

makers. I have Grace of Belvedere, that dropped her first calf (a heifer) in July, 1897, milked splendidly all winter, and in the end of April of this year, as I found she would not go dry, I churned her cream by itself for one week. She was then just three years old, and had been in milk nine months, and was due with second calf in two months, and she made just eight pounds of beautiful butter. This is the sort of cow that pays.

For three months before calving I allow a cow no grain at all, but feed her cooling bran mash, with a little oil meal, and plenty of good hay. If on rank pasture, I move to shorter grass and near home at the last; and, unless the bowels are quite loose, I give one-quarter pound Epsom salts every two or three days, or oftener. Almost any cow will take this in her mash. If the udder is too full and hard, we don't hesitate to milk regularly. When about to calve, we almost always give $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds Epsom salts, with a little saltpetre and ground ginger. This is dissolved in boiling water, and, when cool, is put into three beer bottles and easily given to the cow. Many use less water, but I think the dose too strong, and not so effectual. The calf being taken away, the cow is given an "old country" white drink. A quart of oatmeal is put in a pail and wet with cold water; then half-a-pail of actually boiling water is poured on, and, when stirred, it is frothy, like cream. Then add cold water till the pail is full, and the drink only comfortably warm, and if your cow is all right, she won't leave a drop of it. When she is on her feet she is partially milked, but do not empty the udder at once, by any means—that is to be done by degrees. If the udder is swollen, hard and painful, rub gently and often, and keep milk pretty well drawn—you won't be apt to get very much any way—and give her doses of salts and feed on low diet. Should it not improve try hot fomenting, but, unless you are prepared to do this faithfully, better not attempt it. I have seen a cow bathed in water so hot that she nearly jumped out of her skin, but, soon the water got too cold; afterwards she was just turned with the others, left out all night, and finally she lost the use of half of her udder. In the first place, whatever the season, your cow should have been in a loose box for days, or, better still, for weeks, before calving.

Now lead her out of the box, but where no draught can reach her, and, with a very large sponge or woollen cloth, foment the udder well for a half-an-hour at least, constantly adding to the

hot water in the pail, so that it is just as hot at the last as at the first. You will then be apt to get quite a little milk; after this oil or grease the udder to prevent cold, and return her to her comfortable box. You may need to do this four times a day, and the last thing before bedtime, but it pays. In very cold weather I tack up old blankets or split up salt sacks around the box stall nearly up to the ceiling as nothing is so dangerous as a chill. If really needed, put a blanket on the cow also, till past the critical time. All this takes longer to tell than it does to do, and it means hard cash to you. The man who lets a cow calve in a stanchion at night, with no one near her, and who finds a calf in the gutter either dead or alive, in the morning, is not fit to have the care of any animal at all. For three or four days our cows get only a short allowance of hay and nothing else whatever, except all the "white drink" they will take (every alternate drink is made with bran instead of oatmeal), not a drop of cold water is allowed, no green food, and no draught till the cow is past all danger, when she gradually returns to her full feed, and to the herd, although not left out at night for a couple of weeks, in case of storms.

This treatment from calfhoo up, may not be faultless, but it is the best I know, (1) and the results are these: We never have a kicker or a vicious cow, and never remember to have had a cow lose even one teat. It is many years since I lost a cow with milk fever, and I have not lost one calf with scours in fifteen years. In feeding one must be guided by the cow's appetite and also by the way she responds to feed. Don't get her fat, or you are losing your money and spoiling the cow. There is one statement prevailing, which is misleading to many people, because although true, it is not the whole truth. They say that you can't feed richness (or fat) into a cow's milk. I will never agree to that. Beyond a certain point you cannot do it, but up to that point you certainly can; and the dairyman's success lies largely in finding out just where that point is. It varies in different cows; some will respond much more readily than others. In my little book, "Dairying for Profit," I have given a year's feeding of a cow I once owned. The ration was very large, but her yield was large, so that she gave me a cash profit in butter alone, of \$49.70 in the year

(1) Or we, either. Ed.