

KEEPING HAMS.

My hams are thoroughly dried, and I have them wrapped in paper bags, and hang them in the garret. They are not smoked, and look deliciously clean and sweet, as they have been kept in paper since coming from the salt. Mary watched me arrange them with apparent interest. She wanted to know when we should have some for the table. I told her not yet, as it is my intention to keep them until the green peas are ready, as I think they go excellently well together. I have always kept hams and bacon in paper bags, and prefer it to other methods. It is impossible for flies and other insects to attack them through the paper, and the atmosphere cannot have free play as it does through the bags of cotton, which of course is an advantage. My mother used to keep her hams in a bin of malt or barley. Of course that would not be practical with many, as all are not fortunate enough to have a bin of barley; but I should think they would be very nice if kept in dry bran, oats, or wheat. I think broiled ham is much nicer if the slices are cut very thin. When ham is very salt, a little soaking will improve it; but if it has been properly salted, this will not be necessary.

WATERING HORSES WITHOUT STOPPING.—A Jersey genius has invented a device for watering horses when travelling or at work, by which their thirst may be assuaged without stopping. It appears to be more particularly designed for the benefit of the draught animals or city street cars. The bit of the bridle or head-stall is made hollow, and has attached to it a flexible tube connected with a tube carried in or on the vehicle. By pulling a string the water is caused to flow into the bit, and thence through a suitable orifice into the horse's mouth.

CURE FOR A SPRUNG-KNEED HORSE.—When it is caused by a contraction of the muscles or sinews.

Treatment—Remedy.—Pare down the heels of his feet as low as possible, have him shod with a toe upon the shoe, and no corks. Use a penetrating liniment, which will cause the sinews to stretch. Take half pint of spirits of wine, 1 oz. bear's oil, 1 oz. neat's foot oil, 1 oz. spirits of camphor, 1 oz. oil of origanum, 1 oz. oil of sassafras, 1 oz. laudanum, mix it all well in a bottle; rub it in well with the hand. This is a very penetrating liniment and will effect a cure.

SHRUB.—The rind of half a lemon and half an orange pared quite thin; put it into a pint of rum, and let it remain three hours, when it should be removed. Add to the rum a small wine-glass of strained lemon juice, and the same of orange juice, 1 oz. of lump sugar dissolved in a pint and a half of water. Mix all together and bottle.

GINGER BEER—TO MAKE A SMALL QUANTITY QUICKLY.—Over ½ lb. loaf sugar, 1½ oz. sliced ginger, and the peel of a lemon, pour a gallon of boiling water; when lukewarm, add a spoonful of yeast and the juice of a lemon.

STATE OF CROPS.

(Continued from page 443.)

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.

(From O. M. Taylor, Esq.)

Middleton, Sept. 1, 1869.

The hay crop here has not been as large as it is some years, but of better quality. The grain promises a good yield. All kinds of root crops never did fairer to give a heavy crop. Fruit will only be an average yield this season. It is believed that the frost killed the blows, but although less in quantity, the quality will be good.

(From W. E. Starratt, Esq.)

Paradise, Sept. 1, 1869.

In answer to your letter I would say that, the crops are represented to be universally abundant throughout the whole district, with some exceptions; and the probability is, that we shall have a large surplus of all productions of agriculture over last year. Indian corn suffered by frost in the early part of summer, and, owing to the season being much cooler than usual, it is feared that this crop will prove deficient.

The undermentioned will be a true statement of the crops in this district:—Wheat, both spring and winter, good. Barley, good. Rye, good. Oats, very fine. Buckwheat, good. Potatoes promise a fine crop. Hay, a reasonable quantity and housed in fine condition. Pumpkins, light. Apples, an average crop, but quality good.

Our Agricultural Society obtained from Canada, ten bushels of seed wheat; it was sown about the first of June—it is well filled and will, I think, give good satisfaction.

INVERNESS COUNTY.

(From Geo. C. Lawrence, Esq.)

Port Hood, Aug. 31, 1869.

I am happy to report that the crops throughout this county are looking well. The hay crop, which is now nearly all secured, is good, more than an average, and secured in good order. Wheat has not been sown to a large extent for some years back, but what was sown, promises at present a good yield. Oats and Barley look well, but owing to the backward spring, are late. Potatoes are generally throughout the country looking well,—no appearance of blight in this neighbourhood. Turnips not generally sown to any extent, but what are, look uncommonly well. Fruit is not much attended to throughout this county. Our farmers seem to think it a loss of time and money. Large numbers of fruit trees were purchased some years ago, but many of those who purchased never took the trouble to put a fence round them, consequently it was money thrown away.

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HENRY E. DECIE,
Sept, 1869. Wilnot.

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JAMES STANFORD.

Halifax, N.S., June, 1868.

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