

disease.

re take the fol-
e of the impor-
interests of the

ase is frequently
nks. Foot and

these, whatever
r cleanliness or

tilation may be,
ess they already

tain the special
s of the disease,

t off from some
ected animals pre-

usly carried by
m. As, however,

t numbers cannot
p passing along

railways in the
sent state of the

entry, it is impor-
t that the law in

ce for the disinfect-
n of cattle trucks,

ould be insisted on.
Liverpool, an ac-

n was brought
inst the London

N. W. Railway
, for a breach of

Contagious Dis-
es (animals) Act,

neglecting to
anise and disinfect

tain cattle trucks
Stanley station.—

e charge against
e company was

de by the Privy
council Inspector

at Liverpool, who found
ven trucks that

id evidently not
en properly cleans-

for some time,
ded with a fresh

of cattle. The
ence of the sta-

nmaster was that
drovers, always

xious to truck their
tle as soon as pos-

le, had seized the
cks and loaded

em without the
rmmission of these-

nts of the company
e thirty-five wa-

ns of the train had
been cleansed ex-

pt these seven, and
ese, it was main-

ned, would have
en cleansed, had

edrover not seized
em before the men

re able to get at
em. They were

erwards unloads
d, disinfected, and

oaded. The Bench
posed a penalty of

pounds on each
ormation, the total

ount of fines mak-
g a sum of 105 lbs.

At Glasgow, A. &
Tiemman were

arged with the fol-
wing offences

ainst the Conta-
ious Diseases (ani-

als) Act:—1. With-
ing exposed with

the market 23
ad of cattle affect-

l with the foot

another offence
With having in

, where animals
sure before sale,

h foot and mouth
ace of a similar

this was the first
s, they were fined

unds.
ice of Peace Court,

Robert Wilson, cattle dealer, was fined 20 pounds for having driven along the public road thirty cattle, all more or less affected with foot and mouth disease, and with having had them in a field in his possession, and having failed to give the necessary notice to the police authorities. Another cattle dealer was fined at the same time for a similar offence.

Our Breeding Stock.

No doubt the farmers of the country have made decided progress in the breeding of cattle within the last twenty years. This is too apparent to any one who has been in the habit of attending our country and town fairs during that time. Still there is much room for improvement, and we ought not to stop where we are, but to press forward to something higher and better than anything yet attained. Step by step it may be, and by slow degree, we shall improve our stock and bring it up to a much higher level of excellence.

We incline to think the point to look at more carefully now is the quality of the dam from which we propose to raise stock. Our great effort has been devoted chiefly to the male, and this, it must be acknowledged, is the true way to begin. But well begun is only half well done. We are too prone to pay little attention to the quality of the dam, and to think that if the service of the best male is secured, the end will come out all right.

It will be admitted that it is of the utmost consequence to look out for the pedigree and especially the quality of the sire. That is a settled rule. We want to see him perfect, or as nearly perfect of his kind, as possible, and we can afford to go to considerable expense to secure this perfection in the male. But if we are to arrive at a certain perfection in the offspring, both parents must be perfect. This law holds good in regard to all animals, not excepting man. The certain transmission of qualities will be readily seen to be of great benefit in the rearing of our domestic animals, if properly taken advantage of. If we wish to raise a good dairy, we should breed our best milkers to bulls regularly descended from a line of ancestors eminent for that quality; and, in this region, we should breed from no others, for the product of the dairy is the most important agricultural product to which our cattle contribute. Even if we wish for beef or work, we are not aware that the possession of a good milking pedigree detracts in the least from those qualities; for which reasons breeders who are raising thoroughbred stock to supply the wants of New England with breeders, should begin to understand that everything in their line is below par that does not possess the power to transmit excellence in the dairy. This doctrine, or law of transmission, is a two-edged sword, and will cut to the quick in the wrong direction if the least impurity of the blood remains in our breeding stock. This is the doctrine of the thorough-breeders. We are all acquainted with what is denominated *breeding back*, that offspring are as likely, or more so, to put on the appearance of the grandsire or granddam, even farther back, as of the father or mother, especially if they descend from a race of long-established character. Thorough-breeders, beware that you do not sow tares with your wheat, for your tares, you say, are more likely to take root than the wheat.

Now what we have to do is to weed out the tares, to cull out and sell all inferior specimens, and to breed only from the best. When the whole body of farmers have come up to this point, we shall have made a great step in advance. The improvement of our stock is certainly, as claimed by our breeders, a matter that can hardly be overrated. If any one has not worked up to this idea, let him cast back to the time previous to the injection of better "blood" into the veins of our cattle, when our very best two-year-old cattle, when butchered, would only on rare occasions come up to five hundred pounds, dressed weight, and so unthrifty or of so small capacity for growth as to hardly pay for their keep. Then let him compare what he can recollect of them, with what is pat to his senses now, when he beholds our best stock, which our best breeders and raisers annually exhibit at our fairs, and though as inclined to sleep as Rip Van Winkle, we think he would be thoroughly aroused.

The first efforts at improvement of our cattle began with a few individual farmers here and there. They persevered till one after another followed their example. The result of their labors is what we behold to-day in the improved condition of New England cattle. The number now interested in this department of farming is vastly greater than it was twenty years ago, but we must not cease our efforts till the interest becomes universal.

BUTTER FROM MILK FOUR YEARS OLD.—The *Agricultural Gazette* says:—A sample of condensed milk, weighing about 1 cwt., was lately exhibited at the rooms of the Society of Arts, and an interesting experiment made thereon. This mammoth piece of solidified fluid was prepared by Hooker's process. It had been exposed to the action of the air for four years and three months, yet its quality was so excellent that, in a few minutes, it was resolved, by churning, into fresh butter. This trial was only one of a series, made at the International Exhibition, South Kensington, and elsewhere. In each case the same satisfactory result was obtained.

To Prevent Cows Sucking Themselves.

SIR,—I have a cow that will turn her head under her udder and suck her own milk. What is the best way to prevent her from doing so?

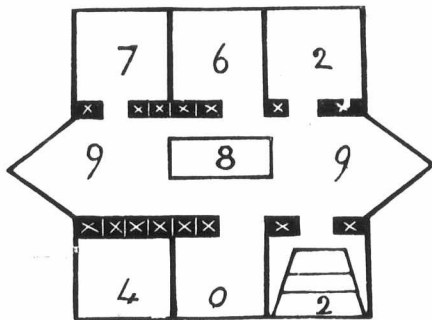
J. S., Bruce.



[We know of no better remedy than the accompanying cut shows you. We have heard of putting cayenne pepper on the bag with grease, but do not approve of the plan. Some consider putting the knife in the throat the safest and most profitable mode of dealing with such cows.—ED.]

Plan of Poultry House.

We have two applications for plans of poultry house. We give this plan, sent in by Mr. G. Steedsman, of Ratho, as one which is considered by some a good plan:—"XX, coops; 2, roost for



hens; 0, feed house; 4, duck house; 6, geese; 7, turkeys; 8, pond; covered yard and angles for outside yards and door ways; feed boxes same as in description of hen house, with nests and roosts same."

How to Pack Butter to Keep.

Prof. Arnold gives the following recipe in the *New York Tribune*, which will preserve the butter and keep it sweet for eight or nine months:—"Make a brine with a saturated solution of the purest salt you can get, using a pound of saltpetre to about twenty pounds of salt. Scald the brine by bringing it to a boiling heat, skim, and apply when sufficiently cool. The casks should be carefully prepared, as well as the brine. If the gum and sap in the wood are not removed before the casks are used, they will work out into the brine and affect the butter. To remove the woody flavor from the casks, a thorough steaming with a high pressure is the quickest and best means. If soaked before the steam is applied, hot steam will cut the gum and woody flavor all out in a short time. If steam is not convenient, soak in brine a week or so, and then fill with boiling hot brine and let it

stand till it gets cold, and the woody flavor will be sufficiently removed. By keeping the butter under the brine, the casks full, and in a cool place, the butter will keep safely. Some of the tin-lined packages which have recently been introduced, and which are easily hermetically sealed, would be much more convenient, and probably full as cheap, as the oak casks and brine, and are claimed to be equally efficient in preserving." In reference to the use of unglazed jars in which to pack butter, another correspondent says:—"I have kept a dairy of fourteen to eighteen cows for some years, and find most persons prefer earthen jars to wood. Where I send the butter to families, these jars are returned each season to be refilled. We find it impossible to cleanse the inside of the cover if it is not glazed; it absorbs every taint or bad odor that may come in contact with it, and every such tainted cover is sure to spoil the contents of the jar. I have had jars of butter spoiled in forty-eight hours so they were not fit to use. My object in writing to you is to call the attention of those who send butter in jars, as well as those who make jars, to this defect. I think if the inside of the cover could be glazed, it would save much loss of butter packed in jars. I find many covers are tainted before the jars are filled, as many merchants keep their jars in cellars or near kerosene, or some other rank-smelling substance. I have not seen this subject noticed in the discussion of dairymen, and I shall be much obliged if you will attention to it."

System in Farm Labor.

The following pair of pertinent paragraphs, which we find in the *New England Homestead*, must have been written by some level-headed body who keeps his eyes wide open, and knows how to tell what he sees and thinks.

The amount of muscle that can be saved by a little brain labor is wonderful. And yet the science of doing everything in proper time and place, in fact, properly, is something that agricultural papers, or farming books, cannot teach. Experience, calculation and forethought are the mentors. A month before a piece of machinery is to be used, a glance at it will show where it is defective. A rainy day, a spare hour, a chance to take it to town to be repaired without going on purpose. These present themselves to the intelligent farmer, and, when the harvest is ripe, or the corn ready for the cultivator, there will be no delay for the mending of damaged machinery.

There is no such weak laziness, or wicked waste of time and opportunity, as the man practices who never has time to do anything properly. He goes to town with three errands, and comes home with only one finished—he has no time for the others. He plows with a dull plow, and chops with a duller axe for lack of time to sharpen them. All these are the lack of forethought and system—a neglect to use the brain that God has given him to shape and direct his work and save the muscle.

An ox will do the work but he cannot plan it. The horse is powerful, but he is controlled by his master, and his power utilized. Man's labor is but brute strength, and the stronger the brain force that is brought to bear upon it the more surely every stroke tells, and the more grand will be the result.—*Colonial Farmer*.

FEEDING POT PLANTS.—We have tried a number of experiments this season with liquid manure, and all lead us to have faith in the application of it at watering, in a weakly state. A number of old fuchsias were stunted and pot bound, but pressure of more important matters prevented our potting them into fresh earth; but to each watering a portion of guano was allowed, and the plants with their pot-bound roots have not only made vigorous growth, but flowered freely from June onward to November. Some Pelargoniums which were cut down last season and allowed to break in the usual way, were shaken out of the pots and placed in smaller ones; but when they should have been shifted they were allowed to remain in the small pots, which were crammed with roots. Guano water was given at all times when they required moisture, and the plants grew and flowered better than others which are favored with larger pots and fresh soil. We could give many other examples to prove that giving liquid manure frequently, and not until roots are in abundance to consume it, as the proper way to deal with this important assistant to cultivation.—*Florist*.