

These figures are calculated, at first sight, to startle the inquirer, who would naturally ask, "can it be true that in what we call our root crops we have eighty-two per cent. of water?" but that it is so, is easy of demonstration. If we cut any of these kinds roots in slices, and thoroughly dry them at the heat of boiling water=212 Fahrenheit, we shall find that the table above shown has understated rather than exaggerated this matter. Indeed, by this simple test have we made out that some specimens of turnips yield only five per cent. of solid matter, or as much as ninety-five per cent. of water!

Viewed, then, in this light, it is no wonder that people should commonly use the terms "watery" and "poor" synonymously, or that the farmer should distinguish the more watery kinds of food for his stock as having "no proof," and this is, indeed, a point which he so nicely estimates, that whatever be the physical appearance of a crop, he can tell by its effects how much stock it will carry, that is, how much more nutritive one crop is than another, and a greater or less proportion of water is usually at the bottom of the mystery.

Judging by this test alone, who, on looking at the first four kinds of crops—roots, which we have tabulated—would not conclude that they were infinitely below the last five in nutritive properties? Though it does not follow that potatoes are more nutritious than all other roots, because of their lesser amount of water; for putting aside the water as a non-nutritive element in vegetable substances, we must judge of their relative feeding value, by the other constituents.—*Irish Agricultural Review.*

TWENTY THINGS WHICH A BAD GROOM OR COACHMAN WILL DO.

1st. He will recommend his master to buy horses from the dealer who will allow him the greatest bribe, without taking into consideration whether they are likely to suit or not.

2nd. He will expect more profit, in the shape of gratuity, from the horsedealer, coachmaker, saddler, or corn-dealer, than those tradesmen realise for themselves out of his order.

3rd. He will, in place of exercising his horses when not in regular work, let them stand with their legs swelling in the stable, while he is smoking a short pipe and backing racehorses for shillings, behind the bar of a back-street beerhouse, with more of the same fraternity.

4th. He will, when he does take it in his head to exercise his horses, ride them on the hard stones in crowded thoroughfares, at any pace, to suit his own purpose, whether beneficial to the horses or not.

5th. He will fill the racks with good hay until the horses contract a habit of pulling it out under their feet, and so mix it with litter and waste it. He will also roll up the horse's bed in a morning and cram it under the manger, and thus keep it under the horse's nose all day, and often prevent him from feeding, in place of taking it clear out of the stable, shaking it well up, and mixing with clean straw to sweeten it.

6th. When his horses are brought in reeking with perspiration, he will sponge them all over and wash their legs with cold water, and then leave them to dry, while he fills his own belly and smokes his pipe, in place of instantly stripping his coat and vest, first coaxing his horses to stale, and then wiping them with straw from head to heel, until they are dry, wash out their mouths, give them a lock of the sweetest hay, and then leaving them refresh himself. After which he will return, without loss of time, and complete the grooming, water, feed, bed-down, and leave them to their often much-needed rest.

7th. On mounting his master's saddle-horse for exercise, he will instantly apply the whip or spurs, and tear the reins about, as if the horse's mouth was made of iron; and this will be his readiest means of making the horse restive and unsteady while his master mounts him.

8th. He will invariably spur, check his horse's mouth, and curse him, while at exercise, for any little infirmity, as if it were vice—more especially for shying—whether the cause be a natural timidity, as in human beings, defect in the eyesight, or a display of gaiety, brought about by long confinement in the stable.

9th. He will trim his horses' heels with the scissors, instead of pulling the superfluous hair out, bit by bit, with his fingers dipped in powdered rosin. He will also