

arrangements. On the one hand the stables and feeding houses, being dependent on it for supplies, should be situated as closely proximate to it as possible, while the stackyard should be just adjoining. This connection between the barn and the stack yard has been materially improved, in the practice of some of the more eminent English agriculturists, during recent years. The ordinary method of removing a stack into the stack-house by means of carts or waggons, preparatory to threshing, is to some extent superseded, by intersecting the stack-yard with lines of railway, on which wheels are placed, that supply the place of pillars by supporting the stacks. During the process of pitching each sheaf from the stack to the wagon, and again from it to the barn, a great loss of time and grain is incurred; while the work must necessarily be done only in fine weather. But by the modern system of arranging the stacks in parallel rows, on lines of railway, with the main branch running directly into the stack-house, it is found that a stack can be safely and conveniently removed in any weather, in the course of a few minutes.

A careful inspection of the plan, with the references appended, will enable the reader easily to comprehend the scope of the principal illustration, and the object of its several parts. The dwelling house and its garden, offices, and dairy attached, also deserve more than a passing reference, did our space permit. But as their arrangement may be readily appreciated, we will merely add, that although the entire steading before us is supposed to be constructed of brick or stone, there is no reason why a like orderly and compact plan should not be adopted, when the building material is composed entirely of timber.

REFERENCES TO GROUNDED PLAN ON OPPOSITE PAGE.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. Stable. | 17 & 18. Feeding Stalls. |
| 2. Harness Room. | 19 & 20. Piggeries. |
| 3. Riding Stable. | 21. Portable Manure House. |
| 4. Hay House. | 22. Splay Cow House. |
| 5. Harness Room. | 23. Churning House. |
| 6. Gig or Buggy House. | 24. Milk Room. |
| 7 & 8. Infirmary. | 25. Cheese-Making House. |
| 9. Tool House. | 26. Veranda. |
| 10. Calves' Boxes. | 27. Potato House. |
| 11. Feeding Boxes. | 28. Washing House. |
| 12. Liquid Manure Tank. | 29. Scullery. |
| 13. Boilers. | 30. Larder. |
| 14. Engine Room. | 31. Cistern, and W. C. directly behind. |
| 15. Engine Boiler. | |
| 16. Part of Straw House. | |

Snowy Horse Fronts.—It is for the love of show, and not for the love of beauty, that so much of our town architecture is bedizened with profuse and tasteless ornament. It is put there for the sake of respectability—as an advertisement, perhaps: for any reason except that it is really loved and appreciated. It is put outside, not inside. The owner of the house takes no delight in seeing it. He only sets it up as a sign to the world of his own wealth and importance; very often he puts it all up front, none at the sides or the back; for his opulence may be only sham opulence, and he wants to produce the greatest possible effect with the smallest expenditure.—*Building News.*

The Breeder and Grazier.

Hog Feeding in Summer.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

SIR,—In more than one letter in THE CANADA FARMER have I endeavoured to point out the advantages of fattening hogs in summer as well as in winter. The immense trade in bacon between America and England has within the last few years undergone a great revolution, and indeed the same remark might be applied to some other countries, to Ireland and Germany, for instance. There is evidently an increasing distaste for old rancid bacon, and a growing preference for the fresh, new article; and the trade has, in consequence, been obliged to adapt itself to this changed state of things. By the careful use of ice, the cure of bacon is now rendered almost as perfect in summer as winter; and a fat hog is therefore in good season all the year round, as much so as a fat steer or a fat sheep. Prime hogs averaging about 225 lbs. alive, say 200 or 270 lbs. each, would be worth in Hamilton now \$5.50 per cwt., 6 cents per lb. These are unsafe

figures to calculate upon for any great length of time, perhaps, still remunerative prices are very likely to be obtainable.

In the Western States large farmers feed from 100 to 500 pigs, but for our Canadian friends to attempt the business on such a large scale might be imprudent and hazardous. Still it would not be too much to say that a good litter of pigs may be kept all the time to advantage. Hogs this summer, w'll, I think, bring a higher price before the first of September than after. SAMUEL NASH.

Hamilton, 20th June, 1865.

Cows in Heat.—I am very much wedded to a practice learned in boyhood, which clings closely in advanced age; a rule that I have found almost infallible. If I discover a cow in heat in the morning, immediately drive her off before milking. After connection with the male, put her in the stall, milk and give her a pail of cold water with a trifle of salt in it; let her remain as quiet as possible, until two or three o'clock, then turn her out with the herd, milking at night as usual. If I find a cow at evening in the same situation, I drive her off prior to milking, return, milk and water her, let her remain in the stall over night, milk in the morning as usual. By pursuing this course, a cow will seldom require driving away the second time. A record should be made and correctly kept of the date—no guess work attached. This will enable the owner to make calculations accordingly.—*Can. Union Herald.*

Mr. Angus McDonald writes to the *Union* to say that a female mule belonging to Judge Jarvis, of Cornwall, has had a foal. This, if there is no mistake about it, is a remarkable fact in natural history.

The Dairy.

Dairy Cows and their Treatment—The Different Breeds.

There are many good suggestions in the following extract which we (*Country Gentlemen*) take from the Report of Edw. M. Gardner, Chairman of a Committee of the Nantucket (Massachusetts) Agricultural Society:

Now what should a farmer do in relation to procuring profitable stock? In the first place we must remember that his milch cows are only so many machines to turn his grass into gold. Therefore, there are certain things beyond the mere milking capacity which are important. When a cow has become too old to be profitable as a milker, it is then important to profitably prepare her for the butcher. There are milch cows in Massachusetts which sell readily for slaughter, after they have ceased to be profitable for the dairy, for more than a hundred dollars each. If these cows would fatten for thirty or forty dollars,—which they would,—then the breeders get sixty or seventy dollars clear on a cow, while the raisers of poor mongrel stock get nothing.

So that the thriving farmer will look to milk first, and then to the capacity to take on flesh. A prudent merchant would pay but little for a ship that he could not at some future time repair and make valuable for some other business. So he who purchases a house looks to see if it can be repaired without costing more than it is worth.

By what we have said, it will readily be perceived that your committee are in favour of blood stock for profit.

The next question that arises is, "Among the various blood stock, which is best?" We answer this by saying that each one exceeds the other under certain circumstances. The question then with us is, Which is best for poor, or at least very ordinary pastures? that is, in a few words, which is best for Nantucket?

With good feed, a very ordinary cow may be made a respectable milker. With poor feed, the best cow will utterly fail. The farmer then should first look at his own means of feeding. The Short Horn cow is heavy; it is troublesome to her to travel; she requires thick grass; in fact, she wants to be "up to her knees in clover," and then she will pay most richly, both as a milker and for the butcher. But it would be the height of folly for a farmer who has only poor pastures to buy Short-Horns.

The Ayrshires are lighter on the foot, more nimble, capable of enduring severer winters, and of recuperating readily in the Spring. As milkers, they produce a larger quantity of milk and butter in proportion to the feed they eat, than any other of the pure breeds,

Like all other cows, natives as well as pure breeds, they will make poor things on starvation. These, however, will be very good cows, and perhaps the very best, for the thin and meagre pasturage of Nantucket.

The Jerseys have their peculiarities. For richness of milk, and the butter made from it, no pure breed can excel them. Some say that they require more tender care than the Ayrshires, but to breed in with natives that are good milkers, a very superior cow would probably be produced. We say "probably," because no mongrel cow will certainly produce a good milker, however excellent the mother may be. Yet, to cross good natives with any of the pure breeds, the chance of getting a good milker is increased more than fourfold. For poor pastures and hard winters, they are not equal, as it is said by some breeders, to the Ayrshires. Other as reputable breeders, say that no cow exceeds the Jersey in hardness. A farmer, with a herd of Ayrshires or Ayrshire grades, could not do better than to have a Jersey or two to colour and flavour his milk and butter. For a private gentleman, the Jersey is far superior to any other cow.

The Devon is not usually a good milker. The Devon, crossed with our native cow, would be good for a mere stock raiser. For working oxen and the shambles, they are very valuable. Their beef is excellent. No beef is sweeter, and none so well "mixed."

But the best milkers in proportion to their size and food, are the Ayrshires. A cross obtained from an Ayrshire bull and a pure-bred Short-Horn, produces a stock that for beauty, for the milk-pail, and, at last, to take on fat readily, would be hard to beat. It is a most excellent and profitable stock for Nantucket, if a farmer has good pasture lots for fall feed, and raises roots enough to mess them through the winter.

We have said that care does much to make the cow. Milk is not, as the Scotch have it, all "made through the mouth;" good feeding is not all. To have your cows, whether natives or bloods, do their best, there are certain other requisites.

- 1st. They should have a warm barn.
- 2d. That barn should be cleaned often.
- 3d. The cows should be fed regularly; that is, at regular hours.
- 4th. They should be milked and managed with all gentleness.
- 5th. They should never be forced to remain out in the cold, or starve.
- 6th. They should be "carried" every morning.
- 7th. They should be milked dry every time, and by a milker that milks quickly, but tenderly.

The Quality of Milk.

It has been remarked by Leibig, that cows being driven long distances to pasture, unless they get an extra supply of food, yield milk poor in casein or cheesy matter—the materials which would otherwise have formed that constituent of the milk, being used in repairing the waste of the muscles, and other parts employed in locomotion. This fact is lost sight of by many farmers. Herds that are compelled to travel a long distance for water, or which are occupied a considerable portion of the day in getting a supply of food, yield less milk and of a poorer quality than when they can fill themselves quickly, and lie down to rest and manufacture their food into milk. In administering food to milch cows, the first consideration should be the maintenance of a healthy, robust condition. That secured, the increase and improvement of their milk may be realized by paying due attention, in securing quiet among the herds, and supplying the requisite food from which good milk may be realized.

In the milk of each cow, in the urine, and in the bones of each calf reared and sold off, Prof. Johnson estimates that a farm parts with as much earthy phosphates as is contained in fifty-six pounds of bone dust. It is evident that on old dairy farms we cannot continue to rob the soil of this material, without sustaining serious losses. Levi Bartlett, of Warner, N. H., a gentleman well known in the agricultural world, writes me that cows, running in the old pastures of that vicinity, are terribly afflicted with bone disease in consequence of the exhaustion of phosphates in the soil. In some parts of Cheshire, England, the most wonderful effects have been produced in increasing the quantity and improving the supply of milk, by the application of bone dust to the dairy pastures, and there cannot be a question but that bone manure could be employed here with the best results. All these are matters which must soon occupy the earnest attention of dairymen in the old dairy districts. It will be well if we shall be able to provide against the future by immediate action, and thus make sure of one of the most lucrative and prosperous callings in which the farmers of the grazing districts can engage.—*Ohio Farmer.*