

summer comes round, will be apparent in the thriftiness and increased value of the stock. With clean bedding, warmth and shelter, pure water and regular feeding, with a small amount of prepared and mixed provender, punctually given two or three times a day, cattle will thrive and continue healthy through our longest and coldest winters. Nay, they will do much better under such a system of management than with a profuse supply of hay under the treatment they at present ordinarily receive. It should ever be borne in mind that when animals are exposed to filth, damp and cold, the greater portion of the food they consume, however good or abundant it may be, is absorbed in generating animal heat, without administering to the growth and fatness of the body. Hence the primary importance of warmth and shelter to all kinds of domestic animals.

When we speak of warmth and shelter, it must not be understood as excluding the external air, and thereby preventing ventilation, which is a condition second in importance to none, to animal health and comfort. Except in extremely cold weather stables and stalls for cattle should be kept perfectly airy so as to avoid always cold currents; and light and dryness, are likewise among the necessary conditions of health and comfort. A dark, damp stable for horses, is the most unfavorable condition in which that noble and useful animal can be placed. Colts and young stock generally, require strict attention and liberal feeding during winter. It is a fatal mistake, although often committed, to stint young stock in their food, or to give them provender of an inferior quality. By this means they will become stunted in growth, and no subsequent care and feeding, however liberal, can possibly compensate for such injuries. Young stock in particular should be kept well *from the first*. The care of sheep in such a climate as ours, demands the greatest care and attention during winter and early spring. Sheep must be yarded in cold weather; but no animal suffers more severely

ly from too close confinement and want of fresh air. They must therefore, not be put too thickly into yards, be kept clean and dry, fed with well chopped hay, straw, and pea haulm, in conjunction with roots, and a little bruised oats and flaxseed, or oil cake, once a day. With such treatment sheep may be carried through our long winters, and increase both in carcase and fleece, and therefore in money value.

The good housewife will not fail to give special attention to her poultry at this season. By affording them warmth and shelter, and liberal feeding, a good supply of eggs may usually be obtained, and the birds sustained in a healthy and thriving condition. Warm food, with a small supply of minced flesh, and letting them have access to lime, sand and water, with perfect cleanliness, are the chief indispensables to success in the keeping of poultry.

Bees, too, require special attention; they should be protected against the intense cold by shelter and covering. Some remove them into dark cellars, or cover them over in the ground till the approach of spring, when, if they are deficient in honey, they must be artificially fed. Bee-keeping in situations favorable to these industrious little creatures, may be made with proper care and management, a profitable, though a subordinate part, of rural economy.

#### CHAFF CUTTERS.

The name of these machines is a misnomer, as they are intended to cut straw or hay, and not chaff; hence the term straw cutters would much better designate the purpose which they are intended to serve.

Chaff, or straw cutters, are now considered as an essential appendage to every farmery, where the improved and economical methods of feeding stock are recognised and practised. Their utility mainly depends upon other grounds than those which justify the use of grain crushers; the chief object of which is to bruise the corn, in order to facilitate mastication and digestion. The cul-