

Steamed Food for Live Stock.

The editor of the *N. E. Farmer* has been visiting a stock farm at Worcester, Mass., on which there are fed thirty-one head of cattle, of which twenty-eight are pure Ayrshires. The party of which he was one were prominent breeders of fancy stock, and were all endeavoring to have the very best methods of feeding and tending animals. His account of the method there practised we subjoin abridged:—

"This farm, of some 200 acres, is excellent for grass, as also for fruit, and nearly all other farm crops. One hundred tons of hay are annually cut and stored, besides the fodder from some ten or twelve acres of tilled land. During the winter the stock is all fed twice a day, upon a variety of fodder and grain steamed in a large, tight, wooden box, mounted, for convenience in hauling, upon truck wheels. At noon a small feeding of dry hay is given to each animal. A ten horse power engine and boiler furnish the steam for cooking and the power for cutting hay, and pumping either warm or cold water for the cows to drink. The boiler is an upright tubular one, and fully equal to all the demand made upon it. They believe that many who have tried steaming food for cattle have failed from the use of small and inferior kinds of boilers. If steam is to be used, it is cheaper to generate it from ample boilers.

"The attempt to use kettles and small boilers, they believe, has done much to discourage many who have tried steaming fodder. Their boiler, engine, cutter, pipes, shafting, &c., cost about \$1500, and has been in use four years.—They are convinced that, for a herd of the size of theirs, and with considerable quantities of coarse fodder to work up, it will pay to use steam, especially for producing milk for sale. They fill the box with a mixture of hay and grain

twice a day, and each mess is given to the animals warm, after the fodder has been exposed to the steam under pressure some two or three hours.

"At the time of our visit the following rations were served:—200 lbs. hay, $\frac{3}{4}$ bushel corn meal and $1\frac{1}{2}$ bush. wheat bran for the night's feeding, and the same kind and quantity of grain, with corn stalks instead of hay, for the morning feed.

"The cows in the stables at the time of our visit were looking healthy and contented, and were pro-

ducing liberal quantities of milk, which is sold daily in the city of Worcester at a paying price. While we were there, the steam was let on and the hay-cutter on the barn floor was started, while one of the attendants run through a few bunches of corn stalks, to show with what ease and speed they could be worked up into chaff. The proprietors are strongly attached to the Ayrshires for milk."



Our Engraving.

Sweet Auburn! loveliest village of the plain,
Where health and plenty cheer the laboring swain,
Where earliest spring its earliest visit paid,
And parting summer's lingering blooms delayed:
How often have I paused on every charm,
The sheltered cot, the cultivated farm,
The never-failing brook, the busy mill,
The decent church that topped the neighboring hill,
The Hawthorn bush, with seats beneath the shade,
For talking age and whispering lovers made!

—Goldsmith.

Foot and Mouth Disease.

From the *Farmer*, England, we take the following extract on this subject, one of the important now effecting the agricultural interests of the country:—

It is well known how cattle disease is frequently due to ships' holds and railway tanks. Foot and mouth disease cannot originate in these, whatever their cleanliness or ventilation may be, unless they already contain the special virus of the disease, cast off from some infected animals previously carried by them. As, however, vast numbers cannot help passing along our railways in the present state of the country, it is important that the law in force for the disinfection of cattle trucks, should be insisted on. At Liverpool, an action was brought against the London & N. W. Railway Co., for a breach of the Contagious Diseases (animals) Act, by neglecting to cleanse and disinfect certain cattle trucks at Stanley station.—The charge against the company was made by the Privy Council Inspector at Liverpool, who found seven trucks that had evidently not been properly cleansed for some time, loaded with a fresh lot of cattle. The defence of the stationmaster was that the drovers, always anxious to truck their cattle as soon as possible, had seized the trucks and loaded them without the permission of the servants of the company. The thirty-five wagons of the train had all been cleansed except these seven, and these, it was maintained, would have been cleansed, had the drovers not seized them before the men were able to get at them. They were afterwards unloaded, disinfected, and reloaded. The Bench imposed a penalty of 15 pounds on each information, the total amount of fines making a sum of 105 lbs.

At Glasgow, A. & J. Tieman were charged with the following offences against the Contagious Diseases (animals) Act:—1. With having exposed with in the market 23 head of cattle affected with the foot and mouth disease. 2. With another offence of the same character. 3. With having in sheds in same cattle market, where animals are commonly placed for exposure before sale, 19 head of cattle affected with foot and mouth disease. 4. With another offence of a similar nature, on another occasion. As this was the first complaint against the defendants, they were fined in the modified penalties of 30 pounds.

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