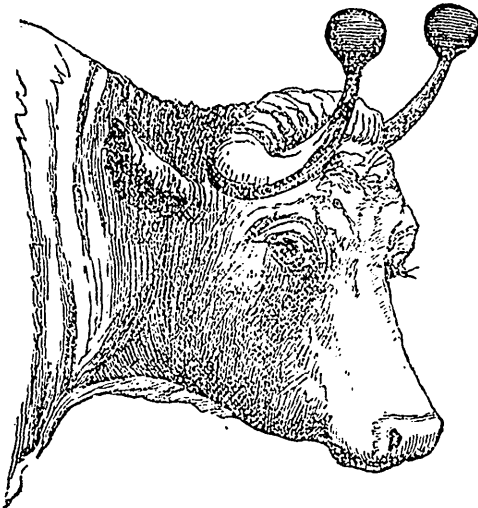


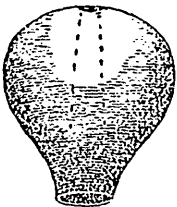
view that any kind of straw can supersede the use of good hay and grain, but rather that it contains a sufficient amount of the elements of nutrition to make it a valuable substitute for these usually more costly products.

The Live Stock.



BALLS ON THE HORNS OF CATTLE.

Cattle not unfrequently gore each other, and it is no uncommon thing for persons to receive accidental injury from the sharp points of the horns, while feeding or attending them. A friend of ours lost an eye, while feeding hay to his cow, in the grey of a winter's morning. Such occurrences may easily be prevented by some such contrivance as is represented in the accompanying engravings, which explain themselves sufficiently to enable any one to act upon the suggestion, thus to take wise precaution against danger. If the knobs are neatly turned, they will be rather ornamental than otherwise. We consider a good sized wooden ball preferable to the small brass ones kept for sale at the hardware stores. The brass ones are not large enough to obviate all risk, since serious injury might be done by any energetic toss of the head, in spite of them. The balls illustrated herewith, are easily procurable, cheap, and an almost unfailing safeguard.



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VENTILATION OF MILK ROOMS.

In an essay read at the last meeting of the Vermont Dairy Association, O. S. Bliss, Secretary of the Association, talks in this wise on the above subject:

The ventilation of milk rooms is generally even less philosophical than that of stables. The end sought in the two cases is entirely different, demanding precisely the opposite treatment, and the provision for a strong current or draught of air is as uncalled for, and even injurious, in the one case, as it is indispensable in the other.

It seems to be forgotten that currents of air only reduce the temperature in proportion as they cause evaporation, and this is just what the dairyman does not want. It dries the curd of the milk into flakes which adhere to the cream, producing what are known as "flocks,"—those very undesirable white specks in the butter. We repeat, the air in the milk room, unlike that in a living room, does not require to be constantly, or even frequently changed, and it exerts a far better influence if left undisturbed, especially in warm weather.

Milk rooms, therefore, should be ventilated only from above, and one opening is sufficient for all practical purposes. Were the prevalent notion true, which it is not, that the air in such a room is liable to become pernicious in some of its influences, the opening of the doors several times a day would dispel all such influences.

That it is desirable to so ventilate the room as to evaporate the moisture in and around it, is another fundamental error. A quantity of water or ice upon the floor exerts a cooling influence, just in proportion to the evaporation produced, as we have already said, of the current of air, but it is not desirable to cool one portion of air, and at once to drive it off, to be replaced by another dryer and warmer portion. Such an operation might well be called an attempt to cool "all out-doors" instead of the milk room alone. The moisture of the air in the milk room is not in any respect unfavorable to the production of cream and butter.

Referring to the dry vault, Mr. Bliss says it is the best substitute for the spring-house and is believed by many to be quite as good. The construction does not differ essentially, except that the necessity for heavy walls well sunk in the ground is more absolute in this case. The floor should be flagged or cemented, and the pails or pans set upon it. If shelves are used at all they should be of stone. In very warm weather it may be necessary to wet the floor daily, but generally the temperature may be kept very nearly uniform throughout. If practicable, a shady site with a northern exposure should be selected. In a moist springy soil, though a supply of water cannot be depended on, it may be well to put narrow slats on the ground, on which to set the milk vessels, instead of making a close floor. Of course, in this case, drainage must be provided for, so that there may not be an undue accumulation of water.

STOMACH OF THE HORSE.

"The London Horse Book" gives this useful information concerning the stomach of the horse, and the conditions under which it best acts:

His stomach is small in proportion to his size; he is consequently unable to take much food at a time. He requires to be more often fed; but by this means he is almost always enabled to be at his master's service.

To explain our present subject, it will be sufficient to say that the front of the horse's chest contains