

cult matter to make exceedingly fat pork at very little cost, by feeding on beechnuts, slaughter-house refuse, or other matters that would be good enough for the pig, but bad for the person who had to eat him, after he is made into pork.

Canadian farmers rely much upon peas, of which they raise considerable quantities, to fatten up their spare hogs into pork, and very good they are for the purpose, perhaps the best of any single article that can be named to make really good pork. But as peas are highly nitrogenous (flesh-forming), containing gluten, while Indian corn or barley are more carbonaceous (fat and heat forming), containing starch and sugar, a mixture of peas with either barley or corn, both ground together into meal, will be found to fatten the animals quicker and at less expense than where only one of the articles had been used. It will be seen that peas are the most desirable for the hog when it is first put up to fatten, as on them it will gain rapidly in weight, by filling up flesh on its bones, especially the hams, but once the hog has become well-filled and solid, the fattening process would be greatly expedited by using corn or barley meal.

Peas contain 264 parts in 1,000 of gluten, and 496 in 1,000 of starch, gum and sugar. Corn, 123 in 1,000 of gluten, 716 in 1,000 of starch and sugar. Barley, 64 in 1,000 of gluten, 684 in 1,000 of starch, &c.

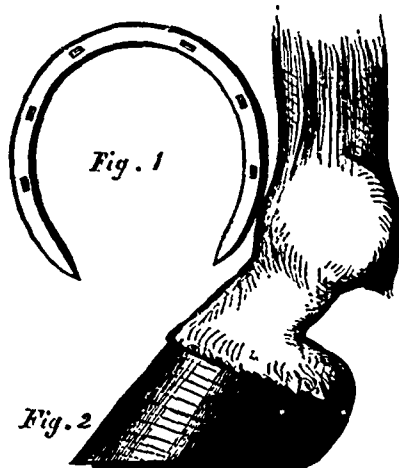
It will scarcely be credited how much is gained by cooking the food of fattening hogs; and if that cannot well be done, the food may be greatly improved by being soaked in milk or water, whether it be first ground or used whole. By so doing, if the soaking process continues long enough, the food will become fermented, and then the animals will eat more of it, and fatten more rapidly than on the raw article. English farmers not only feed their hogs a variety of food, but have it cooked, or soaked till fermented, and finish up by giving raw meal for the last few days to harden up the fat. A writer in the *Country Gentleman* states that he tried the experiment of feeding on raw whole corn and on corn ground and boiled, and as the result of his experiment, he found that every pound of pork made with the raw food cost 22 cents, while every pound made by feeding cooked meal cost but 1½ cents. At the present prices of pork, and with the facilities our large curing establishments have for carrying on their business, there is no necessity for the farmer to delay fattening up his hogs till the cold weather sets in: and when it is considered how much food is necessarily wasted to generate and maintain the animal heat in cold weather, it becomes apparent that the earlier in the fall he can fatten up and market his hogs, the more profit he can make out of the operation, provided they have attained a sufficient growth to make good solid pork. Very large hogs are not so much in favour with the curers as for-

merly. They will give as much for medium sizes, ranging from 175 to 300 pounds each.

Another point should not be forgotten, and that is, that the hog can only be profitably fed up to a certain point—that is, it will only pay to continue the fattening process so long as the animal will eat enough to lay on flesh and fat rapidly. When that point is reached nothing is gained by going further, and the curer should have it then. If the farmer live near enough, he will find it pay better to sell his fat hogs alive to the curer, than kill them himself.

The Charlier Horse Shoe.

This is a French invention that promises well, though its merits have yet in a great measure to be proved by a longer time test than it has yet attained. M. Charlier's idea is that nature intended the horse to go bare-foot, but that on soft ground the hoofs would grow out of shape, while on a hard surface the crust of the hoof is worn away faster than it can be reproduced. To guard against the latter evil most particularly, while at the same time the sole of the frog remains in its natural condition, is the aim of the invention.



We give a cut of the shoe, and of the horse's foot, showing how the hoof is to be prepared for the reception of the shoe.

At first sight it has a fragile appearance, from its extreme narrowness as compared with common shoes, but it is strong enough, being thicker than the usual shoe. Its greatest peculiarity consists in the manner in which it is applied. Instead of being nailed on to the foot like a racing plate, it is as it were substituted for the ground surface of the crust, which is pared away, leaving a groove for the reception of the shoe. Fig. 2 represents the horse's foot prepared for the shoe in profile. The groove should be of the same width as the wall of the hoof, or a little less if the shoe is to be applied hot; no smith with common care can make a mistake here. The shoe must be very accurately fitted to this groove (and here is an advantage, the groove cannot be well fitted to the shoe).

the groove then being deepened to an extent that brings the shoe nearly, not quite, flush with the sole of the foot. Nothing further is required beyond nailing on the shoe, the last nails being two inches, or nearly so, from the heels. For hunters six nails are preferable; five may suffice for farm work, and certainly for travelling on the road. The shoeing of weak-footed horses in this style demands a little, not much, more care than when a strong foot is the subject, also the exercise of a little common sense. A thin-soled horse, with a deficiency of horn, obviously cannot stand the paring of so deep a groove as a strong-footed one. To obtain the desired effect, the shoe must here be made thinner, so that a more shallow groove should suffice. To put a thick shoe to a shallow groove would most likely lame the horse; certainly with a weak foot it would have that effect. The shoe, when on, allows the frog to touch the ground, in fact, leaves the foot in as nearly as possible a natural condition. Frog, bars, heels and crust, all take their share of the work, while the extreme lightness of the shoe has the best effect in decreasing the labour of the tendons. The sole is not to be allowed quite to touch the ground when this is hard and level. It does not do so in the unshod colt's foot, which is the model to go by.

The shoe is to extend back just to the edge of the heel, and "over-reaching" or "cutting" is said to be rendered impossible.

We are doubtful if this kind of shoe would answer here in the cold season. On our exceedingly hard, slippery, winter roads, the want of cauks would perhaps prove an objection, but there would probably be no balling of snow in the foot. For summer use such a shoe would be light, cheap, and durable, as well as giving ease and comfort to the horse.

New Importations of Thoroughbred Stock.

We learn from *Bell's Weekly Messenger* that Mr. Thornton had shipped for Canada, for Mr. H. Cochrane, who seems determined to collect a fine herd in a short time, six shorthorns of great excellence, from the stocks of Mr. Torr, Mr. Barnes of Westland, Mr. Hugh Aylmer of West Dereham Abbey, and Mr. Lynn of Stroxtun. The six—one of them a yearling bull—averaged 114. 12s. 6d. Aylesby Manor supplies two yearling heifers and the bull; Bright Lady. Weal Bliss, and General Napier. Bright Lady is the daughter of Lord Blithe and Bright Countess, from the Anna family, and is perhaps the best of the lot. She has a splendid head, peculiarly strong wide loins, and grandly arched ribs. Weal Bliss descends from the Waterloo family, the Waterloo pedigree being surmounted by four fine crosses of Warlabby bulls—Crown Prince, British Prince, Booth Royal, and Lord Blithe. The young bull (of the Glitter tribe) has the super-addition of