

the load out. The animal is willing to do what he can, but he does not know how to draw out the load. He tries and finds that it does not move, not knowing that a steadier and stronger pull would do it, and when the lash comes down upon him, and he hears the yells of his driver, he is frightened, and jumps and rears through fear rather than ugliness or balkiness. No better way could possibly be devised to make a horse balky than to beat him under such circumstances. When he gets a little excited, stop him five or ten minutes, let him become calm; go to the balky horse, pat him and speak gently to him; and as soon as he is over his excitement, he will, in nine cases out of ten, pull at the word. After you have gentled him awhile, and his excitement has cooled down, take him by the bits; turn him each way a few minutes as far as you can; gentle him a little; unrein him; then step before the balky horse, and let the other start first, then you can take them anywhere you wish. A balky horse is always high-spirited, and starts quick; half the pull is on before the other starts; by standing before him the other starts first. By close application to this rule, you can make any balky horse pull. If a horse has been badly spoiled you should hitch him to the empty waggon, and pull it around while on the level ground; then put on a little load and increase it gradually, caressing as before, and in a short time you have a good work-horse."

STOCK FEEDING.

The following article we find in the *Rural American*:—"The foundation of good farming is the keeping of as much stock as can be kept well, and no more; but some farmers make the mistake of overstocking their farms, by which means their stock feed on poor pasturage, and in a drought frequently suffer for the want of food. In the winter season too many cattle are crowded into small barnyards, and the result is, that the strongest ones eat the most of the fodder, and the smaller and weaker animals are hooked about, and have to take up with the leavings of the others; and when all are provided with stalls some portion of the stock suffers, when let into the yard, in consequence of there being too many for the space allotted to them, especially in stormy weather, when they all strive to get under the sheds.

A great deal of stock can be advantageously kept on most farms, if proper means are taken to provide for their comfort and support. In the first place, the necessary change of pasture must be provided, sufficient to sustain the stock in a severe drought, if one should occur; or good crops should be grown to "soil" the cattle when the pasturage is too short. The "soiling" system alone is often made to support a large number of cows on farms that could not give pasturage for half the number, and allow sufficient winter fodder to be cut.

In the next place, ample and warm winter accommodation must be provided, so that the stock can feed in sheds quietly, when not stalled; and with an abundance of good fodder every farmer will find that keeping stock is profitable, as it is admitted by all good farmers that fodder fed on farms is better than to sell it, as the manure produced by the stock keeps such farms in a good state of fertility.

Every farmer should raise all the young stock that he can feed well, and give good winter quarters. A choice lot of good dairy cows can seldom be bought; they must be raised on the farm.

As regards the breeds of cow to be kept, it better be the object, the Alderneys, or their grades, are considered best, in proportion to the quantity of food consumed. This is a small breed of cattle, and their milk is exceedingly rich. They do not produce more milk than ordinary cows; but it yields much more cream.

If the selling of milk be the object, the Ayrshires are the best breed that can be procured, as the cows of that breed have a world-wide reputation of being the most abundant milkers known. In many cases, however, our native cows are equal in value for both milk and butter to any blooded stock in existence; but such cows are scarce, and cannot be found for sale, except in rare cases.

A CRACK IN THE HOG TROUGH.

The following from the *Prarie Farmer* is almost equal to Franklin's story of the whistle.

A few days ago a friend sent me word that, every day he gave twenty pails of buttermilk to a lot of "shoats," and they scarcely improved at all. Thinks I, this is a breed of hogs worth seeing—they must be of the sheet-iron kind. So I called on him, heard him repeat the mournful story, and then visited the sty, in order to get a better view of the miraculous swine. I went into the pen, and, on close examination, found a crack in the trough through which most of the contents ran away under the floor. Thinks I, here is the type of the failures of our agricultural brethren.

When I see a farmer omitting all improvements because of a little cost, selling all his farm stock, to buy bank or railroad or mortgage stock, robbing his land, while, in reality, he is also robbing himself and his heirs, thinks I, my friend, you have a crack in your hog trough.

When I see a farmer subscribing for half a dozen political and miscellaneous papers, and spending all his leisure time in reading them, while he don't read a single agricultural or horticultural journal, thinks I to myself, poor man, you have got a large and wide crack in your hog trough.

When I see a farmer attending all the political conventions, and coming down liberally with the "dust" on all caucus conventions, and knowing every man in the town that votes his ticket, and yet, to save his neck, couldn't tell