

J A N U A R Y.

Though we date our new year from the commencement of this month, it often begins as early as the first week of November, and at times open weather extends far into December. At new year we have seen the ground so bare of snow, as to render sleighing impossible, and wheeled vehicles alone appeared upon the roads. There is, almost invariably, a January thaw early in the month, when the snows of December disappear; and sometimes we have seen rain and high winds. But presently, a cold north-west wind blows, and the new fallen snow is drifted in clouds along the roads and fields, blocking up the narrow lanes, and drifting into high banks along the fences.

At this season, you must be careful to have your stalls and stables well littered. Feed chiefly under cover, cutting and steaming at all times when convenient. Watch the approach of frosts, and protect your roots carefully against its influence as formerly directed. Be industrious in collecting materials for manure. If fodder should be refused, cut it up, mixing with meal and shorts—for, as we have already said, there has been a considerable expenditure of fodder already, owing to the early commencement of winter, and we must practise due and provident economy. Do not be too ambitious to make large sales of hay, especially if it be to necessitate the purchase of supplies of foreign artificial manures. It might be better applied in feeding stock on the farm—thus encreasing the home supply of manures—and saving an outlay in money, cartage, marketing expenses, &c., &c.

We are great advocates for cutting and steaming food. Much that would be otherwise unpalatable, by this method, becomes pleasant and nutritious, with the addition of a little meal. You must keep your poultry warm; give meat, pounded oyster shells, or lime to keep up a supply of eggs. Boiled potatoes, and buckwheat cakes alternating with grain are suitable feeding. Give the hogs plenty of straw for bedding, and encrease the manure as much as possible by throwing in daily supplies of dried muck and leaves collected in autumn. Clean out the pens often, using absorbents abundantly to keep the stock dry and comfortable. Keep your horses warm and well littered, and take care to have a blanket to cover them when standing out of doors. Take care to give them no water to drink, after driving, until they shall have become perfectly cool. Carrots are an excellent feed with dry fodder. This is a good season for marketing a portion of the produce. Vegetables, when sold, should be taken out in mild weather,—hay and grain at other times. Keep your sheep stock in warm pens. Give salt or salted hay, to keep them in health and vigour.

Remember that much less feeding will do, if you be careful to keep your stock comfortably warm at the sametime. Cut and draw wood, if it still remains to be done in part,—taking advantage of the early snow