covering of flakes be not removed.

After some remarks on the use of bars, and the folly and mischief of paring them or cutting them away, and on the folly of paring out the seat of a corn, Col. F. presents some entirely original views on the turning up of the toes of the four shoes, which may be best understood from his own words, which are as follows:—

"Every person conversant with horses must have remarked the very uneven manner in which the wear falls on, that is, is distributed over the fore-shoe, and the wear of the shoe is of course only an indication of the degree of weight or friction thrown on different parts of the foot. With ordinary—that is, straight—shoes at the end of the month, the toe of the fore-shoe is the only part worn out. Is it likely, I would ask, that it is the intention of nature that only one part of the foot should comparatively speaking, be brought into action and wear? From the structure of the foot, as well as from regard to the generally beautiful economy of space and material by nature, I should presume not. The whole foot is but a small space to bear the superincumbent weight; the crust which alone is calculated to bear weight, is a still smaller surface. From nature we should argue, that, under such circumstances, the weight would, having reference of course to the capabilities of the different parts be as eavenly distributed at possible, and, following the same guide, we should argue that the greatest weight, and, therefore, the greatest wear, would fall on the broadest part of the circumference of the foot, viz., on the quarters, and here it will fall if a shoe, turned up at the toe, such as that made and used by Mr. Hallen, the late veterinary surgeon to the regiment, be used. May not althe very common and serious evil of contracted heels be aided, if not in some measure pronuced, by the degree in which the ordinary method of shoeing withdraws the posterior portion of the foot from the healthy natural and legitimate influence of wear? It is a rule in nature that all parts intended for wear, shrivel up and contract if not subjected to wear, and it is equally a rule that all parts intended for wear, strengthen and develop under the influence of use; *e. g.*, compare the arm of a farrier with that of a man who has had his arm in a sling for six months.

But to return. It is remarkable how badly horses go when first shod; that is to say, for the first few days after shoeing. From noticing this fact, my friend, Mr. Hallen, took his first idea of turned up fore-shoes; and from the fact he reasoned to its causes. At first simply to remedy the evil which I have just spoken of, he made the new shoes in shape exactly like the old ones. Improved going was the result. At the next shoeing he followed up his advantage, and made the new shoes like the then old ones, and so on, each time with improving results. He did this at first only with horses that stumbled; horses that 'toed,' as horsemen say. He thought on the subject, followed it up, watched the results carefully, and at last saw that nature intended a horse to have a bearing on his whole feet, and not only or mainly on the toe. He saw not merely that the straight toe caused horses to trip, but that it produced an unnatural resistance, like a lever against the ground, every time the foot was attempted to be lifted from the ground—*i. e.*, that every time a horse lifts up his foot in action, he has first to overcome, by additional exertions of his flexor tendons, the resistance of the toe against the ground. (I may remark that it is a mistake to suppose that in action a horse simply lifts up and puts down his fore-foot. If he did there would be no progression; the lifting up and putting down of the foot is really joined with a semi-circular progressive motion, caused by impulse from behind.) And eventually he shod all horses with the toe so turned up that the wear should at the end of the month have been nearly even all over the foot, arguing that if stumbling horses were sensibly relieved by complying with nature's requisitions, all horses would go more comfortably by following the same guide.

"I am not arguing for any arbitrary degree of 'turn up' at the toes, but for a general principle—viz., so to shoe the horse that there shall not be an unnatural friction at one part, an almost total absence of wear from another.

"I think we may infer from the structure of the foot towards the heels, from the reduplication there of the crust in the form of the bars, and the presence there of an elastic pad in the form of the frog, that nature intended a fair proportion of wear to fall on the heels. But is this the case with horses shod according to the common system? It is not the fact that the toe of the shoe is almost the only part worn at the end of the month? A farrier unaccustomed to make turned up fore-shoes, very generally fails to make them well. The turn up at the toe should be wide. Not merely is the point of the toe truned up, but the portion turned up more, of course at the toe than at the sides, should extend nearly, but not quite, from the anterior part of the quarter on the one side to a similar position on the other, so as almost to square or blunt off the anterior part of the foot."

HOW TO TEST THE QUALITY OF WOOL.

A Texas paper says:—Take a lock of wool from the sheep's back and place it upon an inch rule. If you can count from 30 to 33 of the spirals or folds in the space of an inch, it equals in quality the finest Electoral or Saxony wool grown. Of course, when the number of spirals to the inch diminishes, the quality of the wool becomes relatively inferior. Many tests have been tried, but this is considered the simplest and best. Cotswold wools and some other inferior wools do not measure nine spirals to the inch. With this test every farmer has in his possession a knowledge which enables him to form a correct judgment of the quality of all kinds of wool. There are some coarse wools which experienced wool growers do not rank as wool, but as hair on account of the hardness and straightness of the fibre.

FEED FOR FARM HORSES.

W. R. Lewis, Esq. of Milford, Mass., gives in the *American Agriculturist*, the following hints upon the management of farm horses: