

St. Tammany Farmer.

"The Blessings of Government, Like the Dew from Heaven, Should Descend Alike Upon the Rich and the Poor."

W. G. KENTZEL, Editor.

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A BLACK SHEEP.

How Torn Shoes and Dress Helped Bertha Lampton.

UNT ANN stood in the doorway looking at me doubtfully. "I don't know about letting her take it, Moses," she said. "It seems as if a girl of thirteen ought to be bold enough, and if it was Milly I shouldn't think of worrying. But I never saw Bertha's boat for carelessness. As Mrs. Stevens said yesterday, she's the black sheep of the family, and always will be."

I had heard this last remark often enough to grow hardened to it, and never dreamed of taking offense. But Uncle Moses, who had prophesied, years before, that I'd "make something" some time, and still held to that opinion, put down the dipper to say, with more than ordinary emphasis: "You let her take it, Ann. 'Tain't more'n a mile cross-roads, and the money'll get there just as safe as if I stopped in the middle of hay's to go."

"It's better to leave the hay over a day than to lose thirty dollars," sighed Aunt Ann, superciliously. "But you'll have your own way about it, whatever I do say. Only I want you to remember if any thing happens, Moses, who it was that sent her."

"W-a-l," hastily assented Uncle Moses, as he started for the hay-field. "She won't," declared Aunt Ann, with a decision that left no room for hope. "She's one of the most particular women I ever saw, and any one she takes a fancy to would have to look as if they'd just come out of a bandbox. You could fix up all you was a mind to, you wouldn't have the style to please her. It isn't in you, Milly, now, would be a girl after her own heart. I was thinking the other day I believed I'd try to get her acquainted with Milly."

I gave a disgusted look at the reflection of my thin, brown face and lank hair in the glass, and mournfully decided Aunt Ann was right. Oh, dear, dear, why was not I Milly? Or, if I must be myself, why couldn't I have been born with a taste for sewing and "fixing-up," instead of for climbing trees, and racing the old horse round the lot's barback. I puzzled over this conundrum till I was well on my way only to give it up as unanswerable. "But as my papa," I decided, philosophically, "I pulled my big shade hat further over my eyes, 'I can show her I know how to set, if I don't look as if I'd come out of a bandbox.' I had always been sure I could talk better than Milly could, and over this reflection I became quite myself again, and went on plucking my way through the pasture, whistling "Yankee Doodle." What if I was a black sheep? If my dresses chafe to tear, and my shoes to burst out, sooner than other people's, I was sure I wasn't any fault of mine. And there couldn't be any thing wrong in climbing trees, or riding the old horse barback. Of

I waited a moment and then shouted in return. "Hello!"

The voice seemed to come from somewhere underground. I stopped and looked around. The only living creature in sight was a blind cow, which stood on the edge of a bank, passively looking over. I waited a moment and then shouted in return: "Hello! Where are you? What do you want?"

"Down the bank. Come over here," was the answer.

My first glance down the steep ledge explained the cow's interest in the situation. There, at the bottom of the ravine in an uncomfortably cramped position, lay the smallest specimen of a blind, bossy calf I ever saw. By the side of the calf stood a boy—very hunched, very ragged, and some two years younger than myself—staring at me with a wonderfully disgusted expression.

"Is that you a-whistling?"

"Yes. What do you want?"

"Don't want nothin' to you," he explained, in a deeply injured tone. "I thought you was a boy, and I was going to have yer help git this calf out. I can't climb up with him alone; I've 'bout half an hour."

"Why don't you go home and get

perthously" I demanded, approaching pertinently near the edge in my eagerness to take in the situation.

"Well, that's what I've got to do; an' I don't s'p'ose he'll live 'till I get back. I hesitated. Old Brindle seemed to divine the situation, and looked at me with pleading eyes. But I should be sure to get my clothes torn some way, and then Aunt Ann would talk about black sheep. "I'd help you myself, if it wasn't for my dress," I said regretfully, with a glance at the ruffles and frills.

But the red-haired boy did not seem to be impressed by my kind intentions. He looked at me and grinned. "You help," he ejaculated. "Huh! You couldn't climb down here, to say nothin' of gittin' back?"

Dress, gloves, ribbons, were of no account after that! The next moment I was scrambling down the almost perpendicular path.

I think we were an hour getting that calf up the bank; but it certainly was not my fault. I tore so many little three-cornered holes in my dress that I gave up trying to count them; clambered up the steepest places on my hands and knees, and was not a bit discouraged when, like the frog in the well, we climbed up one step and slipped back two.

Five minutes later a servant had ushered me in to wait "till the missus came." "Some one to see Miss White on important business," I heard her explaining outside. "A bogga-girl, I guess."

"Bogga girl!" indeed! But just then I happened to glance in the large mirror opposite, and sank back in the chair, for once actually frightened. I had known that my dress was torn, my hair frayed and my gloves stained; but the knowledge had not troubled me much. I was not Milly, and dress wouldn't make much difference with a black sheep. What I had not known was that a smudge of mud roached from my nose crossways to my ear; and, worse yet, the rent in my shoe had extended to my stocking, leaving exposed a considerable part of a very muddy foot. "What," I thought, springing to my feet—"what if I should spoil the chances of the rest of the family?"

Before I could decide whether it was best to run or stay and brave it out, the door opened and Aunt Augusta came in; and then my last faint hope died away. She was so tall, so dignified, and—well, "Oh, Milly, Milly!" I balanced myself on one foot in a desperate endeavor to conceal the ragged spots, and told my errand with a courage born of despair. "I have brought you the money for sewin'—thirty dollars—from Mr. Moses Smith."

She looked at me, surprised. "Yes, thank you. I will give you a receipt. But, pardon me, I do not seem to recognize you. You are—"

"I am Mrs. Smith's niece," I stammered.

"What? Not one of those Lemps' sons' children?" There was certainly a good deal of surprise in her voice; and I felt that now, for the credit of the family, an explanation must be given. But she should never know—

"I should not have come looking this way," I began, in my most dignified manner, winking hard to keep back the tears. "But I stopped to help a little boy get a calf up a ravine, and—My long balance on one foot gave way. I staggered, made a wild plunge, and recovered myself only by describing a sort of half-circle with the other foot, now almost bare. That and the tremulous smile on Aunt Augusta's lips, was too much. The next minute I was crying as if my heart would break."

"It isn't that I lose about myself," I gasped, between my sobs. "Only you—your laugh—or—think any less of Sue—or of Milly. It was my own fault, every bit of it. I looked all right when I started, and—then I stopped to help a little boy with a calf, he—because he said I couldn't, and tore my dress and my shoe, and I know Aunt Ann will be so mad, and—oh, dear! I'm the black sheep of the family, and all ways will be! and I don't see how I can help it."

"Do you mean to tell me," exclaimed Aunt Ann that evening, when she heard the whole story, "that she actually wanted you to stay to dinner, and had you sit down with her, looking the way you did?"

"Yes, ma'am," I answered, meekly. "I washed my face, and her maid combed my hair; but that was all."

"Well, I can't understand it. If she takes a fancy to any one, she takes it for certain. You'll get your musical education, I guess, if you want it; and I only hope it will do you good. But I can't see into it. You—well, after you helped the little Irish boy with the calf and got to looking the way you do now. If you had got what you deserved, miss, it would be a good scolding."

"There, there, Ann, what's the use of going on so?" expostulated Uncle Moses. "She's done all right about the calf. I always said Bertha would make a smart girl."

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—James Yates killed an owl on Hawk Mountain, Pa., which measured four feet seven inches from tip to tip of wings.

—The tombstone of the late Mrs. Ann D. Carter, of Philadelphia, bears the following lines cut in marble: Some have children and some have none, But here lies the mother of twenty-one.

—One of the donors in a theater, in Berlin was found dead in her seat and it was supposed that she had committed suicide, but a post-mortem examination showed that she died from heart failure, due to tight lacing. The liver of the unfortunate young woman was horribly deformed and crushed out of shape.

—Many parents are apt to consider their daughters worth their weight in gold, but a Scotch gentleman estimated his two daughters' value at even a higher rate than this, bequeathing to each her weight in \$1 notes. The elder sister to have got only \$51,300, while the younger received \$57,254.

—A very miscellaneous cargo was taken by a Bangor vessel, the brig Emma, which has just left that port for Port of Spain, Trinidad. It consisted of 522 pounds of tea, 1,000 feet pine boards, 800 pounds butter, 320 pounds new cheese, various vegetables, four half barrels oysters, 455 pounds fresh fish, two half barrels beef, 275 pounds hay.—Kennebec (Me.) Journal.

—One of the peculiar industries of Kern County, California, is the collection and shipment of horned toads. They are sold to the Chinese, who use them for medicinal purposes. They are considered especially valuable in the treatment of rheumatism. The formula is as follows: Two parts whisky and one part horned toad; mix and let it stand one year. It may then be taken internally or applied externally to the rheumatic parts.

—A queer history attached to a Portland young woman. When but two years old, away off on one of the South Sea Islands, she was sold by her own people, who are cannibals, to a Portland sea captain, and the seller firmly believed that she was bought to be eaten as food. She has been an educated and treated kindly and earns her living as a servant in the captain's family, realizing every day, no doubt, how much better it is to eat than to be eaten.

—Lieutenant Stetson Kar reports that during his recent explorations in the mountains along the British Columbia-Alaskan boundary he killed the largest cinnamon bear on record. He says: "The tape measurements of the skin give it an area of sixty-five square feet, including head and paws; across the narrowest portion it measures six feet, and in length nine without the head; the claws of the fore paws measure four inches round the curve, and in fur, size, and texture the hide strongly resembles that of a buffalo."

—A whale thirty-five feet long got stranded in shallow water in Manokin river, Somerset County, Maryland, and was killed by the inhabitants. The creature, when discovered, was furiously lashing the water in efforts to escape. A colored man went out in a boat and tried to tie the tail of his whaleship with a rope. While doing this the whale struck the boat with his tail, upsetting the craft and throwing the colored man about twenty feet in the air. The besiegers afterward succeeded in killing the monster with axes and clubs. They then hauled it up on the shore.

—September 6, 1891, is well remembered in New England as the "yellow day" in Pennsylvania as the "yellow day." Southern Canada took on some of the characteristics noted in the States above mentioned, the yellow in the atmosphere having a more greenish cast, which accounts for the Canucks referring to it as "the green day." In the morning the sky had the appearance of being clouded, but as the sun arose it was plainly visible, and of a color like the yellow of midday, a much darker yellow appearance prevailed; every thing except leaves and grass had the intense yellow look, they appearing of a rich, velvety green. The cause of the phenomenon, which lasted but one day, has never been satisfactorily explained.

—Recent investigations in Indian prisons have revealed a curious physiological condition induced by thieves for the purpose of securing valuable things. They allow their hair to slide down the throat, and keep it in position for half an hour at a time. In about a year a pouch is formed; into which any thing under the size of ten rupees may be thrust, without interfering with speech or breath. A really expert thief, with some histrionic power, is able to use the stolen contents of his throat as an aid to an appearance of innocence when he is being searched. At present there are in Calcutta jail twenty prisoners who have successfully assimilated themselves to monkeys, in order that they might with profit take jewels and money. Petty larcenists do these things more ingeniously in the East than in Europe.

—Cremating Smokeless Powder. One of the summer's exercises at Aldershot has been what is called the infantry smoke attack. An advanced line carries with it a certain material packed in cases, which, when lighted, creates a dense smoke, and under its cover the main body goes forward, screened from the exact aim of the enemy until within short range of the latter. An antidote for one characteristic feature of smokeless powder is thus provided to conceal the advance, new smoke producers are already being provided. It is a familiar experience that when either the attack or the defense is the art of war obtains a new advantage, the other side invents something with which to counteract it; but in this instance of the Aldershot smoke cases the response comes with unusual promptness.—London Globe.

A FABLE DISPELLED.

—The memory of a young man in the South. There is another fable of our early childhood which a certain young man is able to dispel with absolute authority, having made a long and careful series of observations. This is a fable about elephants and their wonderful power of remembering faces and avenging injuries. The young man, who, even as a youngster, was of a reflective and experimental cast of mind, began his experiments at a very tender age by respectfully twisting the nose of one of the elephants in Central park. Not the whole of this proboscis, you know, the youth was too small for an army conquest of that kind, but just the extreme tip of the trunk, as it was held out to him in friendly salutation.

The big mass of meat roared and quivered with pain. It was evident that wringing the end of an elephant's proboscis was like wringing the nose of a man. Here was a new sensation both for the boy and the elephant, and one that the former proposed to follow up as long as the latter was not at liberty to retaliate. The next day he tried it again. Now here was a chance for the elephant's memory to step in and protect him from a repetition of yesterday's indignities. But it didn't. Just as before, the trusting animal put out his proboscis in greeting, and just as before the bad boy gave it a twist that brought tears to the eyes of the enormous creature.

—Why not "elephant tears" as well as crocodile's?—and made him howl with pain. Day after day this youngster would go up to the park and prosecute his researches in the psychology of the elephant's mind and every day the kindly creature assisted in his studies by giving him his trunk to experiment on.

Once during the month it happened that the elephant did break his cage and get away. The inquiring youth stood near. Now, he was sure that the elephant had begun to remember and that his own little special judgment day had come. But the elephant rushed past as if there were no such things in all the world as inquisitive small boys. And then for the first time the boy began to doubt the eternal remembrance of an elephant. But still he was not wholly satisfied. It might be that there was some mental peculiarity of this particular elephant, the youth reasoned, and so from time to time he went on twisting elephants' trunks whenever he got a chance.

And as he has traveled much during these years that he has been getting older, he has probably had more chances and twisted more elephants' trunks, both in Europe and America, than any other living being. Moreover, he has set his friends to experimenting upon elephants, whenever it was possible, and of no fault in life he is more certain than that the beautiful story of the elephant's lasting memory is a clear and unmitigated myth.—N. Y. Evening Sun.

—Corn Starch Cake.—One-half cup butter, one-half cup sweet milk, one-half cup corn starch, one and one-half cup flour, one cup sugar, one-half teaspoon soda, one teaspoonful cream tartar, one teaspoonful salt. Last the whites of three eggs, beaten stiff. Flavor with vanilla. Bake in sheet. Stiff for same.—Take enough pulverized sugar to make the desired amount and flavor with vanilla. Add a little cold water to moisten the sugar, then add a piece of melted chocolate size of a walnut. Spread on the cake with a broad bladed knife.—Boston Globe.

—Next Year's Fashions. Large plaids to be superseded by checks of distinctive sizes. While the hot weather is still on us those whose business it is to foresee and in a certain sense to lead public taste, the manufacturers and the designers, have already made their preparations for the summer season of 1891. It is still too early to predict what will be actually worn next summer and it is much easier to name the styles and fabrics which are more or less certain to find little if any favor.

Flower designs in jaquard styles have no friends. Fine, soft, one-color goods in India cashmere finish and one color, striped, vicogee goods have all the chances of being extensively worn next year. Shaded stripes will fight for a place and a good place, too, and ombre styles will be met with in all varieties, on Indian cashmere grounds, on vicogee and on soft cheviot. Broad, shaded stripes in all possible combinations in simple and combined, straight and crosswise and zigzag styles will be seen.

Changeant styles have many admirers who foresee their adoption. These styles may do very well on silk and half-silk goods, but the reproduction of the same on woolen goods is beset with so many technical difficulties that their commercial success on wool is out of the question until some method of overcoming these difficulties has been found.

Shaded styles have success assured. Some of the latest samples show shaded dots and bomb designs before and after stripes, shaded stripes alternate with one color and shaded pea designs in stripes. A lot of very fine stripes or hair lines combine into a large stripe which is bordered on both sides with fine-shaded cube designs, the combination being very effective.

Large plaids have met with scanty favor this summer, although they had been brought out in nice color combinations. This will prevent their being sampled extensively for next year. On the other hand, small squares, in subdued quadrangles, which are cut by lines that form larger squares, may find deserved recognition. English styles of worsteds in gray or made in small squares, occasionally rendered more effective by means of small silk knots, will also be worn.

Cheviot biggies (vigourous) will be much worn with shaded stripes in knotted or in oval designs and other similar detached styles.

In imitation of the black ground muslin prints which were favorites last summer in colored flower designs, similar styles have been introduced on cashmere. Black Indian cashmeres are seen with small embroidered flowers in color, with golden yellow wheat ear designs, in green leaf and wheat ear bordered designs. Very light volle tissues are being prepared showing large squares formed by knotted stripes.

All the styles mentioned have good chance for next summer. It seems assured that soft fabrics and shaded styles will have a good run.—Paris Cor. Dry Goods Economist.

HOUSEHOLD BREVITIES.

—Decorating a home that is never irradiated with hearty good nature is like freecoring a cellar wall.

—An effective remedy for almy and gray hair pipes in copper dissolved and left to work gradually through the lips.

—A simple means of changing the air of a sick-room is to open a window at the top and opening the door, move it back and forward rapidly, so as to insure a current of fresh air from the window.

—Corn Oysters.—Take one pint of grated corn, two beaten eggs, and as much corn starch as will adhere together. Shape into oysters and fry in a light brown in hot milk which has been sweetened with salt. When half done instead of corn starch for binding the past.—Banner and Herald.

—Corn Pie.—This is made with graded corn, with or without eggs, as preferred. Without the eggs less cream is used. Butter, sugar, salt and pepper are added, and the corn is allowed to come to a boil before being poured into the crust. This is also very nice as a side dish.—Housekeeper.

—Turnovers, Fried.—One quart of pastry flour, one teaspoonful of soda, two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, wet with sweet milk, salt and roll out the dough the size of a saucer; put in for inside apple or mince, fold over, press the edges together. Fry in fat to a light brown.—Boston Globe.

—A Breakfast Relish.—Toast slices of stale rye or brown bread. Butter well, and pour over them hot milk which has been seasoned with salt, pepper and butter, and thickened slightly with flour. The addition of a few spoonfuls of grated cheese makes this a nice supper or lunch dish.—Poultry Monthly.

—Tomato Soup.—One quart of pared and sliced or canned tomatoes, one quart of water, boil for forty minutes, add one-half cupful of graham or white flour, mixed with cold water, a tablespoonful of sugar, salt and pepper to taste; add one and one-half cupfuls of milk, bring to a boil, and it is ready to serve.—Housekeeper.

—Simple Cure for Catarrh.—To an ounce of glycerine add fifteen or twenty drops of carbolic acid, and thoroughly apply with a small sponge, known as the sea sponge. The stimulating and antiseptic properties of the carbolic acid, combined with the soothing quality of the glycerine, produce the most happy results. This remedy affords almost immediate relief to an ordinary cold.—Household.

—Corn Starch Cake.—One-half cup butter, one-half cup sweet milk, one-half cup corn starch, one and one-half cup flour, one cup sugar, one-half teaspoon soda, one teaspoonful cream tartar, one teaspoonful salt. Last the whites of three eggs, beaten stiff. Flavor with vanilla. Bake in sheet. Stiff for same.—Take enough pulverized sugar to make the desired amount and flavor with vanilla. Add a little cold water to moisten the sugar, then add a piece of melted chocolate size of a walnut. Spread on the cake with a broad bladed knife.—Boston Globe.

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THE FARMING WORLD.

—These are the most valuable fruits of the season. Many of the finest fruits undergo very speedy decomposition. On this account, some of the most highly esteemed fruits in the countries which produce them have never become articles of commerce, and are only to be enjoyed during the season of their ripening. Decomposition takes place most rapidly when fruits are exposed to the air, when there is any dampness about them, and when they are subjected to considerable or frequent changes of temperature. Grapes are imported to this country from the south of Europe, packed in sawdust. Upright gooseberries may be kept for making jams in water, in bottles or jars, filled up with perfectly dry sand, sawdust, bran or the like, closely corked and sealed, after a gentle heat has been applied to expel moisture as much as possible. Place them in a moderate and equal temperature, which is sometimes accomplished by burying them at some depth in the earth.

A similar method may be employed with some other fruits. Peaches, the finest kinds of which are apt to ripen almost immediately after they reach perfect maturity, may be kept for months in glazed earthenware jars very closely covered, and placed in a cool, airy situation, out of the reach of frost. The layers of fruit and individual specimens are separated by the substance used for filling the jars that rottenness in one may not infect the rest. Another method is to keep them in drawers, the temperature being carefully regulated. Large gardens may be provided with a fruit-room, in which shelves and drawers are allotted to the different kinds of fruit. A moderate and equal temperature, dryness and careful ventilation are the principal requisites. Fruit intended for keeping should be carefully gathered, when almost ripe, and all bruising avoided.

Pears or apples shaken from the tree can not expect to keep so well as those gathered by the hand. Of all the succulent fruits produced, the apple keeps the best, and is therefore most generally used. Fruit intended for keeping may be secured before being placed in the jars or shelves. This is done by allowing the fruit to lie in heaps for a short time—varying according to the kind of fruit, and extending in the case of winter apples to a fortnight or more—that some of the juice may exude through the skin. I can not recommend the propriety of this practice. Some kinds of winter pears and apples can scarcely be said to ripen till after they are placed in the fruit-room.—Farm and Home.

LIVE STOCK NOTES. TEXAS is pork in grass as well as beef and mutton. TEXAS are but few horses that are not tractable and docile if they are treated properly. Do not expect any farm animal to "pick up" his living and put much meat upon his bones. HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN transfers for the week ending July 31 included eleven bulls and fifty cows. If you have any old sheep—scrub hogs or unprofitable cows—get them ready for the butcher as soon as possible. As soon as an animal is matured it ceases to be profitable to keep, unless it is a work animal and possibly sheep. If the pasture in which the colts are kept get short this dry weather, use bran and oats to make up the shortage. A frequent change of pasture for sheep, say every week or ten days, is conducive to thrift, and should be regularly attended to. It costs less to produce a pound of lamb than a pound of mutton. A pound of lamb sells for more than a pound of mutton. See the point? WHEN cattle have to go too far for water they will often go without to their discomfort, and when they get to the water they will drink to their injury. CORN is not absolutely necessary for making pork. Wheat middlings and water, with an occasional change of oatmeal and oil-meal, makes good pork. THE sire should not be too fat, just thrifty and vigorous is the best condition. He should have exercise and be fed on bran. Fattening foods are not good. Don't forget to put up some nice second clover. The pigs will enjoy some next winter. If you have a good silo, all silage will take the place of clover hay.

HOUSING FODDER. In autumn, before the sled can be used, the appliances illustrated herewith will command the attention of the farmer. The fodder is packed in a wagon, the hay-rack is best; but to use it would often require shifting from box to rack and back again each day when the farmer has only one wagon and daily hauls some green fodder to help out the pasture. In such case it is better to use the wagon with the bed on, laying the fodder lengthwise in the bed until it is full, and then crosswise, as the hind wheels project above the bed on the ordinary wagon arrangement shown in Fig. 1 is necessary. The standard is brought above the wheel by a stick passed through the rings. Over the top of the stick, an secured to it by a nail, is bent a hoop, the ends passing through cleats driven into the box. This holds the fodder off the wheels. Loading fodder on a wagon, whether on the box or hay-rack, is very difficult, especially after the load is partly on, unless a ladder of some sort is provided. A very good one is shown in Fig. 2. It is simply a wide board to which are nailed cleats at proper intervals, fastened to the rear of the wagon by two short pieces of ropes or chains. As the wagon is driven along it drags after and is at once ready for use.—American Agriculturist.

GRAIN RATION FOR STEERS ON PASTURE. The following are the "Suggested Conclusions" of a trial made by Prof. G. E. Morrow at the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, and detailed in Bulletin No. 9, of the "Value of Pasture, and of Grain Ration with Pasture, for Young Cattle." "The results from two years' trials indicate that a grain ration to young steers on good pasture is not usually profitable. The value of the increase in weight by the grain-fed steers over that by those having grass only will rarely repay the cost of food and labor. The increased value of the animals from earlier maturity and better quality may make the grain feeding profitable. "Especially if the grain given be unground it is essential to have pigs follow the cattle, if a profit is to be had. "To secure the greatest gains per animal the pastures must not be fully stocked. To secure the largest gain the pastures should be fully stocked. "An acre of good grass may be expected to support a steer weighing from 300 to 1,000 pounds, and enable it to make a moderate gain during the summer. "The rate of growth of cattle, either on grass alone or with an added grain ration, is very irregular, being especially checked by either drought or excessive rains, extreme heat or cold storms. "The addition of grain or other food to the pasturage before the grass falls in the autumn is clearly advisable. "The acreage of pasturage may probably be safely decreased one-third if the steers be given a full grain ration. "It is doubtful if at present in most parts of Illinois cattle can be maintained on an increase of weight be secured at so low a cost in any other way as by allowing them to get all their food during the best of the grazing season from good pasturage, fully but not overstocked."

FIG. 1. MANGERS FOR HORSE STABLE. The bottom of the rack should be three and one half feet from the stable floor. For the bottom, use two planks 2x12 inches, which leaves a 3-inch space through which to let the lining boards down. Use a 3x4 scantling to nail the upper ends to, and make the trough eight inches deep. Cut the boards the slant you want the trough to be, and let them run clear through to the outside to make the end of the trough on the other side. Make the grain-spool 12" inside and cut it off even with the back of the rack, as shown in Fig. 2, dotted lines. Let the lower end of the spout stand out



FIG. 2. On the bottom of the trough to put a board in for the back of the trough, as shown in Fig. 2. Make tight partition between each section. For the rack use two scantlings, 2x3, for top and bottom pieces. The rungs can be either iron or tough wood. Bore a hole through the partition for the top piece to run through, so you can pull the lower end out for cleaning the rack and fasten the lower end with two pins. These racks can be used to a good advantage in a barn fifty feet long, with a barn floor eighteen feet wide. Divide the stable in four parts, and feed down at each side of the barn floor.—A. G. C. Shoemaker, in Farm and Fireside.

GRAIN RATION FOR STEERS ON PASTURE. The following are the "Suggested Conclusions" of a trial made by Prof. G. E. Morrow at the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, and detailed in Bulletin No. 9, of the "Value of Pasture, and of Grain Ration with Pasture, for Young Cattle." "The results from two years' trials indicate that a grain ration to young steers on good pasture is not usually profitable. The value of the increase in weight by the grain-fed steers over that by those having grass only will rarely repay the cost of food and labor. The increased value of the animals from earlier maturity and better quality may make the grain feeding profitable. "Especially if the grain given be unground it is essential to have pigs follow the cattle, if a profit is to be had. "To secure the greatest gains per animal the pastures must not be fully stocked. To secure the largest gain the pastures should be fully stocked. "An acre of good grass may be expected to support a steer weighing from 300 to 1,000 pounds, and enable it to make a moderate gain during the summer. "The rate of growth of cattle, either on grass alone or with an added grain ration, is very irregular, being especially checked by either drought or excessive rains, extreme heat or cold storms. "The addition of grain or other food to the pasturage before the grass falls in the autumn is clearly advisable. "The acreage of pasturage may probably be safely decreased one-third if the steers be given a full grain ration. "It is doubtful if at present in most parts of Illinois cattle can be maintained on an increase of weight be secured at so low a cost in any other way as by allowing them to get all their food during the best of the grazing season from good pasturage, fully but not overstocked."

FIG. 1. standard is brought above the wheel by a stick passed through the rings. Over the top of the stick, an secured to it by a nail, is bent a hoop, the ends passing through cleats driven into the box. This holds the fodder off the wheels. Loading fodder on a wagon, whether on the box or hay-rack, is very difficult, especially after the load is partly on, unless a ladder of some sort is provided. A very good one is shown in Fig. 2. It is simply a wide board to which are nailed cleats at proper intervals, fastened to the rear of the wagon by two short pieces of ropes or chains. As the wagon is driven along it drags after and is at once ready for use.—American Agriculturist.

FIG. 2. It is simply a wide board to which are nailed cleats at proper intervals, fastened to the rear of the wagon by two short pieces of ropes or chains. As the wagon is driven along it drags after and is at once ready for use.—American Agriculturist.

FIG. 3. It is simply a wide board to which are nailed cleats at proper intervals, fastened to the rear of the wagon by two short pieces of ropes or chains. As the wagon is driven along it drags after and is at once ready for use.—American Agriculturist.

FIG. 4. It is simply a wide board to which are nailed cleats at proper intervals, fastened to the rear of the wagon by two short pieces of ropes or chains. As the wagon is driven along it drags after and is at once ready for use.—American Agriculturist.

FIG. 5. It is simply a wide board to which are nailed cleats at proper intervals, fastened to the rear of the wagon by two short pieces of ropes or chains. As the wagon is driven along it drags after and is at once ready for use.—American Agriculturist.