

The Agriculturist.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, LITERATURE, AND NEWS.

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Agriculture.

We solicit correspondence from our friends throughout the Province, on all matters relative to country life. The business of the Farm in all its various branches will receive particular attention from us.

NOVA SCOTIA EXHIBITION.

The Nova Scotia Exhibition will be held this year at Truro, Sept. 30th to October 4th. The amount offered in premiums is over \$6,000. The Regulations and Prize List are very like our own.

The fine buildings and grounds at Truro and Kentville, make it much easier to hold the Exhibition in Nova Scotia now, and we see it stated that a bill is sent to the Legislature authorizing Halifax to issue debentures to the extent of \$20,000 for the purchase of ground and the erection of buildings in that city for the same purpose.

enterprise gives new interest to the subject of cattle feeding. And what I further contend for, is, that the amount of grain raised can be greatly increased by increasing the live stock raised and fed on the farm.

The system of feeding that will produce a steer of 1,400 pounds when two years old, will enable the eastern farmer to compete successfully in his own home market, with beef of western growth. This system offers a plan by which all the crops of the farm may be fed at home, and so go back to enrich the soil, and still secure the full market value of the crops in the sale of the beef.

Mr. C. S. Marvin of Oxford, N. Y., raised a steer, and Hon. Geo. Geddes has published a statement of the cost of feeding, and the monthly weight of the steer, as he grew to four years of age.

But the farmer will ask me where the margin of profit, under this system of full feeding and early maturity, is a very natural and business-like question, and I will answer it in a business-like conclusive way.

We will take the average gain of good, thirty calves of the short-horn or the Holstein breed, fed upon ten quarts per day of skimmed milk for the first ninety days, with an average of a half pound of oatmeal and one pound of wheat middlings after the first ten days, giving much less at first, but increasing as it goes on, and the second three months five quarts of milk, one pound of oatmeal and two pounds of wheat middlings per day, with pasture or cut grass.

The second summer, pasture at 30c per week, will cost \$1.80; 4 pounds per day of middlings or oats, \$4.10—total, \$11.90. The second winter he will require 15 pounds of hay per day, or 2,730 pounds, \$13.65; 6 pounds of corn meal per day, \$10.42; 4 pounds of bran per day, \$5.46; total cost of second year, \$35.32.

Mr. P. Captain MacNeil, of Glasgow, a few days ago, to Mr. Coats, Woodside House, Paisley, for 320 guineas; a Canadian trotter realized 250 guineas; 280 guineas were refused for another pair of colts; and a very large number of these horses have been sold by Messrs. Lucas and Co., of Liverpool, at high prices.

While looking at these figures it is surprising that farmers should raise grain and abandon the production of beef; that they do not take into consideration this unwise policy of raising and selling grain on the future condition of the land.

In the Live Stock Journal of 1873, the history of a pair of Short-Horn twins, called the "Ellsworth twins," is given. They weighed on the 2nd of October, 1,340 pounds, at six months old. Their gain the first year following was 1,780 pounds; the second year, 1,345 pounds; the third year, 1,195 pounds—a constant decrease the older they grew, and with a constant increase in the consumption of food.

We learn from the Woodstock Sentinel that quite a number of families have left Carleton County for the West. We are sorry to hear of our people leaving the Province in this way, both for their own sake and ours.

The calf should have sweet milk three times a day for the first three weeks, and after this time, sweet skimmed milk may be given, a little oat meal cooked and added to the milk. If a little hay tea, with an egg broken in it, should be given less milk will do.

The farmers in the Middle and Eastern States have regarded beef production as unprofitable, and have given their attention to the production of grain and other marketable crops. Instead of improving a business that is regarded unprofitable, they have abandoned it as hopeless. They think that in the production of beef they cannot compete with the cheaper and fresher soils of the West.

FOREIGN MARKET FOR HORSES.

We have it from what we esteem good authority, that one firm in this city, last year, realized a profit of one thousand dollars on the horses they shipped to England.

The Canadians are evidently determined to extend this trade. It is estimated that nearly three thousand Canadian horses have been exported to Europe during the last few years, and these shipments are to be vastly supplemented during the coming season.

I should have stated that in the second garden mentioned where the ashes were omitted, as was the case with a small space, there was a uniform lack in the growth, both in the size of the vines and the tubers.

Every attempt hitherto, as far as I know, to propagate a breed of general-purpose horses has proven a failure. The reason of this seems to be that all such attempts have been by cross breeding.

Now I affirm that while cross-breeding is resorted to, nothing better can be attained than individual horses of "all-work." What is needed is a race or breed of "general-purpose" horses.

The pure Arabian might be chosen as a breed to be depended on for the certain transmission of characteristics, but there is another breed more accessible, less expensive, and already nearer the size required than the Arabian.

It has been long known that coal ashes have the effect of mellowing the soil, particularly clay. A rigid clay may thus be greatly improved in its texture. It has been held that the fertilizing properties of coal ashes are small—repeated analyses have shown this.

horse by such measurement is the largest essentially, and will prove himself so in the long run. As to soundness, leave out the Lexingtons, with their poor eyes, and so also as to finish. If this experiment had been entered upon when thoroughbred descendants of Messenger and Mambrino were to be had, perhaps nothing better could have been desired; but as much of the blood of American Eclipse as could be obtained, even now would be a good contribution to this end.

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Now, upon the second principle above, let animals so selected be bred, and their produce reared under some such conditions as the following:— 1. Flat land, as the place of pasturage, is somewhat more favorable to large, though less compact development of bone and muscle.

From such blood and such conditions I should expect to derive the distinctively all-purpose horse. Not merely individual all-purpose horses, but a race or breed worthy to be called the general-purpose horse.

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It is not done it will be continued until ordered out, and charged the full time it has been inserted.

moisture needed in connection with the dry forage of winter, and no doubt give a richer milk—but it would be more costly, and not furnish so healthy a food as early cut hay fed in connection with roots. Moreover, it is evident that cows will continue their milking qualities for a series of years better with this food, than when fed with the more simulating corn meal.

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The number of weeks an advertisement is to be inserted should be clearly stated. When this is not done it will be continued until ordered out, and charged the full time it has been inserted.

BEST SUGAR INDUSTRY IN MAINE.

Arrangements are being made towards the introduction of the beet sugar industry in this State, in accordance with the resolve passed by the Legislature of 1877. This resolve authorizes the Governor and Council to contract with any responsible party or company for the manufacture of beet sugar in this State, and to pay to such persons or company a sum not exceeding one cent per pound on all sugar manufactured here from beets raised in the State—the bounty so paid not to exceed seven thousand dollars in any one year, and to lapse in ten years from the time of the first payment.

Under the provisions of this resolve, Mr. Ernest Th. Gennert proposes to establish a factory for the manufacture of beet sugar in this State. This he designs to establish through the organization of a stock company with a capital stock of \$25,000; and Mr. Gennert himself proposes to furnish beet seed to farmers who will contract to grow the beets for this purpose, (as was briefly explained in the FARMER last week,) he having already imported \$25,000 of beet seed from Germany this spring, for this purpose.

At a special meeting of the Executive Council held for the purpose on Wednesday of last week, a hearing was given Mr. Gennert on this matter, resulting in the passage of an order which is as follows, and which, so far as the State authorities are concerned, determines the first step in the inauguration of this new industry in Maine: "That the proposition of Ernest Th. Gennert's hereby accepted, so far as it conforms to the provisions of the 'Act to encourage the introduction of the manufacture of beet sugar,' approved February 7, A. D. 1877, and upon condition that for the manufacture of beet sugar, be established in this State under the year 1878, and that the Attorney General is hereby instructed to draft a contract for execution, between said Gennert and his associates or assigns, and the Governor and Council, in accordance with the above conditions. Said contract to be of no force or virtue unless said factory is established in A. D. 1878."—Maine Farmer.

IS CRIB-BITING CURABLE OR CUREABLE?

A young mare bred on the farm has acquired the habit of crib-biting. I have had a strap put round her neck, but that does not prevent her from catching at the manger with her teeth and losing her oats, or going to the bars of the gates when out at grass. Is there any probability of her offspring inheriting the same habit? Is there any danger of the other horses in the stable catching the fault?—NORIMAN.

Crib-biting is a troublesome habit, sometimes engendered by indigestion often produces or aggravates indigestion. Well bred horses groomed in a stall, out of fun and mischief, and where tickled by the wisp or brush, seize the manger and learn to crib. The habit appears to be easily learned by horses, especially when they are idle for hours in the stable, and one crib-biter will often speedily have imitators. The fault, however, is not one which is transmitted from a parent to its offspring. An inveterate crib-biter is rarely cured; whenever he has the chance he will lay hold of a manger, a rail, or any other such object with his teeth. Occasionally the habit is stopped by placing the subject in a box without any object on which to fasten the teeth.—Ed.