

DISHONEST DEALERS.

Colorado Farmer.

The past spring and present summer has noted an epoch in the trade that promises to benefit the western cattlemen and give them an opportunity to purchase thoroughbred stock near home without the expense of going east to make their purchases. Denver has suddenly loomed up as a good thoroughbred cattle market, as the prices obtained compensate the breeders to ship to this point. It has also attracted some men into the business who, if reports are true, are not overburdened with that most necessary qualification to make a successful business man—honesty. There have been several public auctions as well as private sales of thoroughbred cattle in Denver, and in each instance the animals offered have been claimed to possess an ancestry of record most elegant. Their pedigrees have been represented to be recorded in established herd books, a copy from which accompanied each animal. It appears that about the middle of last month a non-resident of Colorado visited Denver for the purpose of buying some horses and cattle. After obtaining the former he was recommended to go to certain parties in the city to buy his cattle. The gentleman wanted recorded thoroughbreds, and was shown a number of head which were represented to be of the best families and properly recorded. He wanted positive assurance that the cattle were recorded and he proposed not to be duped. After receiving the promise of the would-be seller that he would send east for the record and have it forwarded to the purchaser, the latter said that he was willing to deposit in one of the national banks of the city the sum of \$100 for each animal, to be applied on account of payment just as soon as the record arrived provided the party selling would deposit a corresponding amount to be forfeited to the purchaser in the event of the animals not being recorded. This proposition was refused, and it is needless to say that the sale was not made.

This transaction was repeated to us by a responsible party during the past week, and at once we wrote to the gentleman who made the offer. As yet we have received no answer, as the letter was only mailed on Monday evening, consequently we here give no names, but when that answer comes to hand we will publish it, omitting not one word of it.

SUPPLEMENTAL GRAIN RATION FOR COWS.

Prof. Stewart in "Country Gentleman."

"It may be well here to give a few suggestions as to the mode of feeding supplemental food on pasture.

"Most of our best dairymen milk their cows in stable, and this gives a good opportunity for feeding the herd, and enabling each cow to get her share. One difficulty of feeding on the pasture is the interference of master cows with the timid ones. Another point for feeding at evening in the stable, is that the grain ration does not interfere with the amount of grass eaten, as might be the case if fed on pasture in the morning or at mid-day, causing them to anticipate the grain ration, and thus neglect to eat as much grass as they would if no other food is given on the pasture. It is also supposed by some intelligent feeders, that when the grain ration is taken on stomach partly filled with grass, the ground feed will then mix with the grass, in the first stomach, and be raised and remasticated with the grass; and that under such circumstances it is not necessary to mix the ground food with cut hay

or other coarse fodder. I do not know of any experiments warranting this conclusion. All that can be said for it is that the theory has some plausibility. It is safer to feed the ground food upon cut hay or straw, or very short-cut corn fodder.

"The next point is as to the quantity of grain food which can be profitably fed with pasture. This will depend upon the cow, and the previous system of feeding. If the cow has never been fed grain as an extra ration on pasture, the feeding should be very moderate at first—say two pounds of wheat bran the first week; add to this one pound of linseed meal the second week; add another pound the third week; then add one quart or one and a half pounds of corn meal the fourth week. Mix this extra feed with some four to six quarts of cut hay, moistened, and feed in manger. It is not material whether any corn meal is fed, unless it is cheaper. If wheat middlings are cheaper than corn meal, substitute two pounds of that for it. The new-process linseed meal can usually be bought for \$20 to \$22 per ton, and this being very rich in nitrogenous matter, will be found one of the best foods to keep up the vigorous condition of the cow, and this is the foundation of milk production.

"If good malt sprouts can be had for \$10 per ton, which is about the average price in many localities, then this may be substituted for the bran, unless the bran is cheaper than that. A great variety of food may be used, and the greater the better. But the malt sprouts must be soaked some hours before using.

"After cows become accustomed to this extra feed, then six, eight, ten, or more pounds of the combined foods may be given, according to the yield of milk and the deficiency of the pasture. Cows, after having been thus fed one season, may properly have the ration increased the next season. In developing cows, the feed should be very gradually increased, and dairymen will be surprised at the improvement of cows under eight years each succeeding season. The milk secretions are capable of a gradual increase almost indefinitely.

"No one can determine the capacity of a good cow by a few weeks' feeding. When extra feeding is conducted as here mentioned, I have never known respectable cows that did not abundantly pay for the extra feed. And this extra feeding will constantly improve the pasture year after year. Feed with discretion and a liberal hand, and it shall be returned with compound interest."

THE LITTLE JERSEYS FOR BEEF.

Colorado Live Stock Record.

Considerable is being written of late on the subject of the little Jerseys as beef cattle. One writer has claimed that their flesh is not good food. Another charges that they are of "Pharo's lean kind" and will not put on flesh. While a third has said that they are tough, and a whole multitude have charged them with being no bigger than jack rabbits.

The subject was under discussion in the Record office a few days since, when Col. Dwyer, of New Mexico, was present. The Colonel has had much experience, both in this country and Ohio, with the little butter-makers and thinks well of them. He has a fine little herd of them to-day, and does not think of parting with them notwithstanding he has besides fifteen thousand broad-horns.

"The writers on this subject," said the Colonel, "are always wrong. They have evidently had no practical knowledge of the subject of which they write. I commenced raising and buying imported Jerseys fifteen years ago.

I have fattened the steers and have milked the cows. I know that when fattened they make the finest beef in the world. And I know also that they will put on flesh just as readily as any other cattle.

"Down in Ohio," continued the gentleman, "we always get an extra price for our Jersey steers or old cows when taken to the shambles. There is full as much difference between the flesh of a well fattened Jersey steer and a big coarse native or broad-horn, as there is between the flesh of a Shanghai chicken and a little bantam yellow-legged fellow. The one has coarse flesh and the other fine-grained and delicate flavored material.

"Let me give you an instance of the fattening of a single Jersey cow. She was quite small and had bad habits. She would open any gate or pair of bars and was continually in mischief. I had her dried of her milk and then put her to feeding. In ninety days she was about the fattest animal of the cow kind I had ever seen. And although she had been a little nubbin of a milch cow, she was now a bouncing nine hundred pound beef. And such beef as I had never seen before. It was delicate and white as veal and as fine as chicken.

"No, no," said the Colonel, "the man who has ever ate well fattened Jersey beef will never write such stuff about them. Their size is somewhat against them. I have grade Jersey steers that when ready for the shambles will tip the scale beam for more than twelve hundred pounds. I have no thoroughbred steers, since I can sell every Jersey bull calf at a hundred dollars when weaned. The heifers are worth two hundred at that time, and therefore instead of eating them we usually let them die of old age. Those writers who talk of lean and tough and strong Jersey beef must have had their tooth in a slice of some old bull that had passed the flower of his youth."

HOT WEATHER AND CATTLE MARKET.

From the Chicago Drovers' Journal.

Within the past month or so some of the most experienced dealers in live stock have given it as their opinion that the demand for good fat cattle during the summer would be in excess of the supply, and that good prices might therefore be expected during, perhaps, the greater part of the last half of this year. These predictions were chiefly formed on the supposition that there were but few fat cattle in the country, and that there would be an unusually good summer demand for ripe beeves. Not a few men have backed their faith in the market by contracting to take good cattle at higher prices than we are now realizing. It is evident that rather too much faith was placed in the natural growth of the beef-consuming demand, and also in the reports about a scarcity of fat and fattening beeves in the country. The size of the beef-making territory seems to have been underestimated of late years. But, assuming that the summer crop of beeves may be a little scant, the effect of the heated term has evidently not been rightly calculated. While Chicago has enjoyed her usual immunity from long periods of excessively hot weather, New York and the principal eastern consuming points have been visited by continued periods of heat which have greatly interfered with the consumption of meat. Our latest cable advices from Great Britain indicate excessive heat and a general disposition to eat more of fruits, vegetables, etc., than usual at this time. The demand for heavy cuts seems to be especially curtailed, hence the relatively strong demand at this time for fat beeves of 1,100 to 1,250 lbs.