

Sick Animals.

Nearly all sick animals become so by improper feeding in the first place. Nine cases out of ten the digestion is wrong. Charcoal is the most effective and rapid corrective. It will cure in a majority of cases, if properly administered. An example of its use—the hired man came in with the intelligence that one of the finest cows was very sick, and a kind neighbor proposed the usual poisons. The owner being ill and unable to examine the cow, concluded that the trouble came from over-eating, and ordered a teaspoonful of pulverized charcoal given in water. It was mixed, placed in a junk bottle, the head held upward, and the water and charcoal poured downward. In five minutes improvement was visible, and in a few hours the animal was in the pasture quietly eating grass. Another instance of equal success occurred with a young heifer which had become badly bloated by eating green apples after a hard wind. The bloating was so severe that the sides were almost as hard as a barrel. The old remedy—saleratus—was tried for correcting the acidity. But putting this down always caused coughing, and it did little good. Half a teaspoonful of fresh powdered charcoal was given. In six hours, all appearance of the bloating had gone, and the heifer was well.

Rules for Cow Management.

Cows should run dry six weeks before calving; if milked closely toward calving, the calves will be poorer.

A cow newly come in should not drink cold water in cold weather, but moderately warm slop. Calves intended for raising should be taken from the cow within a few days, and they will be less liable to suck when they are old. Feed them first on new milk for awhile, then skim milk, taking care that all the changes are gradual, by adding only a portion at first.

Hearty eaters are desirable for cows, and may usually be selected while calves. A dainty calf will be a dainty cow.

Heifers dried up too early after calving will always run dry about the same time in after years—therefore be careful to milk closely the first year until about six weeks before calving.

Spring cows should come in while they are yet fed on hay, and before they are turned to grass, which will be more likely to prevent caked bag and milk fever.—*Etc.*

Trichina in Indiana Swine.

Mr. Charles G. Boerner, of Vevy, Switzerland County, Indiana, reports the result of microscopic examinations recently made by him to determine whether pork in that locality was affected with this parasite. Out of 187 slaughtered hogs examined, 11 were found to be affected. Three of these contained encysted trichina spiralis, and eight various other forms. The parts examined were the ham, shoulder and tenderloin. A magnifying power of from 50 to 100 diameters most distinctly revealed the parasite when present; a higher power cut off the light too much. He also found in the muscles of a rat he examined, trichina indistinguishable with those in the flesh of swine.

A Domestic Steamer.

The subject of cooking feed for stock is one of vital interest to the farmer, and each article on that head, as it appears from time to time is carefully connoyed by me. An "Anderson Steamer" would be my joy if I could possess it, but my farm is not on a scale large enough to warrant the expense, so I cast about me to find some way in which I could utilize the free caloric from my kitchen stove, which is in constant use. For this purpose I took a large dinner pot to the village, where I got a piece of gas pipe fitted into a cover of two inch pine plank. Heavy card paper was used for packing on the under side, and the upper side was strengthened by strips of oak screwed down and crossing each other, to keep it from warping, and the whole was fastened down by two bolts, with hooks at the lower ends, to attach to the ears of the pot, passing through the wooden cover, and tightened by nuts on the top.

Fill the pot not more than three-quarters full, leaving some chamber to help drive the steam. Then placing the steamer on the stove, I attach a piece of rubber hose to the pipe in the cover, letting the other end extend out of the window, when another piece of gas pipe, some three feet long, was inserted into it, and which I inserted into my swill barrel.

By this warming and partially cooking the feed for six hogs that I shall kill, I consider I shall receive more than value for the expense and trouble, while the melodious gurgle of the steam, as it arises from the tumultuous surface of the barrel outside the window, these cold winter evenings, bespeaks comfort for the fattening swine.

Now what I claim for this is, that the steam is just as hot as that from a ten horse power engine, though not quite equal in quantity.—*Corres. of Rural Home.*

Feed Hogs in Warm Weather.

The practice of turning hogs into the woods to make their own living till cold weather, and then shutting them up and feeding them on corn alone, is a very expensive way of making pork. To be sure, the Summer feed costs nothing; but then, as a general fact, the hogs make very little growth—not half so much as they would if they were supplied with proper food.

Their growth should be made as rapid as possible during warm weather. It should be remembered by every pork raiser, that a given amount of feed will produce larger results in Summer than in Winter. In winter a large amount of vitality is expended in resisting the cold, and therefore an increase of feed is required just to sustain the system in a healthy condition.

To promote the growth of hogs in warm weather, slops made of shorts and bran should be used; also of oats and rye. Neither corn or any other carbonaceous food should be fed to hogs in large quantities in hot weather, yet if they are permitted to feed on clover, corn in moderate quantities will be as good as any other feed. But the principal point we would make is, that hogs should be fed all through the Summer, so that when the cool weather of August comes they will be found in a thriving condition. If other feed is scarce, let the farmer commence cutting up green corn for his hogs by the first of August or even earlier. It will be economy to do so, rather than to let them go without till it is ripe and then feed it to them.

By the middle of September the fattening process should be commenced in good earnest, and the work completed before the severe weather sets in. As a rule, we believe that where hogs are kept in open lots without shelter, as most are, two bushels of corn will lay on more fat in October than three bushels will in January.

Feed through the Summer and fatten early.—*St. Louis Journal on Agriculture.*

Feeding Cows in Winter.

How many times a day ought cows to be fed in winter? was the question discussed by the members of the Grange at Irasburg, Vermont, at a meeting held lately.

Virgil Bogue said he was acquainted with families that practiced eating only twice a day, and all seemed healthy and the men could do as much work as any men in general. But for cattle he would feed three times—morning, noon and night. If he had straw to work up, he would feed twice on hay and once on straw, each day, and feed all the cattle he could eat. If he had turnips to feed with straw, would feed six or eight quarts of turnips to each cow just after milking, and the cows would work up the straw faster to feed hay in the morning, no objectionable flavor is given to the milk or butter. Believed it was a good plan to clean out the mangers at least once every day and would clean them perfectly the first thing in the morning, and then all the feed is fresh and new and the mangers ready for hay, meal, roots or straw. Some men leave the oats in the manger or feeding troughs all winter and they are foul all the time.

M. Connor believes that feeding twice a day is as good as more, as cattle need considerable time to chew their food. He generally feeds hay in the morning, and when the cows are turned out to drink about ten o'clock in the forenoon he feeds straw in the yard so that the cattle will not crowd around the water. The straw takes their attention and keeps them quiet. Then feeds hay at night, and turnips after milking, for the same reason as that given by Brother Bogue.

D. A. Locke said that when cows are giving milk it pays to feed them more than three times a day. He feeds no food out of doors in the yard, except the oats and the refuse from the mangers. His cows eat straw when it has been cut early and cured well, but he does not keep them on straw alone at any time. He believes that if a man keeps cattle he had better make it his principal

business to take care of them and make them comfortable. He believes they should be watered twice a day, at regular hours, and wants his cows to look round as a barrel all winter. Let them eat all they will and they will take time to chew and digest it. More cows have too little food to digest than too much. In feeding calves, wants them to be as plump and as well proportioned as though they sucked the cows.

H. Story fed his cows last winter only twice a day and never had cows do better, and believes it is the true way. It is not what is eaten but what is digested that gives strength. He said he had known large men to be small eaters, and thin, lean men to be large eaters. There are glands in the mouth and throat that secrete saliva, and glands in the stomach that secrete gastric juice, and to insure good digestion these glands should have a time to rest and be ready to aid in digestion when the regular meals are eaten. If one eats a lunch just before dinner, or eats continually, these glands are constantly exhausted and do not sufficiently aid in the digestion of the main and hearty meals of the day. The Carthaginian army was the most robust army ever led into the field of battle, and they only ate twice a day. Time is necessary for digestion. He once kept school and fed his cows only twice a day and never had them do better. Last winter fed hay in the morning and straw at night part of the time, and the cows did well. "But mind this," said the speaker, "always feed enough! All the cattle can eat!"—*N. Eng. Farmer.*

Sales of Clydesdales, &c.

We are pleased to notice that many of the heavy Clydesdale horses brought to this Province by our Canadian importers, are not bought up by American dealers, but will remain in this country, in the townships back of us. There is still room for many more well-bred animals in these back townships, and it is better for the country that the imported horses remain with us, than to sell to Americans to be taken across the line. During the last two weeks several sales of first-class Clydesdales were made—the purchasers being residents of the Province. Mr. Richard Graham, of Pickering, sold a one year old colt, imported this year, to Mr. R. Cheyne, of Toronto, for \$1,450. Mr. David Reesor, jr., of Silver Spring farm, sold Scottish Chief, a five-year old, imported this year, to Mr. Frank Elliott, of Reach, for \$2,250. Mr. Reesor sold a half interest in Strathaven Jock, a three old, also imported this year, to Thomas Bell, for \$1,000. Jock without doubt will be the favorite horse in Orilla and vicinity, where Mr. Bell intends to take him the coming spring. The same gentleman sold a half interest in Lord Douglass, a five year old, to Mr. Michael Corcoran, for \$900. Douglass is well proportioned, good life and a thorough Clydesdale. Mr. Reesor also sold to Mr. Thomas Duff, Reach, four head of shorthorns, one male and three females, for \$700. The above were private sales.—*Abridged from Markham Economist.*

Picking Off Potato Blossoms.

We observe some discussion in the papers on the practical utility of picking the blossoms off from growing potato plants to increase the growth of the tubers. According to theory, this would be the result, the formation of seed always tending to exhaust more or less the vitality of the plant. Many years ago a statement came from Europe on this subject, and we were told that the crop would be increased one-third by carefully removing all the blossoms. We gave it a careful test in rows side by side, but ordinary measuring did not indicate the slightest difference, which must have been very small if any—probably requiring more refined weighing to distinguish it, and of no consequence whatever in common practice.—*Country Gentleman.*

For Scratches on Horses.

Take Balm of Gilead buds, say enough to fill a quart bottle, then cover the buds with alcohol and in a few days it will be fit for use. Add an equal amount of chamber-lye to the liquid, and wash the part affected twice a day. This will take the soreness out, and soon effect a cure, if the case is not a severe one. The horse can be kept in use by making the application upon putting him up, as it will prevent him from taking cold.

Every man that has a horse should secure a quantity of the buds in the spring of the year when they are large and full, as the wash is excellent for galls, wounds and bruises.