

brooke last September were sent to the exhibition as a joke or in sober earnest! (1)

Lambs.—One point should be carefully attended to in weaning lambs. They should never be kept too long in the same pasture. Dry, stale grass is one of the most efficacious foods for the production of diarrhoea in this species of stock. Plenty of fresh water should be always provided for the flock. a practice too often neglected here.

Care of Cows and Calves.

Questions: How do you treat your cows during the last month of their pregnancy, and after their delivery? (1)

How do you treat the calves during the first month, and afterwards? (2)

Answers.—(1) We make no change in our system throughout the whole winter. Cows are always to be kept in good condition. We milk them, if possible, up to the very day of calving, as our butter is always worth 50% more in winter than in summer.

Before parturition, if the cows seem constipated—a thing that rarely happens with the warm and salted prepared food they receive—we should give them about a double handful of linseed boiled in plenty of water, and scattered all over the chaff.

If the cow has an inflamed udder, we should not be afraid of partially milking her, in order to diminish the fever and reduce the tension. This would give the cow great ease.

After calving, we proportion the prepared food to the quantity of milk given, always feeding with the view of obtaining as much butter as possible, profit being always borne in mind. Our rule is that the milk and butter must repay us for all the expenditure of food, leaving the dung as net profit. It is a good deal, to obtain the full value of all the cows eat, and to have the dung left as additional profit.

(2) The calves never see their dams. They are taken away the moment they are dropped; they are dried with a wisp of straw, and, if it is cold, covered with the same until they get

(1) And, I regret to say, Mr Kerr has not thought it worth while to reply.

A. R. J. F.

on their feet of their own accord. As soon as they are thirsty, and not before, we give them the first milk of their dams, at the natural temperature, about 80° F. For the first three days, they have nothing but this for food, but afterwards, we daily replace one-twentieth of the new milk by the same quantity of skim-milk, so that by the twentieth day the calf receives nothing but skim milk. This is always given in sweet and warm state, and we add to it a small quantity of pease-soup to enrich that otherwise poor food. (1) Thus, after 23 days, the calf is fed on sweet skim-milk and soup exclusively. If the grass is sufficiently long to cut, we give a little of it every day to the calves in a small rack made on purpose; but if not, they receive the greenest, sweetest hay, at early, and made on purpose for the calves and lambs.

After the first month, this system of feeding is continued for two months and more, the quantity of grass being increased as required. I do not let my calves out before they are three months old; and even then care must be taken that they do not catch cold, or suffer in health from any cause. A

My calf-stalls are placed above the manure cellar. Instead of the floor there is a grating, made of boards, $1\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ inches, with an interval of an inch between the pieces of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Thus, the calves are always dry, all the droppings, liquid and solid, passing through the grating. They receive no litter, except when just born and when they feel cold. The stalls are 4 x 5 feet, or 4 x 6 feet, when the width of the building allows of it. So the calves enjoy perfect liberty, and have plenty of room up to the age of six months. (2)

The accompanying engravings will enable the reader to make similar stalls if he please. We cannot too highly recommend their utility.

The ground-plan (5) shows the grating-floor. Every three feet, there are small

(1) A little linseed meal too, please, Mr. Director.

A. R. J. F.

(2) I cannot approve of calves standing over the manure pit. The smell of their dung while on milk is horrible in the extreme—almost worse than the dung of cattle fed on raw potatoes. Besides, there must be an up-draught of air through the slats, which would be likely to cause rheumatism.

A. R. J. F.

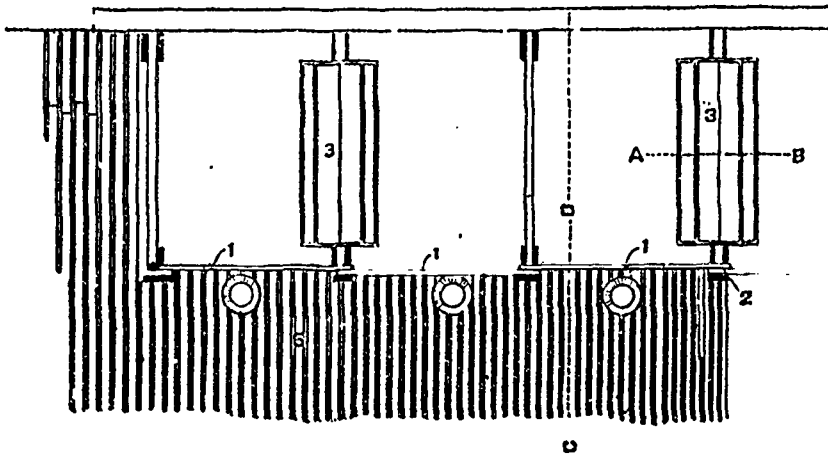


Fig. 1.

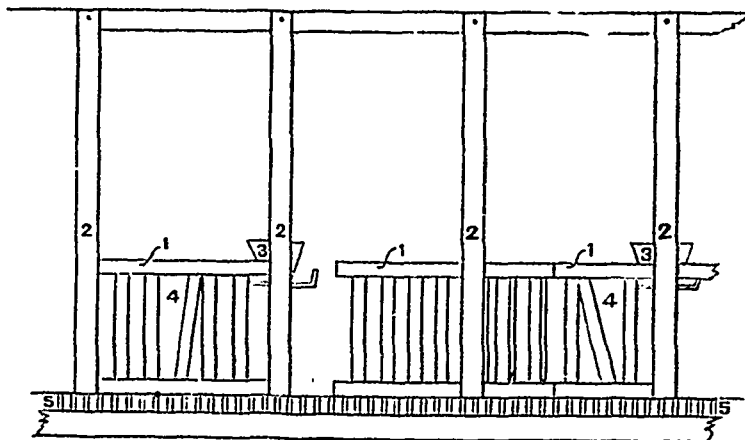


Fig. 2.