

zette to give the animal, the full of an egg shell of gunpowder, with nearly a handful of common salt, dissolved in a pint of skim milk; pour it from a horn down the animal's throat, when it is said it will speedily disengage quantities of the most fetid gas, quickly relieving the animal, and soon acts as a most powerful purgative. Animals that do not thrive in the stall should be disposed of, as they are not likely to pay for their keep.

The friendship of some people is like our shadow keeping close while we walk in the sunshine, but deserting us the moment we enter the shade.

HOW TO ENLARGE VEGETABLES—A vast increase of food may be obtained by managing judiciously, and systematically carrying out for a time the principle of increase. Take, for instance, a pea; plant it in very rich ground, allow it to bear, the first year, say a half dozen pods only; remove all others save the largest single pea of these, sow it the next year, and retain of the produce three pods only; sow the largest the following year and retain only one pod, again select the largest, and the next year the sort will be by this time treble its size and weight. Ever afterwards sow the largest seeds, and by these means you will get peas, or anything else, of a bulk of which we have at present no conception.—*Boston Cultivator*.

There cannot be a doubt that superior samples of grain of every variety might be obtained on the same principle as the above—selecting the best and fullest ears, and continuing to sow them; wheat and barley particularly, might be greatly improved by this means—and would well repay the trouble. Both these grains, tied in small sheaves, might have the inferior ears taken out previous to being threshed—and the wheat should be slashed out, not being very particular to take out more than would come freely.

Complete sets of the AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL, in either language, and a few copies of MR. EVANS' TREATISE ON AGRICULTURE, are for sale at the Society's Office.

The First Book of Lessons in Chemistry, in its Application to Agriculture. By J. F. Hodges, M. D.

The want of such a book as Doctor Hodges' "First Lessons in Chemistry, as Applied to Agriculture," has been long and deeply felt by the most inquiring class of agriculturists. It is a most useful digest of first principles, with much practical experience combined. The description of the simple apparatus necessary for the exemplification of the experiments described in the "Lessons," is not the least valuable. We trust, now that such necessary information for the profitable guidance of the farmer in the proper and economical use of manures, &c., has been placed within the reach of even the most humble of the class, they will avail themselves of it. As a useful book on elementary enducation, it should be abundantly supplied to, and read in all schools as a class-book.

We give the following extracts, and will continue to do so from time to time:

"ROTATION OF CROPS.

"A field, if made to produce the same crops for a number of years in succession, may, as has been shown, in the grain and cattle sold off the farm, be impoverished by the loss of all the inorganic matters which it contained in a fit state to serve plants for food, and thus suffer a *general* exhaustion, or it may, by the growth of a plant requiring *chiefly* the alkalies or lime, supposing the *active soil* to contain the usual amount of these ingredients, be rendered by their loss incapable of supporting crops requiring a large supply of these matters, such as turnips and clover, and yet be capable of affording sufficient nourishment to plants which are found to select chiefly materials of a different kind. Experience has taught that, whilst crop after crop of the same plant materially exhausted the soil, the injury produced by changing the crops grown was not so great; and even before chemistry had enabled us to understand the effect produced by the growth of plants, farmers in many advanced districts, were induced to put a limit to the number of crops of the same kind grown in succession.

"In considering the effects which the different kinds of plants exert upon the soil, it is necessary to recollect what has been stated, that not only do the different plants of the farm give a preference to particular kinds of food, but that the different parts of the same plant require different proportions of these materials