

HORSES AND CATTLE.

HORSE PULLING AT THE HALTER.

We have several inquiries for a mode of breaking a horse of pulling at the halter. Here is a method (illustrated) that we have known to succeed. Get a strong half-inch cord, 22 feet in length; put the centre under the tail like a crouper; twist them a few times as you bring them forward over the back; pass forward on each side of the body, then across the breast, then pass them forward through the halter below the jaw. Tie firmly to a tree, post or stall, and excite the animal by any means that will cause him to pull until the habit is overcome. You may even whip across the nose keenly until there is perfect submission, which will not require long. Hitch in this way for a few days or so long as there is any disposition or pull on the halter.

AUTUMN CARE OF LIVE STOCK.

Horses should be kept out of all hard storms, which are frequent during this month.

One of the best cures for a severe cold is a warm stable and perfect rest, with a good run in the yard or pasture on pleasant days. It is too late in the year to permit horses to remain out of doors through the night. Young colts and yearlings need plenty of nutritious food. Much depends upon the care which colts receive during their first winter. Oats are excellent for them; if corn is used, it should be fed with wheat bran. Use the brush freely on all horses and colts and keep the skin clean and active.

Cows, which are to give milk through the winter, need to be fed with special care at this time. If possible, the flow of milk must not be permitted to decrease. Mangels and sugar beets are excellent, cut in slices and sprinkled with bran. The rule, that good feeding brings good manure, should be kept in mind in a judicious care of farm animals during the winter. Good feed in abundance is not enough; it should be given with regularity. The habits of different animals have to be studied, and treated accordingly. Scarcely any two cows or horses have the same appetites. It is important to so mix and change the feed, that sameness may be avoided. A variety of food encourages healthful digestion, and upon this the profits of the owner largely depend.

Sheep will bear more exposure than any other domestic animal, but even they winter poorly without a good shelter. Sheds and yards should now be put in order, that there may be no delays in getting the flocks into their winter quarters. Ewes should now be with young, excepting when late lambs are desired. Half a pint of corn per day will aid in keeping each ewe in good condition. All weak sheep should be placed by themselves and fattened for market. It does not pay to keep second-rate animals.

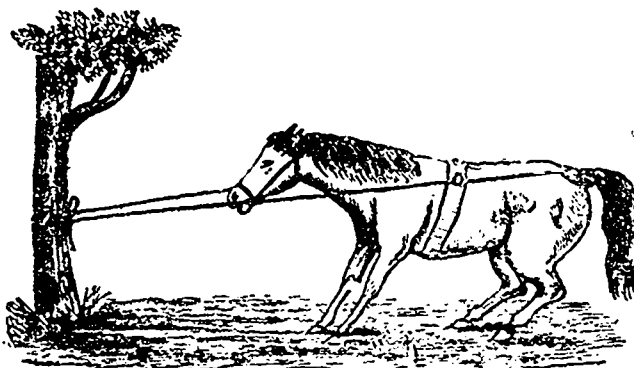
Pigs are most profitable if fattened and sold before mid-winter. A large part of the food is used up in simply maintaining the animal during the coldest winter weather. Well-bred swine will sometimes lose in weight during a severe storm. Give the pigs all the corn, or other feed, they will eat during the

fattening period. Keep the pens clean, with an abundance of litter, and supply all needed pure water.—*Dr. Byron D. Halsted, in American Agriculturist.*

FAST WALKING HORSES.

Not only the draft horse that walks away briskly with his load, but the saddle horse that rests himself and his rider from the fatigue of trotting or pacing or cantering by changing into the rapid walk, and the more serviceable light harness horse, from the business horse in the various vehicles on our crowded thoroughfares, to the haughty team that draw in state the most elegant landaus all acquire additional value if they are rapid walkers.

The fair grounds are the only places where competition for fast walking horses can be given, and yet it is not granted half the premium or importance that the stupid and absolutely useless mule race is. If the walking horse was encouraged by handsome fair prizes, he would not only attract a large attendance of curious spectators, but would add more largely than any one can approximately



HORSE PULLING AT THE HALTER

estimate to the development of the vast resources of our abundant country. The habitual gait of the horse is the walk. He walks more than he trots or gallops, and it is therefore, important that he should be trained and encouraged to walk at a rapid and sustained pace; for he thereby saves much time, and most emphatically is it true in his case that "time is money."

The above, from the National Live Stock Journal, Chicago, should receive the attention of fair managers at their winter meetings, and liberal prizes should be offered for fast walking horses in all the classes of draft, all work, harness and saddle horses.

CHEAP SHELTERS FOR CATTLE.

A popular form of shelter in the newer portions of the west are sheds of poles roofed over with straw. Whenever it is practicable these shelters are located on the east or south side of a forest or a hill, in order that the force of the winds may be broken as much as possible. In the western grazing regions, where natural protections, such as ravines or groves of timber, are not available, shelters are constructed which afford not only protection from storms but feed for the protected animals. Sometimes these shelters are of great length and made to curve so as to protect from northwest and east winds. The framework is made of poles set in the ground in rows, about sixteen feet apart and twelve feet apart in the rows. Cross beams of poles are spiked to these to hold a frame of lighter

poles, and others placed sloping are laid upon the north side. Piles of hay are spread over these frames.

An inexpensive device for stock protection is what is termed by stockmen the "archway shelter." This usually consists of two rail pens of the ordinary kind for the bottom of small stacks, placed near enough together so that an archway of poles can be made between them. The lower end of each pole is set a short distance in the ground, resting near the middle on the top rail of the pen, crossing its neighbour pole from the other pen and fastened to it with wire at the top and also to the rider. Over this structure the straw stack is built. When the stack is a long one a double archway may be made.

In constructing cattle-sheds, especially in localities where high winds prevail, it should be remembered that low buildings are the safest ones; let them be as near the ground as possible. Low buildings are also cheaper than high ones, because two and three storey barns must have a correspondingly strong and heavy frame to support its own weight as well as the side thrust and weight of its contents. For low buildings timber large and strong enough to hold up the roof will suffice.

CORN OR OATS FOR HORSES.

The comparative value of corn and oats for horses may be briefly stated as follows: The former is deficient in many of the elements of nutrition so necessary for recuperating the constant wear and tear which necessarily takes place in the body of a living animal. On this account horses which are exclusively fed on corn

and hay do not receive that kind of nourishment which appears necessary for the due support and maintenance of the animal fabric. Hence, we must not be surprised that corn-fed horses show evidence of being languid, by sweating profusely while being worked, lack of vitality, etc.

Oats, on the contrary, contain more of the essential elements of nutrition than any other article of food which can be fed with impunity to horses. Oats are not only the most natural food for horses, but are decidedly the most nutritious. They are the cheapest, because there is less risk in feeding them, and experience has proved that horses properly fed on oats and timothy hay can, with regular exercise, good grooming, and proper sanitary regulations, be brought to the highest state of physical culture and can perform more work with less evidence of fatigue than when fed on any other article of food.—*National Live Stock Journal, Chicago.*

THE bull is half the herd. Thus a bull of the best milking strain of blood, used even in a small lot of dairy cows, greatly and at once improves each of his get. And the high-priced bull, though seemingly extravagant at the start, soon returns to his owner a heavy profit. Of late years the Jersey importations have been scattered widely over the land, and the butter dairies and creameries are realizing the profits from the gains produced by the breeding of the natives and grade cows of other bloods to the bulls, thus increasing the value of many herds.—*Farm Herd and Home.*