

ery of lost condition, and that very little milk would be produced while this was going on. Most dairymen have learned ere this, that a cow in poor condition in spring will yield a comparatively poor return of milk through the season. They have learned that "something never comes from nothing," and that no policy is more suicidal for a dairyman, than to winter his cows on innutritious food, so as to reduce their flesh. Every dairyman, who has observed the effect of condition on the flow of milk after calving, knows that extra flesh represents an extra yield of milk. It is not difficult to determine, very closely, how much milk every pound of extra flesh and fat represents. A deep milker is very apt to draw so heavily upon her own flesh as to become thin at the end of the season, having used all the extra food consumed during the summer in the secretion of milk, besides her extra flesh in the spring. If a cow has accumulated 100 lbs. of extra flesh or fat during the winter, she will yield (if a good milker) at least 500 lbs. more milk during the season, 5 lbs. of milk for one of extra flesh or fat. We think 6 lbs. of milk to one of flesh is nearer the actual yield. The dairyman, therefore, who does not feed his cows well through the winter, is not only unmindful of the comfort of his cows, but is cheating himself out of the profits of the next season. (*Idem.*)

To keep a gun from rusting, clean the barrel occasionally, and cover the exposed portion of the metal with a film of linseed oil.

Increasing the milk-flow of heifers.

This season of the year is of so much importance to the dairyman that we cannot afford to forget for a single moment that upon the results of the fall products, both of milk and butter, and the condition of the stock, the question of future profits largely depends. This is especially the case with regard to heifers in their first milking season. Particular care should be given to them at this time, as their future value largely depends upon the result of the first year's yield. It is a well known physiological fact among breeders, that a longer flow of milk can be produced by generous feeding and continued milking the first year. It seems to fix that particular type on young cattle, and the question of profit and loss may be the one of milking the herd ten or eight months, and as this quality of holding out largely depends upon food and training, we should, if we may use the term, educate the heifer to that end, which may be done by generous feeding and long milking. It would be better to milk them twelve, or even fifteen months, if this habit can be fixed. There are many well-known instances, where only one cow is kept, when a heifer has been milked for even eighteen months, and kept growing all the time by a liberal diet, and they have often proved the very best of milkers.

A large milker must be a good feeder, and a heifer that, during the first year of milk, is well fed, not only develops the flesh and fat secretions, but also the milking propensity.

The fall of the year is the trying season for dairy stock, and great care should be taken that there is no mistake made. A liberal supply of food adapted to milk production, as well as fattening, should be provided, and shelter when needed. A decreased flow of milk at any period can not be overcome, and the loss, caused by whatever means, cannot be regained. Will our dairy farmers see to it that the young animals are well provided for, and don't forget that the first year is the time to fix upon them the milk producing qualities? *The American Dairyman.*

Stable Floors.

Mr J. Wilkerson, a rural architect of much experience, in the *Turf, Field and Farm*, has hit upon the following plan for improving the construction of stable floors: The floor is made level, fore and aft, but leaving a gentle slope from each

of the two sides to the centre, or half the width of a stall. The planks are laid crosswise, inclining to the centre, leaving an opening between the ends in the centre, just wide enough for the urine to drain through a metal gutter under the floor, which conducts it outside the building to a hoghead or to the manure pit. This prevents it from being absorbed in the bedding, which, otherwise, is wet, fetid, and uncomfortable to the horse. The cleanliness of this arrangement of floor is another advantage, as it admits of the animal lying as he always does, where he can, in pasture fields, i. e., with his back up the grade. Then the floor, being always kept dry, makes a good bed for the horse without litter, during the summer months, besides being cooler and freer from the ammonia which the litter exhales. *Grange Record.*

FARMING AT A PROFIT.—The Essex farmer whose practice and its results we quoted in another number is not the only agriculturist who has made his farm pay in this disastrous season. Mr. Prout, the experimental and scientific agriculturist whose farm near Sawbridge-worth has been often the subject of comment, has this year a show of crops which simply astonishes all who look at them after witnessing the dreary look of the majority of harvest fields. "The crops of wheat and oats look really splendid," says Mr. W. Fowler, who went over the fields in the company of several men of great experience, and were astonished at such a magnificent prospect in such a disastrous season; "I do not well see how they could look better." The weeds have had no chance, for the corn has choked them, and so has reversed the usual order of things. Mr. Prout takes extreme pains as to cleaning his land, and this year he has had ample reward for his trouble. *Gloucestershire Chronicle.*

Montreal Horticultural Fair.

For the third time, we this year attended this exhibition of the flower, fruit, and vegetable growers of the Province of Quebec, and found it most instructive and profitable. We have sometimes doubted if our state and county agricultural fairs, even with the horse trots thrown in, really pay the visitor — except, perhaps, as a means of "seeing the folks." — but we have no doubts about the value of such exhibitions as this of the horticulturists and orchardists of our neighboring province. The progress from year to year is very manifest, and is clearly the result of the combined stimulus and instruction afforded by these various exhibits, demonstrating what may be effected by the combination of knowledge and industry. We pity the man who, desirous of growing good fruit, depends for his information as to what he should plant, and for what he plants, upon a lying and swindling tramp who calls himself a nursery agent. Failure and discouragement, loss of money and of confidence in his fellow-men, are the common consequences of such "deals." But let men who wish to make a success of fruit-growing, especially under the difficulties they must encounter in the "cold North," attend exhibitions such as our Montreal friends get up. Let them form the acquaintance of the successful fruit-growers there, and visit them afterwards in their homes and orchards, and they will be able to make fruit-growing a success at a less price than it costs them to make a disgusting failure under the tuition of the tree peddlars. It is really astonishing to note the progress of fruit growing in Canada. Already they nearly supply the home market, and are planting orchards with the view of exporting fruit to Europe; while northern Vermont is eating Michigan apples by the hundred car-loads every year. — DR. HASKINS, in *Vt. State Journal*,