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

ANDREW LIPSETT, Publisher.

"AGRICULTURE THE TRUE BASIS OF A NATION'S WEALTH."

ANDREW ARCHER, Editor.

VOL. II.

FREDERICTON, N. B., JUNE 28, 1879.

NO. 12

Agriculture.

Have we overdone in Pig Improvement.

Rapid growth, early maturity, ability to convert a large quantity of food into a good, salable product, ability to fatten readily and to continue the process—these are all desirable qualities in swine, and they have all been secured in each of several breeds to a remarkable degree.

It is well known that we cannot secure perfection, nor even high excellence, in several directions at the same time, and that almost certainly some weak points will accompany the unusual development of good qualities; hence it is reasonable to suppose that, with such marked development in several desired qualities as our best breeds of swine exhibit, there will be at least obvious tendencies to some undesirable traits.

But, aside from all this, have we not carried the tendency to lay on fat too far? It is admitted that many a show cow, or sheep, or hog is too fat to be most profitable, either for the butcher or consumer.

Restoring Rancid Butter.

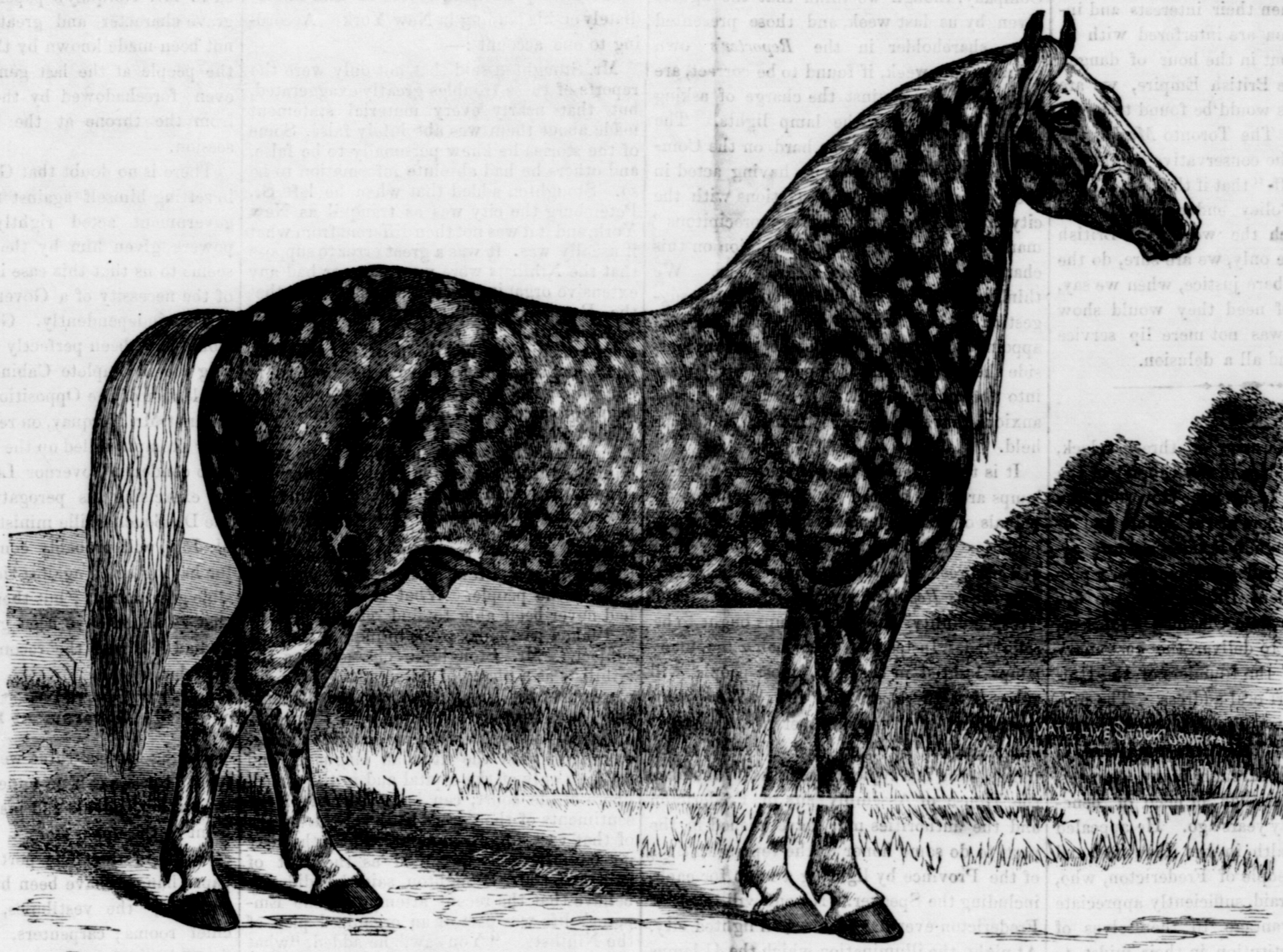
A patent was received some time ago by a New England farmer for restoring rancid butter.

When the butter is sufficiently cool to be in good working order, it is carefully taken out and thoroughly worked, adding to each five pounds of butter three ounces of good dairy salt, one ounce of pulverized white sugar.

By covering it with strong brine and keeping it in a cool place, it is claimed it will remain sweet for any desired length of time.

While on the subject of butter, the following from a California paper is worthy of consideration:—

"In order to keep their butter over the period of low prices and hot weather, California dairymen seal up their products in tin cans, sinking them in the bottom of cold streams.



Percheron Horse "Leopard," owned and imported by M. W. Dunham, Esq., Wayne, Du Page, Illinois, U. S.

Watering Chickens before they Hatch.

A correspondent of the New England Farmer says on the above subject: Experiments with incubators seem to have proved that eggs must have moisture as well as heat, to hatch well.

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Worn Out Pastures.

"He who by the plow would thrive, Himself must either hold or drive." This time-honored maxim, although true, as a rule, has one exception at least, for Judge Crossett, of Duxbury, secures some of the most thorough ploughing, without doing either.

Raising Pigs.

The most important thing for the swine breeder at this season of the year, is to get the greatest possible growth from his spring pigs. There is no period in the life of a hog when so great a return for the food consumed is possible, as during the first six months, and it is here that the advantages of skillful feeding are apparent.

Green Food for Short Pastures.

If the farm is well stocked with cows it seldom happens that the pasture is not short at some period of the season, and if it has a large proportion of pasture to the number of cows then there will be considerable grass not eaten off at the flush, and when the season is dry these unaten spots will be so tough that cows will eat very little of the grass.

Spreading Manure.

Prof. S. W. Johnson says that manure from the yard or stable rarely contains such an amount of volatile fertilizing matter as should enter on from spreading it broadcast on the surface when most convenient.

Buying Tools.

1st. Know what kind of work you want to accomplish. If a plough, do you want a lap furrow or a flat furrow turned? If a harrow, do you want a sacrificer or a pulverizer or a smoother instrument?

Extraordinary Fecundity of a Cow.

—Prof. Carl Freytag, of the University of Halle, records an extraordinary instance of fecundity in the cow, which recently came under his observation at Zeitz, in the province of Saxony. On April 30 last, the animal in question gave birth to four calves in quick succession, and very shortly afterwards dropped a fifth.

Care of Bees.

Mr. Keep, in the *Direvo Rural* says that the season has come for the summer care of bees. Whatever mistakes or losses have been made in wintering, it is too late now to remedy; but perhaps a few hints may aid the many new beginners who are giving this industry a trial, and I confess my sympathies are mostly with such as need to economize and get the best returns for their outlay.

Potato Bug Parasite.

The agricultural editor of the *New York Sun*, a man exceptionally well posted, by the way, in entomology, makes an interesting announcement in regard to a parasite which has appeared on the potato bug, and from which farmers have reason to expect great service.

THE ALPHEINE HOFFEN-ZEITUNG

says that the cabbage butterfly, as also its caterpillar, cannot endure the pungent smell of the *Anethum graveolens* or Dill, and that not only the plant itself but also beds of other vegetables, such as greens and turnips, among which it is interspersed, remain absolutely free from the attacks of these extremely destructive creatures.

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Mulching.

A great many trees die every year which might have easily been saved if they had been mulched during the summer. A little straw, or old hay, thrown around the trunks of young trees when they are set out does much to insure their life and their rapid growth.

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