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Notes by the Way.

Rearing calves.—We have reared many calves on skim milk, with a slight addition of crushed linseed steeped in boiling water, but we have no doubt that *separated* milk would answer even better on account of its superior freshness. Each calf should have, daily, after the first fortnight, during which time it should have its dam's milk unskimmed, about an ounce a day of flaxseed mixed as above, and an increase of an ounce each week till the dose amounts to 8 ounces daily. At 12 or 13 weeks old, the calf should be fit for the butcher. About 94° to 98° is the proper temperature.

Separated milk.—A correspondent asks: What is separated milk worth, per 100 lbs., for pigs? It depends upon many circumstances; but we should say it ought to return at least 20 cents, and in places where good small 60 lbs. pigs are marketable, like the West-End district of Montreal, it might perhaps be worth as much as 30 cents. (1)

Potato-beef.—Experiments have been carried on lately in France on the fattening of butcher's beasts with potatoes. We have always found beef from animals fed on this tuber alone, to be soft and *pappy*, but the addition of bean- or pease-meal, would probably cure that defect. The effect of this feeding in the experiments in question was that the live weight of the animals increased as well as their yield in clear meat, and that their flesh acquired an *exceptional succulence*, as we should have expected; just like the beef fed on distillery-wash; as both foods are almost wholly composed of carbo-hydrates. The profit seems to have been satisfactory, as in seventy-one days of this feeding the net profit for the Charolais cattle was 130 frcs., for cross bred Shorthorn-Morveaux 136 frcs., for Limousins 226 frcs., and 12 frcs. a head for sheep.

Loss of hay-crop.—We mentioned in our last issue a remarkably fine crop of clover and timothy that was growing in an orchard off Sherbrooke Street, Montreal. Unfortunately, it was allowed to stand ten days too long. Fit to cut on the 15th June, it was not mown till the 25th, it "was kneed down," from luxuriant growth, and at least a third of it was left by the scythe uncut. Such a pity! there might have been a second crop of clover fit to mow by the second week in August, and a third ready for green-fodder or silage towards the end of September.

Waste of pasture.—Close to the above orchard are two pastures; one a very fine 3rd year grass, the other older. The latter was fed off first, and not being heavily stocked, is now one mass of bunches; the former was not begun till the grass was up to the cows' hocks, and at least half of it grew up to seed-stem and was wasted. No wonder people "don't hold with permanent pastures"! In both fields the ox-eyed daisies and chicory are abundant, and they are now ready to scatter their seed. The only thing to be done in such cases is to pass the mower over such pastures as have grown beyond the stock: this would, at any rate, keep the growth level and prevent the seed-stalks from running up. We love a liberal mind, but we abominate wastefulness.

(1) In England it is valued at 40 cents. ED.

Dew-ponds.—We mentioned the other day the fact that on the chalk hills of England, which extend from Dorsetshire in the S. W. to Yorkshire in the N.-E., sheep when on the summer pasture required water, though they never drank in the hot weather when on the more succulent grasses of the low-lands. We were reminded of this by a paragraph, descriptive of the "dew ponds" made "on the chalk" in Hampshire, which, we append:

DEW PONDS.—In some of the English chalk hills where shepherds feed their flocks, wells are few and far between. Now, water is as necessary for sheep as human beings. Many years ago a very simple plan was employed for the purpose of collecting water, and this plan is in use to-day in certain parts of England. A depression in the ground is formed and made water tight by filling it in with clay. If proper care has been shown in choosing a situation for the pond, it will be found that enough water gathers in it from the rain, dew, and the evening mists that hang about the hills, to satisfy the wants of the sheep. In fact, so excellently do these ponds answer their purpose that many of them on the Hampshire hills are never dry. The rural folk call them dew-ponds."—Ex.

We never met with these ponds except on the chalk (particularly well made in Yorkshire) but doubtless they would answer well in any part of this country if bottomed with a foot deep of well beaten clay. There is a full description of these ponds in an old number of the Journal of the R. A. S. of England, but, unfortunately, we left all our Journals in England. Perhaps, it might be found in the library of the National History Society of Montreal.

Booth's Shorthorns Sale.—This sale, which took place in June last, was as it ought to have been, highly successful. One of the cows sold for $1,800, and the best bull for $1,700, the average was as follows: 37 cows. £5,161., 16s, average £139., 10s., 2d. eleven bulls £1,334., 12s., average, £121.,7s.

Silage and impotency.—Complaints are being made in one or two quarters about silage causing impotency in bulls. This seems to us to be an absurdity. There is nothing in silage to produce any such effect, though of course, silage of corn given alone is not a very strength producing food. We can understand corn infected with *ergot* producing abortion in females, but nothing but personal experience would convince us that silage would cause a male to lose his procreative power.

Manuring turnips.—Constantly we see questions of the simplest kind put to the editors of agricultural papers in the States, and, we are bound to add, the answers are correspondingly simple in many instances. What is the good, in our present state of knowledge, of saying that "fifteen tons of turnips contain 54 lb. of nitrogen, 34 lb. of phosphoric acid, and 117 lb. of potash, and that, therefore, a manure containing those constituents in that proportion will, all things being equal, produce that weight of crop; as thus:

"MANURING TURNIPS.—Will a mixture of acid phosphate, cottonseed meal and muriate of potash be a good fertilizer for turnips? In what proportions should they be mixed, and how much of the mixture should be applied to an acre? W. H. P., *Greenville, S. C.*

[Fifteen tons of turnips, exclusive of tops, contain 54 lbs. nitrogen, 34 lbs. phosphoric acid, 117 lbs. potash.

	Nit.	*P.A.*	*Pot.*
1000 lbs. cottonseed meal contains..	66 4	26.8	17.9
50 lbs superphosphate contains.	0.0	8.0	0.0
200 lbs. muriate of potash contains	0.0	0.0	98.0
	66 4	34.8	115.9"

We will engage to say that 300 lbs. of superphosphate, 28 soluble, with 250 lbs. of East-Indian bone-meal, will produce a much better crop of turnips, at a much cheaper rate than the above, which, even a present prices, would cost nearly twenty dollars an acre; whereas, the bones and superphosphate would not amount to seven dollars. Our friends in the States know all about corn, but are terribly backward as to root-growing.

Practice vs. science.—"Science," says Mr. Snyder, "tells us how much casein, sugar, and albumen there is in skim-milk, but it is hard to tell the exact feeding value, and it seems as if hogs can get more out of it than the scientific man can." Just so; and, as we have lately shown, scientific men begin to admit that the 90 %, or whatever it is, of water in the root-crop is a very different thing, as regards animals' food, to the water we draw from our wells.

Pigs.—Do not try to force your weaning pigs too much at first. You may make them fat enough, but they will not be as growthy as if they were led along more gently. Some barley, or corn-meal, with a few pease ground up with it, and clover, tares, or other green-meat, for summer feeding, will bring them along nicely, and make them fit for slaughter in the fall without their being "put up to fat." Long, half-fat hogs are in request for hams and bacon at Liverpool, though London will take them fatter. Mr. Theodore Lewis, of the Minnesota Farmers' Institutes, recommends "a little oil-meal"; we do not.

Sowing Turnips.—Will you advise a young farmer as to the best way of sowing turnip seed broadcast by hand—how much land-plaster or wood ashes to mix with one pound of seed, and if to sow with a full hand (as when sowing grain) or with thumb and two fingers, as when sowing grass seed—also the number of paces? A. Y. F. *Hartford County, Conn.*

[Turnip seed may be sown both ways. The better and more common practice is to sow about three paces wide, distributing to the right and left—that is, sprinkling the seed over the ground instead of making a full "cast" to the left as in sowing grain. Under favorable conditions, good turnips can be grown sown broadcast and without culture; but the safest and most satisfactory way, unless the conditions are unusually favorable, would be to sow in drills, 30 inches apart, and cultivate, thin and dress up with the hoe. In any case, use a little fertilizer containing a relatively high per cent. of potash, medium of nitrogen and low of phosphoric acid.]

The above, from the *Country Gentleman*, is about what we should expect to see from a "pure theorist" of the old Liebig school. Next month we hope to republish an article, that appeared some years ago in another pe-