

the lesson and not make the same mistake with regard to the feeding of our live stock. After all, practical experience must be our main guide. The analysis of a food is far from a complete statement of the properties of that food. Just as each animal we possess has an individuality of its own, so each article of food has some special and peculiar property not revealed by chemical analysis—a physiological property, we presume."

I beg to call the attention of my readers to the passage. "The analysis of a food is far from a complete statement of the properties of that food." Those who pin their faith entirely on the *food-recipes* of Mr. E. W. Stewart in the Country Gentleman will sooner or later get, I fear, "sadly left."

*The average crop of potatoes, &c., in Nova-Scotia.*—The special report of the Nova-Scotia root-crop for the past season I have just received, and am surprised to find how very inferior the return for labour, seed, and interest on capital is when compared with some parts of this province:

Carrots—average of years '87, '83.....	284 bushels.
Potatoes " " " " ".....	105 "
Mangels " " " " ".....	392 "
Turnips " " " " ".....	350 "

Less than three gross tons of potatoes to the acre is so poor a yield that one is induced to think that either the Nova-Scotians do not understand the cultivation of that crop, or else that the land and climate are not adapted to its growth.

*General purpose cows.*—Even in Denmark, the great, little, butter-producing country we find the general purpose cow in request, as it is in England, and, as will be seen by the subjoined extract, in all European countries. Shall I never get a chance to import a herd of our English general purpose cow?

"In a model barn I found fifty cows, principally Angler (red Danish) and Jutland, the latter are black and white, rather more beefy and not as good milkers as the Friesians. The Danish Angler has been developed perceptibly in size during the last fifteen years, *the leaning in all European countries: being toward general purpose cows.*"

Xmas 1888.—What a Xmas! Copious rains; stoves let out; more like May than December! I fear the sudden thaws and frosts so frequently succeeding one another will play the very mischief with the young clovers. Well, the price of fuel cannot stay at its present exorbitant price, that is one comfort, and the poor will be benefited at any rate.

*Philosophy of Nature.*—Number 2, vol. 1 of this periodical has been sent me for review, with a note: "All publications which give this Journal a fair notice, either favourable or unfavourable, will be sent the Journal one year as a compensation." This sentence will be sufficient to show the scholarship of the editor, Mr. P. H. Philbrook; as to his philosophy, take the following, from a review of Mr. Philbrook's work, entitled "What and Where is God?": "This book demonstrates and explains the electrical agent by which the Creator carries out the expression of his will." Thank you, I do not want any more. The whole is what Carlyle used to call "a heap of clotted nonsense," and it would require a very liberal compensation to induce me to read another number.

*Ensilage.*—A very interesting account of the examination of two stacks of ensilage will be found below. Mr. Stratton, whose opinion is highly favourable to the stack system, is the

well known shorthorn breeder. Silage at 30s a ton would make, at present prices, a ton of hay equal to four tons of silage.

*Ensilage.*—On Tuesday a large number of agriculturists and others assembled on the model farm at Gaer Fach, Newport, for the annual stock sale of Mr. C. D. Philipps, of Newport and Gloucester. In the morning Mr. Phillips cut two stacks of ensilage near Gaer Fach, and had a good assembly of farmers around him as he explained the preparation of the silage. One of the stacks was made in the ordinary way by piling grass in very wet condition just after the mowing machine had passed over it, but artificial pressure was used to bear it down. The second stack was also made of wet grass, but only ordinary pressure was used, viz., men walking over the grass to squeeze it down. No. 1 stack, where the artificial pressure was made use of, came out with about a foot depth of waste; but the second stack, which had no extra pressure turned out much better. The second, therefore, as Mr. Richard Stratton afterwards explained, was much better than the first, and, in his opinion, artificial pressure was useless. Farmers, he explained, might stack as much as they liked—the bigger the stack the better it would turn out—but abstain from artificial pressure. He (Mr. Stratton) was now feeding his milking cows on ensilage, and, in answer to the question as to whether there was any disagreeable taste in the milk, said that there was not. He also said that the butter did not taste bad, and he was prepared to sell silage at 30s per ton.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST.

Tushingham House, Waterville, P. Q., Nov. 20th 1888.

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST, ESQ.,

Dear Sir,—I take the liberty of writing to you with regard to a subject which I have never seen discussed in your paper, i. e., what amount of linseed oil can be fed to say a three-year-old animal in a day. I see an article about linseed in the Journal of this month, and I agree with you that the manufacturers of cake must make an enormous profit. I have given up buying oil cake as I could not get it good, I only buy it for the oil that it contains and in these days there is precious little left in it for the farmers, and I was thinking of giving the oil with corn or barley meal as an equivalent to the cake. I know some of our largest breeders feed oil separately with good results.

I see you say linseed can be bought in Sorel market at 75 cents per 60 lbs., is it not the cheapest feed to-day? could I write to any party in Sorel who would send me up 5 or 10 tons at that price or even at a little advance on those figures?

There is another thing which has never come directly under my notice, that is feeding West India molasses. Is it fed as an appetiser or to produce fat, and would it be economical to use it on show cattle? I should imagine it would make good coats, as it does when fed to horses. Is it decided to hold an exhibition in Montreal or a fat stock show next year. It is time Montreal did something in that line. I shall be glad to hear from you when you can find time with regard to the oil and molasses. Believe me, Yours very truly,

J. WALTER M. VERNON.

P. S.—Do you ever hear of any one wanting my Hereford bulls or heifers? If you do kindly remember me.

J. W. M. V. (1)

*HAMPSHIRE-DOWNS.*—As to the value of this breed as lamb raisers, we clip the following from the London Field of Oct. 27th:

(1) Crowded out last month.