Profit of Good Crops.

Now, I like to say to a young farmer: It is little use for you and I to try to advance prices. We shall have to take what we can get. Fortunately, there are a good many men willing to try to make a living by buying and selling. There is competition enough, as a rule, to secure us, taking one year with another, all that our articles are worth. Our business is to raise the best article at the least cost. Take such a simple crop as potatoes. I heard a farmer say the other day, that no money could be made by raising potatoes at 50 cents a bushel. It never seemed to occur to him that if he raised 200 bushels per acre, instead of 100 bushels, that he could make more *actual profit* from one acre than from five. One of our Rochester nurserymen raised a crop of white wheat this year that yielded 40 bushels per acre, while the average of the county would not be over 10 bushels per acre, of red and white wheat together. The millers would pay from 15 to 20 cents per bushel more for this choice white wheat than for ordinary red wheat, and this, in itself, is a good profit. The ordinary crop of red wheat, of 10 bushels per acre would be worth $16, while the 40 bushel crop of white wheat would sell for $75. If the crop of red wheat affords any profit, how much would the crop of white wheat afford? Figure the interest and taxes on the land, the cost of plowing, harrowing, drilling, seed, reaping, harvesting, and threshing.—*Harris' Walks and Talks.*

Large Crop of Sweet Potatoes, and Mode of Cultivation.

Col. William Alderman, of Cumberland County, N. C., raised the past season, on one acre of land, 722 bushels of sweet potatoes, and gives the following as his method of cultivating them:—

"The land is a sandy soil with clay subsoil; broke up hill in March, and again 1st of June. Laid off rows 2½ feet apart, running twice in the same row; then put out thirty one-horse loads of stable manure in this furrow; then put two furrows on the manure and planted out the sprouts, (or draws, as they are sometimes called).

"When the vines commenced running, I turned every other row, and split out the middles with a good turning plough, then turned the vines back and ploughed out the other middles. Did not use a hoe in cultivating.

"The cost of production was as follows: 6 days ploughing, $9; 30 one-horse loads manure, $30, hauling out manure, $7.50; 8 bushels slips, $8; setting out sprouts, $5.50, total, $64."

LARGE YIELD OF TURNIPS.—In the Derbyshire (Eng.) Prize Farm competition, the judges report that Mrs. Adcock, who took the second prize, had received a prize in a previous year for a crop of twenty-eight tons of Swedes to the acre. They were manured in the drill, at the time of sowing the seed, with a patent turnip manure, at the rate of six cwt. per acre. The farm is a strong loam on marl.

COST OF CROPS.—A Delaware County (O.) correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker* estimates the cost of growing the different crops on land worth $60 per acre to be—Corn, 80 bushels per acre, 20c. per bushel; 60 bushels per acre, 25c., 40 bushels per acre, 31c. to 33c; 30 bushels per acre, 37c. to 40c.; wheat, average cost, $1 per bushel, oats at least 30c. at 30 bushels per acre; potatoes, at 100 bushels per acre, 20c. These estimates include manure, ploughing, harrowing, drilling or planting, thorough good cultivation, and the stalks and straw of corn and grains to pay for husking or threshing, and $5 per acre for interest and taxes on land.

SAWDUST.—I have used sawdust for four years as bedding for horses, cattle and hogs, and think it pays me. I have to draw it only one mile; draw 75 bushels at a load, drive in on the threshing floor, and put it in a room in the basement; so it costs but little to get it, but it pays in three ways—first, as bedding, and I had rather have it than straw in summer, and winter if in warm stables. For hogs, there is nothing that will keep them so clean, and seems to agree with them so well, as the young ones have a play every time I clean the old out of the pen and put in new. In winter the hogs have straw extra, but none in summer. In the summer my horses have five or six inches to stand on, and then I am not so particular about its being dry. Second, to absorb liquid, and third, to loosen up heavy soil with, it is certainly a benefit, but I do not think it enriches the soil much. There is no danger of its souring, if no more is used than is necessary for bedding purposes.—*Cor Country Gentleman.*

Veterinary Department.

Influenza in Horses—General Treatment.

In a former number we briefly alluded to this disease, which has been prevalent for the past two months. We shall now point out the general treatment which ought to be pursued. As a matter of course, the treatment must be necessarily varied according to the organs that are principally affected. In all cases, however, it is desirable that the strength of the patient should be supported through the disease, so as to enable nature to throw out the morbid material in the blood. Therefore we cannot too strongly recommend good nursing, and placing the patient in a comfortable situation, where he is allowed to breathe pure air. The body should also be well clothed, and the legs either well hand-rubbed, or bandaged. Various medicinal remedies are found of benefit, and those especially of a stimulating nature, as the carbonate of ammonia given in one to two drachm doses twice or thrice a day; or the liquor acetate of ammonia in two ounce doses three or four times a day. The preparations of potash in many cases are useful, as the iodide of potassium, chlorate of potash, or nitrate of potash. When the bowels are costive, enemas of soap and water may be had recourse to once a day. In this disease, it is seldom advisable to give strong purgatives, or to follow any depressing course of treatment. Where, what is sometimes called the *heroic treatment* of the old schools, such as bleeding, purging, and other reducing remedies is pursued, the results are very often alarming, and we have no hesitation in stating that many valuable animals are lost through this method of treatment.

When the appetite completely fails, endeavors must be made to support the animal by the careful use of gruel, beer, whiskey or wine; and where nature is thus assisted some very hopeless looking cases may be brought to a favorable termination. During the period of convalescence very great benefit is derived from the use of tonics, as some of the preparations of iron, and at the same time feeding the patient on a nourishing diet, and keeping him clean and comfortable. A horse that has suffered from a severe attack of influenza must be carefully used after being put to work, as frequently the lungs are weakened, and any severe exertion, or exposure to cold, is apt to be followed by congestion of these organs. When the disease breaks out in a large stable of horses, the sick horses should be removed from the healthy ones, and the stable well cleansed and disinfected.

We have merely pointed out the general treatment in the ordinary run of cases; in all severe and alarming cases, a competent veterinary practitioner should be consulted.

Horse-Shoeing.

HORSE-SHOEING AS IT IS, AND AS IT SHOULD BE. By William Douglas, (late) 10th Royal Hussars. Murray.—"Pull up that nasty asphalt pavement at once, and let us have no more of it!" This is the cry of a host of unthinking people, when they see horses stumbling and slipping, and falling in every direction upon the best material that has ever yet been discovered for ease and comfort in riding or driving, and for quiet travelling. It never strikes the host of wiseacres, who thus inconsiderately denounce what is new, that horses "come to grief" quite as frequently upon the granite and MacAdam paving of our streets, as well as upon our country highways and byways, as ever they do upon asphalt; but even if it were not so, they never so much as suppose for a moment that they are altogether "putting the saddle on the wrong horse." It is the farrier—not the paving—that is wholly in fault, for he sticks to the old fashioned system of years after years past, and is as stupid, ignorant, and perverse as were his father and grandfather before him. Then there is the Farrier's Union to contend against; the well-paid and non-working members of which, on no account, will permit a better system of horse-shoeing to begin, for their cry is as loud as that of "Great is Diana of the Ephesians," since their "craft" would be endangered were common sense and a knowledge of the anatomy of a horse's foot to gain a mastery, so much to be desired, and, as we fear, so little likely to be accomplished. However, we now positively know the rights of the matter by what Mr Douglas tells us in his invaluable book—a book which ought to be in the hands, and its contents in the memory, of every gentleman, stud-master, and keeper of horses throughout the length and breadth of the Kingdom. Earnestly do we recommend the largest circulation it can obtain, since it is, without the smallest question, the very best manual upon the subject that has yet fallen under our notice and consideration.—*Bell's Messenger.*

Winter Bridle Bit.

We find the following, floating among our exchanges without credit:

Now that harness makers and dealers are laying in a stock of goods suitable for winter use, they should not forget to provide themselves with an ample supply of winter bits. By these we mean those which are so constructed as to prevent injury or pain from the frosted metal. The all leather mouth-piece is a popular bit, but many object to it because of the check pieces or rings drawing against the horse's cheek, owing to the flexibility of the leather; others complain of it on account of its liability to break if a heavy strain is put upon it after being in use a few months.

The first difficulty can be removed by using a small, stiff iron mouth piece covering it with leather, when this is done the covering should be channeled and stitched in the same manner as in making round reins; to prevent the leather slipping on the mouth-piece the ends should be passed through the rings around the eyes.

Where the flexible mouth is not objectionable, but increased strength is required, a good bit may be made by using the usual check-rings and connecting them by two annealed wires, twisting the ends well in order to prevent their straightening out, and making the leather mouth in the usual way, but placing the wires on either side of the centre seam; this will make a strong bit, and one that any harness maker can construct; small leather washers should be placed between the ends of the mouth-piece and the check rings. India rubber is also used for coverings to iron mouth pieces; hollow tubes of soft rubber are slipped over the mouth-piece before the rings are secured. The well known hard rubber, such as is used on harness mountings, is also used as a covering to mouth-pieces, and is as perfect a protection from injury to the horse from frost as leather, and being less cumbersome, and also adapted to Summer use as well, is preferred by many as a covering.

The Sheep Maggot.

Sheepherding in England requires a careful counting twice every day, more particularly in July and August, for the black beetles there strike the same as the fly; and the maggots are striped along the back with a black mark; they are so large and voracious that they soon get into the poor sheep's inside and cause instant death. In showery and sultry weather, in summer, the beetle will strike in any damp place in the wool, especially if soiled with the sheep's own dung or by lying down on cow's droppings.

A shepherd becomes practised so that he can detect the place where "fly blown" or blown fly beetles, before maggots have begun to worry the sheep; and, by applying some lotion, (mercury water,) which he generally carries in his pocket, when the animals are in many fields, as they generally are, the evil is checked at once; but when an oversight has given time for the maggots to begin gnawing at the skin, the animal struck will be very uneasy, lying down and rising again directly, running fast some steps and then stamping; and if it has sought some private corner, or other place out of sight, it has become sick from the continued worry, and the shepherd finds it as soon as, on counting, one is seen to be missing.

However the shepherd feels himself disgraced when the maggots are allowed to get this headway before being discovered; hence, every careful shepherd will, with the assistance of his dog, trail the flock in every field, steadily along, so that he can look closely into the wool on each sheep as they file past him or as he slowly goes by them; and after viewing one side, he goes round and examines the other; or when he has a first-class dog, that sagacious creatures will make the whole number lengthen out so that they can be clearly looked all over in a few minutes.—*Cor Rural New Yorker.*