

2nd'y, because the mixture does not turn sour,—and 3rd'y, because the cattle eat it without waste.

It is my intention to continue the experiment until the animals are ready for market, but with respect to the rest of my cattle, I shall substitute the cold for the hot food.

The object of either process is to form the linseed into gelatine, and to incorporate it with any substance, or fibrous material, that will act as a vehicle to the stomach, and as a reconveyance to the mouth for rumination.

Gelatine, proper for cattle feeding, is obtained either by boiling linseed reduced to fine meal 5 or 10 minutes; or by soaking it 25 or 30 hours in cold water.

The method of making the cold compound with which the bullocks in question are fed, is precisely the same as that described for hot in page 234 first edition of my book, and in 245 of the second, viz:—

The half of a large tub being conveniently placed, a bushel of pea-straw, &c., or hay and turnip-tops cut into chaff, is put in. Two or three hand-cups-full of jelly are poured upon it, and stirred up with a three-pronged fork. Another bushel of the turnip-tops, chaff, &c., is next added, and two or three cups of the gelatine as before; all of which are then expeditiously stirred and worked together with the fork, and a rammer. It is then pressed down as firmly as the nature of the mixture will allow, with the latter instrument, which completes the first layer. Similar quantities of the turnip-top-chaff, &c., are thrown into the tub, the jelly poured upon it, and so on till the copper or vessel in which the gelatine was formed, is emptied. The mass is lastly pressed down with a copper lid, and in a few hours, the chaff having absorbed the mucilage, the compound is given to the cattle three or four times in addition to as many turnips as they like to eat. The proportion, up to this date, has been one pail full of linseed meal to eight of water. Next month it will be one to seven, with about two pints of barley or pea-meal added by degrees while the compound is being made. Afterwards more linseed and barley will be used. By this means the present cost of eighteenpence a head per week for the artificial ingredients, will be increased to about half-a-crown.

In adhering to these regulations, I have never failed to obtain ample remuneration for grazing, independent of the box manure, which is beyond price.

I exhibited also at North Walsham, a Dutch heifer that cost £8 10s. a short time before last Christmas. She was fed according to the above system, at the rate of two shillings and three-pence per week for linseed till June, when an unlimited quantity compounded with grass pulse, grain, or turnips, was daily placed before her. During this time, however, she consumed on the average only 30 pints of linseed, and 35 of barley or peas per week, the value of which was £4 16s. This sum added to £2 14s. for the previous six months compound, amounts altogether to £7 10s. for the year.

The heifer is considered to weigh about 70 stones of 14lbs. Three weeks since I refused £30 for her. On Thursday last £29 were only offered. Taking the latter sum as the criterion of value, and deducting the original cost, leaves £20 10s. for twelve months maintenance upon the exclusive produce of the farm, besides the manure, which I repeat, is beyond price.

To prevent misunderstandings, I think it right to state, that the heifer never had a calf, and that she was one of six purchased at £8 10s. each. They were equal as to size and breeding. One died, and the others were sold at the end of six months for £19 each. Therefore, had this heifer been then disposed of, she also would have repaid £10 10s., whereas by retaining her six months longer, her value only increased £10, though at an extra cost of £2 2s. for compounds.

It will be seen that the heifer required £2 12s. less for the last half year than for the former. We may, therefore, reasonably expect, that if kept another half-year, a proportional decrease would occur. Depending, however, upon the economy of the system, and believing that a net profit will be obtained from the present value of £29, I intend to exhibit her at Norwich during the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society in July, as a powerful illustration of the advantages derived from "*fattening cattle with native, instead of foreign produce.*"

The weight of the heifer in June was estimated with the others, at 54 stone of 14lbs.—now at 70. Then the price was calculated at 7s.—now at 8s. 3d. per stone. Therefore, had not the worth of the meat been increased, loss, instead of gain must have been noted; and as the increase is only 15 stones or 10lbs. per week, some idea may be formed of the loss sustained in rearing and fattening cattle for Christmas shows, and prizes, at ten, fifteen, or twenty shillings per week, for oil-cake, &c. &c.

I have published many similar returns to the above, and know from experience that the quickest generally prove the most profitable. But in the present instance, I desire to shew, that foreigners possess cattle prone to fatten with our own:—that meat can be raised from linseed, compounds at one third less than the cost for cake; and that through the growth of linseed with summer and winter feeding in boxes, nearly all the expenditure throughout the country for artificial manure, and for cattle food, might be avoided.

It can scarcely be necessary to remind the British farmer of his position with respect to foreign competition; and of his sure destruction unless he strikes into new and improved paths. Lethargy, prejudice, and antiquated notions, must give way to a vigorous exercise of common sense. The requisites for rearing, feeding, and fattening cattle must be grown at home,—manure be economised,—and employment be afforded to the weaker portion of the population, which can all be mainly secured by the cultivation of flax, use of the seed, and summer, as well as winter feeding in boxes.

As further proof of the great utility of the system, I will just state that I sold lately a fat yearling heifer for £12, and sent two others equally so to the North Walsham exhibition, worth more than the average of three-year-old store stock.

If incentives were wanting to the adoption of my plan, the fact that 22,473,233qrs. of grain, 510,377 head of cattle, and 1,268,040 cwt. of provisions were imported from the 1st of January, 1846, to November 5th, 1848, ought to stimulate us at least to attempt to stem the approaching tide.—*John Warnes, Trimmingham, Norfolk.—Farmer's Herald.*

HINTS FOR APRIL.—This is the month of activity. Commence plowing early, and do every thing well—put in barley, oats, and spring wheat without delay, and in the very best manner. Clear meadows and sow plaster early. Cart out all the manure, for corn, potatoes, ruta bagas, beets, and carrots. Mix manure well with the soil by repeated harrowings. Plow deep, and with straight, even, and very narrow slices, and the field will then look like a garden. Keep animals from pasture till it is grown—let cattle have plenty of roots. Repair fences, clear meadows of sticks, and stones, and save a week at the grindstone next haying—pulverize the scattered droppings of cattle over meadows and pastures. Give vigilant attention to sheep and young lambs—the latter, when chilled, may be dipped and rubbed in blood-warm water, rubbed dry, fed sparingly, and soon restored.

Uncover tender grapes, raspberries, strawberries, &c. Clean and dress asparagus beds, strawberry beds, and raspberries. Transplant strawberries. Put out