

HORSE CENSUS.—The following curious account is given in Appleton's Cyclopaedia, of the number of horses in the various parts of the world:—"The general estimate has been eight million horses in Europe for every hundred inhabitants. Denmark has forty five horses to every hundred inhabitants, which is more than any other European country. Great Britain and Ireland have 2,500,000 horses; France 3,000,000; Austrian Empire, exclusive of Italy, 2,600,000; Russia 3,500,000. The United States have 600,000.

The amount of grain in store at Oswego and Buffalo at the present time, according to a carefully prepared statement in the *Oswego Commercial Times*, is 3,343,000 bushels, embracing 2,625,000 bushels of wheat, 441,000 bushels of corn, 42,000 bushels of oats, 147,000 bushels of barley, 84,000 bushels of rye, and 3,000 bushels of peas. This does not include the amount afloat at Buffalo. Total receipts of grain at Oswego and Buffalo for the season, reducing flour to wheat, aggregate 55,000,000 bushels nearly.

THE VALUE OF A DEAD HORSE.—The value of a dead horse is from 20s. to 60s., the average being 40s.; the weight in pounds from 672 to 1338, the average weight in pounds 950. Reflect that every application to art or science of this dead horse renders him of greater value; and it is for us, engaged in various ways in the uses of life, to see whether we cannot apply things that have hitherto been wasted. Five hundred horses die every week in London. The skin is worth from 8d. to 1s. per lb., and it is used for making haircloth, for stuffing mattresses, and making plumes, and bags for crushing seed in oil mills. Then the hide, weighing 30 lbs., is worth 8s., which is, perhaps, not a great deal of money; but when you have from 300 to 500 a skin dying within a radius of five miles from a spring-cross, it comes to some money. Then the skin is used for a variety of purposes; tanned, you know, are made into gelatine, and jellies, and jellies. I told you that you must not be particular about these jellies; when the poor horse has drawn your carriage, served you in omnibus and cab, and died at last, even then you have not done with him, for his tendons then are you for your delicious jellies. Then, again, it is not an uncommon thing for man to eat horse flesh. We do not eat it here knowingly, but they eat it on the continent of Europe. Then there is the blood, which is carried to the prussiate of potash manufacturers. Then there are the internal tubes, which are used for the covering of sausages; and, as I said of the jellies, we do not ask any questions about these coverings as long as they are sweet. The heart and lungs are evidently great "mysteries," for no one knows what is done with them. There is just as much mystery about them as about

the manufacture of the cloth of your coat. The heart, however, can be chopped up and mixed with sausage-meat, and the tongues may be sold for ox-tongues. On a recent occasion, when I stated this fact, a newspaper which reported my lecture, added that it was all a mistake, and that the tongues were never sold for so inferior an article as an ox-tongue; they were always sold as reindeer tongues. Now, passing over the fat, which is worth 3s. 4d., I need not tell you that horses' bones are as good as any other bones, and can be employed for the various purposes to which other bones are applied. The bones of a horse weigh about 160lbs., and are worth 4s. 6d. per cwt. Then there are the hoofs; 6lbs. of these, at 8s. 10d. per cwt., which can be used for making buttons, prussiates, and snuff-boxes. I do not think that it is correct to say that they are used in making glue. I think horses' hoofs are composed of the same material as hair. They are sold, it is true, to the gluemaker, but he sells them to the prussiate-manufacturer. Even the poor old shoes are worth from 4s. to 10s. per cwt.; and then with regard to all these substances employed, there is nothing which cannot be used again and again.—*Dr. Lankes-ter's Lectures*

PLANTS WHICH FORM NATIONAL BADGES.—England, the Rose, *Rosa* sp.—Scotland, the Thistle, *Cnicus latceolatus*—Ireland, the Shamrock, *Oxalis acetosella*, according to Mr. B. Cheno; but commonly considered to be the White Clover, *Trifolium repens*—France, the Fleur-de-lis, *Iris* sp.

RATS.—A correspondent of the *Gardener's Monthly* says: "I tried the effect of introducing into their numerous holes, runs, or hiding-places, small portions of chloride of lime, or bleaching powder, wrapped in calico and stuffed into the entrance holes, and thrown loose by spoonfuls into the drain from the house. This drove the rats away for a twelvemonth, when they returned to it. They were treated in the same manner, with like effect. The cure was most complete. I presume it was the chlorine gas, which did not agree with their olfactories."

Editorial Notices &c.

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