

## Old and New Hay.

In America, the value of hay being increased by being kept till more than a year old, is not understood. Seeing a statement by a writer in the *Country Gentleman* a short time since, that he had found his horses so loose in their evacuations in consequence of eating hay which had been made from grass which was cut very young, has induced me to explain this matter.

The racing studs and the fox-hunting studs kept in such extraordinary condition as to be able to carry in many instances 250 pounds for twenty miles, and very often at a high rate of speed, across a heavy country, with all kinds of fencing to leap, and the harness horses which travel very quickly, would any of them be affected to the same degree by eating new hay? But, kept in the stack till the next

year, it loses the tendency to relax and scour, and becomes the very best provender for giving hard flesh and thorough condition; the oats and beans eaten with such hay are both kept till they are one year old too.

This one year old meadow hay, which is composed of so many good varieties of grass, is generally given to horses used for the very fastest work, as any of the grooms from the best stables will testify; but road horses, such as omnibuses and van horses, never travelling faster than six or seven miles an hour, will be fed on clover and other coarse large-stemmed upland or arable land-grown hay, when it can be found to go farther and prove cheaper than old meadow hay.

All hay in England is put in ricks, or stacks as they are oftener called in America; but more is put together, because in large ricks there is much less waste, there being less top and bottom, and less outsides, though the outsides are

pulled so neatly that the weather cannot beat in of any account. There is no hay kept in barns or sheds of any kind. The hay is all cut from the ricks in trusses, tied compactly with bands made of hay or straw, the former usually; and a man accustomed to trussing hay will cut with the knife and take off each time a truss not varying more than two or three pounds from 56 pounds the whole day long.—The customary price paid for trussing and loading, ready for market, is half a crown per load, or less than 75 cents of our money; and an experienced man will truss two loads per day. A great many of the best farmers who never market any, will always keep a good deal around for old hay, because it not only gives more strength to working cattle and flesh to fattening ones, but it also goes farther; a less quantity satisfies any animal eating it. In short, the farmer reckons the difference between eating new and old hay

about the same as economical housewives do the eating of new bread instead of keeping it a day or two.

In conclusion, it may be right to say that hay in barns seldom settles down so close as the English hay does in large ricks, and that as these ricks are nicely thatched with wheat straw and are pulled by hand, so as to drop dry from the eaves, it cuts out clean and in handy trusses, perfectly free from the slightest injury by standing out for the year or longer. Old hay, old oats and old beans, are the only feed entering any gentleman's stables till after the next Christmas; and the most particular grooms will not admit either of the staples before the month of March unless it is old. Grooms are more particular than coachmen, for gentlemen's saddle horses are generally kept in a much higher state of condition, as nags must be able to go the "pace" and hold it.—*Country Gentleman*.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

## White Willow.

SIR,—As you are constantly asking farmers to write for your paper, and as I have had over seventy years' experience in farming, I venture to express a few remarks to aid you in your useful undertaking—not that I agree with all you publish, but because I think you are endeavoring to do good; and I have no doubt but you have done some, and I hope you may continue to do more good. You ask any one to condemn your writings, and as that is a tolerable easy task, I will do so.

You have been condemning the White Willow as a humbug. You are quite wrong in doing so. It really is a good and valuable thing for our country, and we can have good, high hedges that will turn any stock in six years. You condemn it because you do not understand its management, and very few do. I have a good hedge that will turn stock. I planted the Willow about six inches apart. It requires to be kept clean and the land to be in good heart, and well worked, and no cattle allowed to destroy it. In three years I have put up stakes about four feet apart, and laid the Willows down, bending them between the stakes and fastening them in an horizontal position at suitable distances apart. I am convinced that this White Willow that you condemn will be a great and beneficial substitute for rails, which are now getting scarce, and will be more durable than the board fence, of less expense, and far more ornamental. To raise the plants I think the best plan is to plant the slips in a garden and set them out when two years old. If let stand until three years after in the fence row, no stakes will be required, as one may be cut in every four feet, and the others woven through this, as they then answer for the stakes.

ROBERT ROBSON.

Uderton, Aug. 10, 1870.

## MORETON LODGE COTSWOLDS.

## ELEVENTH ANNUAL SALE.

Mr. W. S. G. Knowles has received instructions from Fred. Wm. Stone, Esq., to sell by Public Auction, without reserve, on WEDNESDAY, the 21st SEPT., 1870, at Moreton Lodge, Guelph, Ont., Canada:

About 40 Cotswold Rams and Ram Lambs.  
" 60 " Ewes, one shear and over.  
" 10 Southdown Rams.  
" 10 " Ewes.

Lunch at Noon. Sale Commences at 1 o'clock.

## The Bee Hunter.

The subject of this sketch is one of those characters found in various parts of this continent. Living from hand to mouth, hunting, fishing and trapping help to fill up his time, but hunting the wild bees is his chief pleasure.

In autumn, when bees have almost finished their labors and are carrying home their last loads, this man may be seen with his bee box in hand, the bottom of which is supplied with a choice piece of honey-

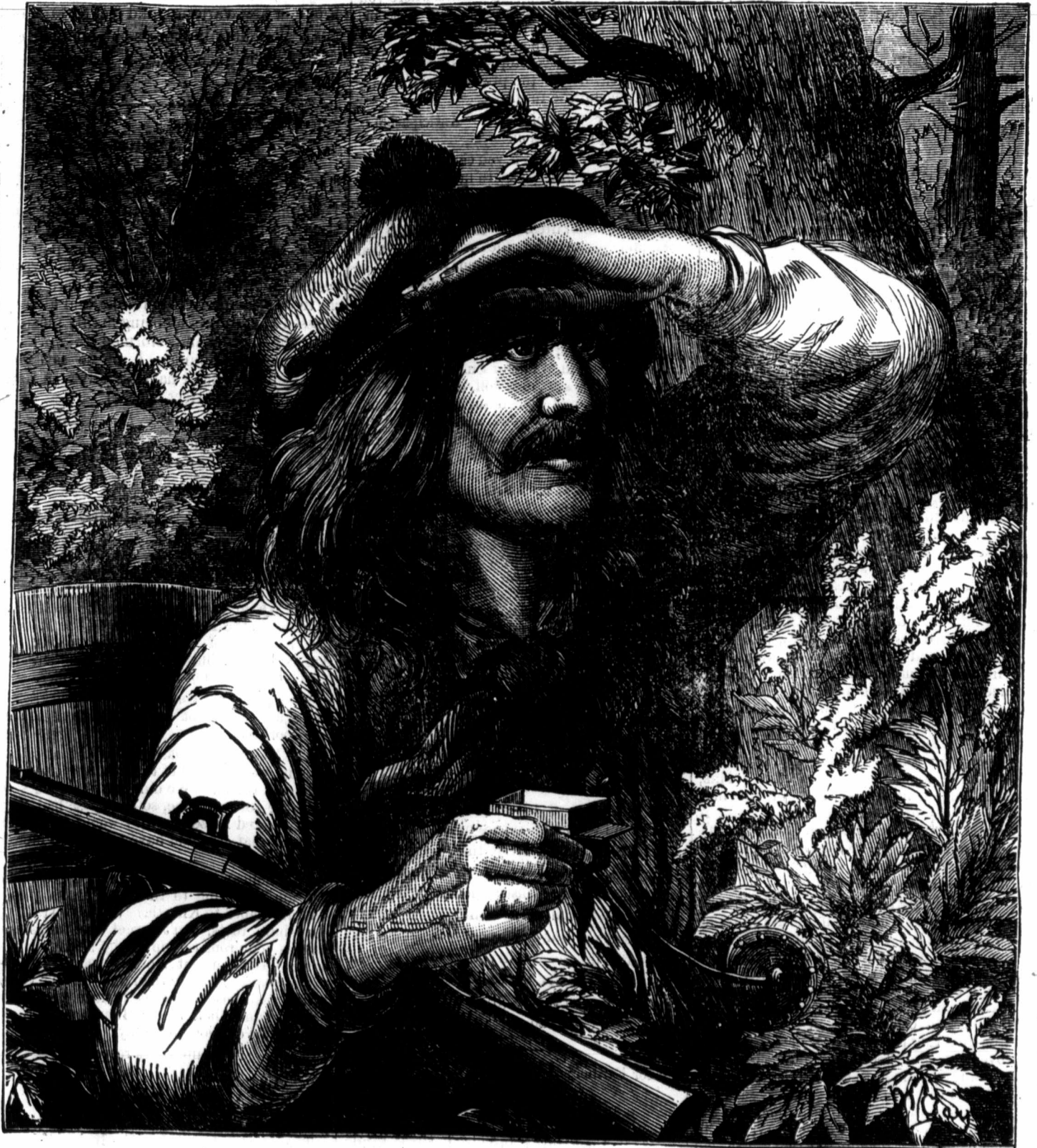
comb. In the middle of the box is a glass slide to prevent the bee, when first caught, from becoming besmeared with honey, as in that case, when liberated, she would not return direct to her home.

A bee is found upon a flower, when the hunter, carefully placing the box underneath, claps the cover over the bee, and withdraws the glass slide as soon as she becomes quiet. The bee soon fills herself with honey, the cover is removed, and she is ready to take her flight. Circling upwards, mounting higher each time, until

assured of her location, when she darts in a "bee line" to her home in the forest.—This is the moment seized upon by the hunter to ascertain the direction or line of the bee. The box is allowed to rest on some convenient elevation, as the bee soon returns accompanied by others, and the hunter is then enabled to stake out the line, when he carefully covers the box, and carries the bees several rods to the right or left, opens the box and takes a "cross line," which enable him to find the tree where the lines meet.

The hunter, sometimes, travels quite a distance in the direction of the tree when the angle is very acute—showing that the tree is at a great distance—when he lines again, and also takes a cross line.

If the honey happens to be found in a hollow trunk and well protected, a large fire is built at the foot of the tree, which



THE BEE HUNTER.—From the Bee-Keepers' Journal and National Agriculturist.