct considerations, of which only one can be said to apply to farm stock. With men, pedigree not only meant the supposition that the members of a distinguished family had hereditary tendencies which were worth having on one's side, but that members of a powerful tribe or clan were all prepared, if necessary, whatever the rights of the case might be, to "go bail," or fight for one another.

A person of pedigree had a two-fold advantage over those who had none. He or she had probably useful inmate proclivities, but, if not, there was a certainty of finding backers from his relationships. (1) Now, it is evident that no advantage of the latter kind can accrue to horses, cattle, and sheep. The value of pedigree to them must wholly depend upon the influences conveyed in their blood. With an unpedigreed animal we have only guesses and hearsay as to its origin; whereas, with the pedigreed one, we have written testimony, guaranteed by the respect which most men have for what they put their signature to. With an unpedigreed animal, so great is the influence of two or three judicious crosses in modifying external character, we have no assurance of what that back breeding has been, which sooner or later, is certain to show itself. Where-

(1) Very doubtful now, indeed. Ed.