

wood ashes, leaf mould, green-sand marl, decomposed felspar, saltpetre, farm-yard dung, &c.)—*phosphoric acid*, (as bones crushed, burnt, or dissolved, guano, farm-yard dung, oyster-shell lime, shell fish, coprolites, and super phosphate of lime,) and *nitrogen*, (as sulphate and muriate of ammonia, urine, guano, and animal manures generally,) combined with small quantities of lime, salt, magnesia, &c. &c.

SPAYING.

The extent to which this is done in our State renders it desirable that the best modes of operating be made known. The Prairie Farmer has heretofore treated of two which have their respective advocates. We find another, translated from a French Journal for the "Working Farmer," which seems to differ somewhat from either, and which may be worth attention.

"Having covered the eyes of the cow to be operated upon, we place her against a wall, provided with five rings firmly fastened, and placed as follows: the first corresponds to the top of the withers; the second to the lower anterior part of the breast; the third is placed a little distance from the angle of the shoulder; the fourth is opposite to the anterior and superior part of the lower region, and the fifth, which is behind, answers to the under part of the buttocks. We place a strong assistant between the wall and the head of the animal, who firmly holds the left horn in his left hand, and with his right, the muzzle, which he elevates a little. This done, we pass through and fasten the end of a long and strong plaited cord in the ring, which corresponds to the lower part of the breast; we bring the free end of the cord along the left flank and pass it through the ring which is below and in front of the withers. We bring it down along the breast behind the shoulders and the angle of the fore leg to pass it through the ring which is at the top of the back; then it must be passed around against the outer angle of the left hip, and we fasten it, after having drawn it tightly to the posterior ring by a simple bow knot.

"The cow being firmly fixed to the wall, we place a cord, fastened by a slip-noose, around its hocks to keep them together in such a manner that the animal cannot kick the operator, the free end of the cord and the tail is held by an assistant.

"The cow, thus secured, cannot, during the operation, move forward, nor lie down, and the veterinary surgeon has all the ease desirable, and is protected from accident.

"Mr. Levrant advises that an assistant should hold a plank or a bar of wood obliquely under the teats and before its limbs to ward off

the kicks, but this method is not always without danger both to the operator and the animal, because, at the commencement, that is, when the surgeon makes the incision through the hide and the muscles, the cow makes such sudden movements and tries so frequently to strike with its left hind foot, that it may happen that upon every movement, the plank or the bar may be struck against the operator's leg.

"On the other hand, although the defence may be firmly held by the assistant, yet it may happen that in spite of his exertions, he sometimes may be thrown against the operator by the movements she may attempt, and there may be an uncontrollable displacement of the plank or bar; and then it may happen that she becomes wounded, and at the same time prevents the operation, while by the mode we point out, there is no fear of accident, either to the operator or the beast.

"In case of the want of a wall provided with rings, we may use a strong palisade, a solid fence, or two trees a suitable distance apart, across which we fix two strong bars of wood, separated from each other, according to the size of the cow.

"There is another means of confining them we have employed for some time past, where the cows were very strong and untamable, more simple than the preceding, less fatiguing for the animal, less troublesome to the operator, and which answers perfectly. It consists:

First. In leaving the cow almost free, covering her eyes, holding her head by two strong assistants, one of whom seizes the nose with his hand and strongly pinches the nostrils, whenever the animal makes any violent movements during the operation.

Second. To cause another assistant to hold the two hind legs, kept together by means of a cord passed above and beneath the hocks; this assistant also holds the tail and pulls it, whenever the animal seeks to change its place.

"The cow being conveniently disposed, and the instrument and appliances, such as curved scissors upon a table, a convex edged bistoury, a straight one, and one buttoned at the point, suture-needle filled with double thread of desired length, pledgets of lint of appropriate size and length, a mass of tow (in pledgets) being collected in a shallow basket, held by an intelligent assistant, we place ourselves opposite to the left flank, our back turned a little towards the head of the animal; we cut off the hair which covers the hide in the middle of the flanks, at an equal distance between the back and the hip, for the space of thirteen or fourteen centimetres in circumference; this done, we take the convex bistoury and place it open between our teeth, the edge out, the joint to the left; then, with both hands, we seize the hide in the