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Agricultural Journal.

From the New England Farmer.
COWS AND CARROTS.

BY JOHN W. LINCOLN.

Gentlemen:—I experienced no little surprise and regret occasioned by the perusal of communication addressed to you, written by J. G. Hoyt, under the head, and published in the February No. of the New England Farmer, in which he states the opinion of a large milk farmer at Bradford, "that carrots do not contribute in the slightest degree to increase the amount of milk in a cow?" that his informant maintains, "that while the quality of milk may be improved by carrots, the quantity is not perceptibly affected." He thinks that "the carrots, when fed out in ordinary doses, do not diminish in the least the quantity of hay necessary for his cows; but that they serve merely as condiments." That "he is decidedly of opinion that \$3 is quite as much as a man can afford to pay for carrots to tickle the palate of a pet cow." You may judge, sirs, how much I differ in opinion from the Bedford Farmer, when I inform you that for several years past, in addition to the quantity I have raised on my own land, I have purchased the surplus carrots of my neighbours, amounting to several tons each year, and paid for them \$9 per ton delivered at my barn, and have then and now do believe that I paid no more than their value, not to tickle the palate of a pet cow, but to my stock. I was disposed to enquire whether it was possible I should be so greatly mistaken in my estimate of the intrinsic value of carrots. I was aware that in the table of Rham's the relative value of different vegetable substances as compared with good hay, carrots were not placed so high as by me: so also in the table of Boussingault which has the approbation of Professor Johnson in his Agricultural Chemistry, but this was in the production of muscle. I knew that the books were full of commendations of the culture of carrots for stock generally, but particularly for Horses without one word of discouragement so far as I have knowledge. I had full evidence that carrots were good food for swine. For several years past I have kept my swine principally on carrots through the winter months; they have been boiled, a small quantity of cob and corn meal added, and with the slops of the house have been the only food for my swine; deprive them of the carrots, and the remainder of their food would have been insufficient to sustain life. My winter stock of swine has usually consisted of breeding sows, and they have uniformly been in such condition, that I was entirely willing that my piggery should be visited by any one disposed to inspect it, or its tenants. The usual observation has been, that "those are to fat, to do well in having pigs." I formerly kept my swine on potatoes, as I now do on carrots, and they have never done better than of late years.

That carrots contain much nutriment I cannot have a doubt, sufficient as I apprehend to induce farmers to grow them in considerable quantities for the benefit of their stock; that when fed out in ordinary doses they have so far improved the health of the animal, as to enable it more completely to digest their hay, by which to add to the covering of the ribs and the secretions of the milk vessels. That either your Bradford friend or myself was greatly in an error was most manifest. After carefully recalling to recollecting what I had been able to obtain from books on this subject, my own experience, and that of others so far as it had come within my own observation, without discovering the fallacy of my former views, I was induced to inquire whether the opinions of the Bradford Farmer were correct, although expressed with much confidence, and partially confirmed by the approval of two of the editors of your valuable publication, in whose agricultural knowledge the public have placed so much reliance, that it seems much like presumption to express a doubt. I was desirous of further evidence, I read the communication to Mr. Hawes, who has the immediate supervision of my farm, and requested him to take two cows then given milk, as much alike as he could find them, ascertain

what quantity of hay they were then eating, continue to them the same quantity of hay, but add to one of them a peck of carrots per day—that after a trial of a week to change the carrots to the other cow, to watch the effect carefully, and to report to me the result. He informs me that the milk of the cow eating carrots was increased one quart or more each day, on no day less than a quart, and on some days a little more; that the cow having hay alone, constantly eat up her whole allowance, and the one having carrots uniformly failed to do so, and this was the case with both cows while having the carrots—that each cow, when deprived of the carrots, at the close of each trial, fell off in her milk below the quantity given at the commencement, occasioned probably by their becoming dry preparatory to having their next calf, which is expected with both, about the first days of June next.

Having thus obtained the testimony of two witnesses that the use of carrots will not only tickle the palate of a pet cow, but if administered in ordinary doses will increase the quantity of hay necessary for food, whose competency to testify on this subject, will not be questioned, I will here rest the case, repeating that I have much regretted the publication, in the apprehension, that it might have the tendency of deterring many from growing roots crops for the winter food of their stock.

This difference of opinion furnishes evidence of the importance to the farmers of Massachusetts of having a school and farm where all similar practical questions can be settled under the direction of a Board of Agriculture, to be established, as it is hoped, by the present Legislature.

Respectfully your most obdnt. servant,
J. W. L.

Worcester, Feb. 17, 1852.

REMARKS.—We are under especial obligation to Col. LINCOLN for the pains taking experiment which he has instituted, and for the opportunity he has offered us of spreading the result broad-cast through the land. We still have great confidence in carrots and as we have, perhaps, not been fully understood, shall refer to the subject again. We will merely say now, that we regard Col. LINCOLN as one of the most careful and successful farmers in the state—a gentleman who is ever ready to advance the interests of this most delightful branch of industry, either with his hands, purse or pen; who strives to promote it as a science, yet looks at each new development with a scrutinizing eye, so that no false doctrines may be engrafted upon the system which he adopts in cultivating the soil.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

EUROPE.

We regret to state that there is no relaxation in the rigour shown by the Austrian Government to the Ticinese and the Italian refugees. How far the chief persons in Lombardy may have been implicated in the late troubles, is involved in mystery.—We must, however, guard our readers against believing too credulously what appears in the Paris journals, since the tone of those under the influence of the police is plainly calculated to incriminate them under the specious pretence of extenuating their alleged offence. Along the frontier of Ticino a guard has been placed to prevent the Austrian sentinels from insults, but Austria would, perhaps, be very glad to have further pretexts for seizing upon that canton. Very serious altercations are going on between the Austrian and Federal Governments.

The truth of the report we gave last week that Mazzini had escaped from Genoa in an English man-of-war, seems to be doubted. Lord Malmesbury mentioned the alleged fact in Parliament, but from what has transpired we now believe that the whereabouts and movements of Mazzini are wholly unknown to his enemies; the astute agitator having, up to this moment baffled all the endeavours made to secure his person. M. Petre has been removed from his diplomatic post at Rome.

The Emperor of Austria has completely recovered his health. The exasperation against England and the English still rages at Vienna, and some of the journals threaten

us with fire and sword to chastise us for all our political iniquities in harbouring Kossuth and Mazzini. This feeling seems studiously kept up. A day or two ago there was a telegraphic statement, which has since been confirmed, that General Haynau had died at Vienna of apoplexy.

The war in Montenegro is at an end. The Turks have evacuated the territory, but in retiring, the mountaineers made a last onslaught upon them, and captured some spoil. It is very certain that the affair is settled at head quarters, that *status ante bellum* is restored, and the ports of Kleck and Sutorina are closed for the present. All the trash in which the correspondent of a London journal indulges, about England occupying Egypt, and Austria and Russia dividing the northern provinces of Turkey, and thus leaving France isolated, is too absurd to be repeated. Neither Manchester nor the English Cabinet have any designs of the sort, and if they had, any overt indication of such a scheme of spoliation would inevitably lead to a declaration of war by France. The whole story is preposterous.

The Cortes in Spain have refused General Narvaez his application to be tried by his peers. They evidently declined to be parties to the quarrel.

The news from the Cape of Good Hope is to the effect that the Governor had left Graham's Town with a view of making arrangements with the friendly chiefs, to end in a declaration of peace. Some of the hill countries seems to be still infested by the Kaffirs, but Moshesh has capitally punished seven of his people for having plundered some of the colonial farmers. If this example were followed we should hear no more of Kaffir wars. The news by the Tevoir, from Australia, has been anticipated by the overland mail from India.

THE EAST.—The news from India is, we trust, the prelude to some satisfactory termination of the Burmese war. All we know at present is, that a revolution has taken place at Ava; the king has been assassinated; the succession to the throne disputed by several parties who have abandoned the defence of the country; and General Godwin has opened negotiation with one of the contending chiefs, and a formal embassy was about to proceed to Ava. Captain Nuthall, of the Aracan battalion, by a splendid exploit, has carried the stockade at the Aeng Pass, and made himself master of that important position. The other military operations are of a subordinate character, and cannot have much influence upon the issue of the negotiations at Ava. But in the general struggle for the ensigns of supreme power, the British will most likely retain the reality themselves. It would appear, by the news from China, that the rebels are really making progress in subduing the great southern cities, but they do not molest the people. The imperial authority is in a most disorganised state. The Chinese, just at the moment when the English Government is about to reduce the impost duty on tea, have established an additional impost of 1 mace 5 candareens per pecul, in addition to the 2 mace laid on in 1850.

MASSACRE IN THE BERENICE, AND BURNING OF THE VESSEL.—A most tragical event has unhappily befallen the master, his lady, officers of the English ship Berenice, in the Straits of Gaspar, while on the voyage to Sydney, who were horribly murdered on board, and their ship afterwards destroyed by fire. A previous mail had given rise to some fears of a vessel having been burnt in the Straits, and an impression was entertained that the ill-fated ship was the Baranice, which was missing; and from the fact of some of the fragments of the wreck having been picked up bearing the Berenice's initials, little doubt was felt in the matter. Much anxiety then arose as to the fate of those on board, who comprised Captain Candy, his wife, first and second mates, a Frenchman, (a passenger for Australia), two servants of Mrs. Candy, and about thirty five hands. With the exception of the officers, there were but few Europeans among the crew, who, for the most part, were Java and Manillamen. The ship sailed on the 6th of June from Singapore for Shanghai, and then from that port to Sydney, on 4th Nov; with the intention of calling at Java. Several of the crew evinced a strong desire to leave the vessel on her reaching

that island, but the captain holding out an increase of wages and additional rations to take the ship on to Sydney, they were induced to remain, and the vessel proceeded. Nothing was heard of her until about the 10th of December, when a report reached Marabaya, the residence of Togal, of the remains of a burnt wreck having been discovered in the straits. A day or two previously, a boat containing 15 persons arrived at Marabaya, who, on landing, dispersed themselves inland before the authorities had time to institute inquiries about them; and on the day following another boat came in with a similar number, and same character of men, a mixture of Java and Manillamen. When interrogated, they stated that they were the crew of a prahu belonging to Rhio, laden with gambie, which they represented had capsized; and that a boy had been drowned. The whole of them adhering to that one statement, they were released, their story at the time being believed to be true. The police, however, had their suspicion aroused by the conduct of some of the men, as they displayed much anxiety to part from each other's company and to leave the place, and it was not until they had been subjected to a most searching inquiry that the truth was revealed. Some of them at length confessed to having belonged to the Berenice, and to the horrible fate which the captain and his officers met with. According to their representations, it seems that, on the 2d of December, a mutiny broke out amongst several of the Manillamen, on account, as alleged, of the master not having allowed them the additional rations which he had previously promised. About midnight, they got Mr. Candy on the quarter-deck, were they horribly murdered him. His wife, hearing his cries, rushed on deck with two of the officers, when they also immediately fell to a sacrifice. The third mate and the French passenger, who witnessed the tragedy, leaped overboard to escape the vengeance of the wretches, and perished. Mrs. Candy's servants shared a similar fate as their unhappy mistress. The whole of the bodies, with weight attached to them, were hurled into the sea. The ringleaders then took to plunder the ship of everything that was portable, and, after some two or three days' riotous living on board, they commenced destroying her. Having lowered the boats they kindled a fire in several parts of her, and when she had got completely alight they abandoned her. By the last accounts the authorities were using every effort to bring the principal actors in the barbarous acts of murder and piracy to justice, and as many as nine had been lodged in the goal of Togal. The Berenice was freighted with a valuable cargo of tea, and her loss is therefore, considerable.

THE MINT AND ITS SUPPLY OF COIN.—Great inconvenience has of late been experienced from the want of a sufficient supply of coinage, and particularly of silver and copper. The demand for gold coin, notwithstanding the enormous amount coined last year (£8,749,009), continues as great as ever, and the whole strength of the mint requires to be devoted to it. Till a comparatively recent time, the largest amount of gold coin which it was considered could be turned out by the mint was £250,000 a week; at the present moment, the quantity coined has risen to about £520,000 a week; and yet, such is the demand, that even that quantity appears to be insufficient to supply it. In the months of January, during a short cessation of the pressure for gold coinage, a quantity of silver equal to £92,000 was coined, being equal to one half of the entire silver coinage of 1852, and being more than the entire silver coinage of 1851, which was £37,868. In the midst of this pressure for gold and silver coin, the manufacture of copper coin seems to have been impossible at the mint, while the demand has been, and still continues to be, extremely great. It is now understood that the mint authorities, in order to supply the want, are about to enter into a contract with private persons for the manufacture of so large a quantity of this coin as will meet the demand.

THE BOOMERANG SCREW.—In outline the boomerang screw resembles the curious instrument after which it is named, but its sweep is like that of a bird's wing, though there is no taper towards the end