

will be necessary to have some conveniences for storing and feeding the crop after it is grown. For myself, I think the feeding should begin as soon as green corn fodder is injured by the frost; that is usually the last of September or first of October; the milch cows are then carried on with a good flow of milk, which is much better than to let them fall away, and then try to bring them back by high feeding. I find that in changing feed we should begin moderately, and increase as the animals get used to the feed, to the full amount desired, to be fed; then keep on steadily with that till another change is desirable, or of necessity must be made. Variety is of great benefit for all farm stock, and changes are often of great benefit to neat stock, more so than at first appears. The feeding of cabbages in connection with hay and meal, as proposed by A Subscriber, will be found very beneficial; at least such has been my experience for the past two years with them.—*Cor. Country Gentleman.*

RIGHT AND WRONG WAY TO MILK.

The Irish Farmers' Gazette publishes the following from Prof. Dick, of the Edinburgh Veterinary College, on the manner of milking:—

"The operation of milking is performed differently in various parts of the country. In some the dairy-maid dips her hand into a little milk, and by successively stripping the teat between her fingers and thumb unloads the udder. This plan, however, is attended with the disadvantage of irritating more or less the teat, and rendering it liable to cracks and chaps, which are followed by inflammation extending to the rest of the quarter. This accounts for the disease occurring more frequently among the cows under the charge of one milker than it does in those under the charge of another; and as this practice is more common in some parts of the country than in others, it also accounts for the disease being more common in these parts. This plan of milking, where the irritation is not sufficient to excite the extent of inflammation to which I have alluded, frequently produces a horny thickening of the teat, a consequence of the cracks and chaps which renders it more difficult to milk than when in its natural state, and, at the same time, predisposes to inflammation when any cause occurs to set it up.

These effects may be and are almost entirely avoided, by the most scientific plan of milking adopted in other parts of the country, where, instead of drawing down or stripping the teat between the thumb and fingers, as I have stated, the dairy-maid follows more closely the principles which instinct has taught the calf. She first takes a slight hold of the teats with her hand, by which she merely encircles it, then lifts her hand up so as to press the body of the udder upwards, by which the milk escapes into the teat; or if, as is generally the case when some hours have elapsed between milking-times, the teat is full, she grasps the teat close to its origin with her thumb and fore-finger, so as to prevent the milk which is in the teat from escaping upwards; then, making the rest of the fingers to close from above downwards in succession, forces out what milk may be contained in the teat through the opening of it. The hand is again pressed up and closed as before, and the milk drawn easily and freely, without the tugging and wrenching inflicted by clumsy milkers."

BREEDING.

The following is from the *Ancient Tarf Register*;

Breeding has become a science, and the science in breeding should keep pace with the improvements in mechanics, arts, agriculture, medicine, &c. Through science extraordinary improvements have been made in navigation, manufactures, the raising of hogs, sheep, cattle, dogs, poultry in horticulture, floriculture, etc., to say nothing of the wonders of steam, and the still more wonderful discovery of the electric telegraph.

The highest aim of the horse breeder is, to combine beauty of form, speed and endurance in the horses he breeds. To be able to accomplish this great desideratum, he must also call in the aid of science. This will teach him to investigate the constituents of that vegetable food which forms the best growth and quality of animal substance that best subserves the animal economy. As the mind works out the problem of life in other pursuits, so should the mind be employed in solving the problem of rearing to the highest point of attainable perfection, the noblest four-footed animal that God in his beneficence has placed on earth for the use of man.

According to the best authorities on the subject, there is no fixed age for breeding to mares; yet the most practical writers agree in the opinion, that both stallions and mares are better capacitated for breeding purposes after they have had several seasons of judicious training. Youatt, the highest recognized authority on the horse, and who made the animal a study from the moment of impregnation to extreme old age, also coincides in this theory. He says:

"It is a general observation with those who have devoted their attention to the subject, that horses and mares require much time after they have been first trained, before they distinguish themselves as the progenitors of first-rate stock."

There can be no question, that a horse's action is improved by proper training. "Form is beauty—action is superiority." It therefore follows, if we accept this axiom, that brood mares possessing the right action, are much more desirable for the stud than those which are devoid of it, and the proper action can only be acquired by a correct system of training. The young mare, though she may have attained her full size, is comparatively untrained; hence she lacks one of the chief requisites for the road and turf—superiority. It is a well-known fact, that action is much more difficult to propagate than form.

FEEDING MEAL TO MILCH COWS.

It was one of John Johnson's hints that "when an animal does not gain in size or weight you lose all the feed it consumes, or, at best gain nothing. When cows are poorly kept, they barely pay their keeping, rendering no profit to the owner." "Acting on this principle," writes a correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* "I have increased the yield of cheese per cow from 300 pounds to 475 pounds, on an average, annually, which is more than 50 per cent, gain. This was done by feeding meal—rather freely, some of my neighbors think. In 1865 I fed 700 pounds of the best corn meal per