

day night, as it is somewhat loosening and weakening, and the horse is presumed to be idle on Sunday. Oats are by far the best food, and ground oats, wet with water, is better than the whole dry grain. Cut hay is a great saving, and moistened and sprinkled with ground oats, forms the best of food. The hull of the oats is hard and often unmastered, and passes undigested through the system, thus taking away instead of imparting strength and nutritⁿ. For medium sized horses, with moderate work, nine to twelve quarts of oats per day and 14 lbs. of hay are ample. For large draft horses, 18 quarts oats and 16 lbs. hay. Food consisting of one-third corn ground with two-thirds oats, forms strong, hearty winter food for work or coach horses. But corn is unfit for road or fast horses—it is too heating. Good beds and good grooming are as important as good feeding. Horses, like men, want good, dry, warm, clean beds. In grooming, tie your horse so he can't bite his manger and thus learn to crib bite; and if you find your groom currying and tormenting the poor animal when he is tied, so he is uneasy and restless, use your stable broom over the groom's back—it is an excellent instructor to teach him to be very gentle. Let the currycomb be very moderately used on the body to loosen up the scurf and dirt, but never permit one near the mane and tail. *Rely mainly on the brush and rough cloth for cleaning.* Banish combs from your stable. They tear out more hair in a day than will grow in a month, and they ruin all the manes and tails that are ruined. The tail should be washed with castile soap and water once every week, and *brushed with a wet brush every day in the year*, holding up the bone of the tail and brushing the hair from you. Half an hour is enough for a groom, to one horse, but one hour time at the outside, ample to be very complete. City horses on dry floors should have cow manure put into their feet once a week, to draw out fever and keep hoofs growing. It should be put in over night and allowed to wear out itself. To conclude, always be gentle about your horses's body, especially his head—"more haste less speed" is peculiarly applicable to grooming and breaking. Use whips as little as possible—use your reason and exercise patience and kindness, and instil by precept and example the same useful lessons in those untutored creatures denominated grooms—and if you cannot inculcate wholesome truths into their heads, you can ameliorate the condition of that much abused animal, the horse, by occasionally exemplifying the power of their own treatment on themselves.

—H. L. S. in *Country Gentleman*.

KEEPING HORSES IN WINTER.

The first thing of importance is a good stable, which should be warm, light, dry and well ventilated. Each of these conditions must be observed to insure the health and comfort of the horse. The cold winds must not be permitted

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to blow upon him, nor damp, foul air fill the stable. Let a plentiful supply of pure air and light be admitted through windows or blinds. The stalls should be 14 feet long and 5½ wide; mangers for hay are preferable to racks, as the horses are less liable to waste their hay by getting it under their feet. The manger should be about 3½ feet high next to the stall, and 6 inches higher in front; about 20 inches wide at the top 14 at the bottom, and extend to within 16 inches of the floor, which will leave room beneath for the bedding. The top piece on both sides of the manger should be 2 inches thick, of hard wood, to prevent the horse from gnawing. The feed box should be in the right hand end of the manger, and made of two-inch hardwood plank; 10 inches square is a good size. The partitions between the stalls should be about 8 feet long, and it is best to have them so high in front that the horses cannot get their heads together.

When the horse is idle, two quarts of oats given morning and evening, with plenty of good hay, will keep him in good condition. If corn is fed on the ear, two or three common-sized ears will answer the same purpose, or three quarts of corn and cob meal per day. If at light or medium work, four quarts of oats, six ears of corn, or three quarts of corn and cob meal, should be given three times a day, with all the hay he will eat. If at hard labor, six quarts of oats, ten ears of corn or four quarts of corn and cob meal, will be required. Whole corn is not economical food for horses, as much of it will pass through undigested; but as it is used by many farmers, I give directions for feeding it. In feeding new corn, care must be taken not to give too much at first, as it is very liable to give horses the colic. Many, perhaps the majority of farm horses, in our part of the country, are kept upon much less grain than this, but they do not look as we desire our horses should—fat, sleek and comfortable, and always ready for service. Carrots are very good for horses, and instead of feeding grain alone, an equal quantity of carrots may be substituted once a day with great benefit. Roots have a tendency to keep the bowels loose, and a horse will thrive better if carrots can form a portion of his food. An occasional "bran smash" is very good for the same purpose. To make it, scald four to six quarts of shorts, add a little salt, and feed after it has cooled sufficiently. Horses should be watered regularly, at least three times per day; our rule is, water after eating in the morning, before eating at noon, and before eating at night.

The above useful remarks are taken from the *American Agriculturist*. In reference to the important question of ventilation it has been said, that the great mortality occurring amongst the horses of the French cavalry have been diminished more than one-half by increasing the amount of air supplied to the stables, no other change in the management having occurred.