

pecially the paunch, which, during its state of ordinary fullness, might prevent operating with facility.

"From what has preceded, it is fixed and irrefutable,—

"1. That spaying induces permanency of milk, increase of quantity, and improvement of quality, richer, more buttery, superior color, finer taste and flavor.

"2. The most suitable age is six years, and after the third or fourth calf.

"3. The spayed cow fattens more easily, and furnishes beef of a better quality.

"4. Cows that are bad breeders may be kept as good milkers, and the quality of good cattle kept up."

OVERFEEDING HORSES.

It is one thing to give the horse enough to eat and another to over feed him. A Scotch Journal contains a report of a conversation at a meeting of an Agricultural Society, on this subject.

"Professor Dick said he had been induced to come forward to offer a few remarks on the consequences arising from injudicious feeding of horses, which, if made known, might be prevented, and much disease avoided. The horse was, by nature, always feeding. His stomach was small, and able only to contain small quantities at a time, and if it was gorged, disease was at once induced. He observed a gentleman, now in the room, who had in one year lost about a dozen horses from these causes. The horses were allowed to be indulged by servants with an extra pailful—the stomach was not enabled to act—digestion was suspended—and death was frequently produced in a few hours; if not, some other disease, such as acute founder, ensued. Now, all this might be prevented by a very slight attention to the practice of feeding. If horses were allowed to stop and feed twice-a-day, instead of being worked six hours, and then allowed only one, or at most two, hours in the forenoon to feed—or were the day divided into three portions—the digestive process would go on more readily. Even if no more time were allowed, the division of his feeds would be more in accordance with his nature; but when he is fatigued by long continued fasting and hard work, the powers become exhausted, and the natural processes do not go on with the same readiness; and rest and time are required. When a person is on a journey, and pressed for time, he frequently gives his horse some oat meal and water instead of corn—forgetful that digestion must have time to be re-established and set going, otherwise disease is likely to arise in another form, and the stomach is often burst by the generation of gas from suspended digestion. But the greatest

harm is done by overfeeding immediately after the day's work is over. After working hard all day, and returning to the stable in the evening, hungry and fatigued, the horse is indulged with a full allowance, which is placed before him at once; he overloads his stomach, and indigestion takes place. All this occurs soon after the men have left the stable, and, unless the noise he makes is heard by chance, he is found dead in the morning. After the day's work is over, instead of a pailful (which is the ordinary allowance) being given on their returning from their work, he would recommend only a quantity sufficient to take of the edge of the appetite, and in an hour and a half afterwards the rest of the feed. He would strongly recommend this plan to be adopted at all times, but especially at this season. A gentleman in the room to whom he had recommended this plan, who had previously lost many horses from indigestion and its consequences, has for several years subsequently scarcely lost any, and these only when, from some accidental cause, the proper precaution had not been taken. There was another circumstance which he wished to bring before the meeting. He would call attention to the practice of giving horses food of an improper description. In the neighbourhood of mills, husks were sold at a small price, and were mixed and boiled up as food for horses; this was always dangerous, and was the common cause of an accumulation of dust balls in the stomach and intestines. He called the attention of the meeting to specimens which he laid on the table. These balls were often found in large quantities. He exhibited four balls of large size taken by him from the same horse, and had seen half a dozen as large as those on the table taken from one horse, which must have been formed in about six weeks, as the horse had never tasted the kind of food until within that period. This disease was most common in Scotland. In England, especially in the chalk districts, another form of concretion was found; there, instead of the dust, or as some call them, dung-balls, calcareous concretions are found, specimens of which were shown. The progress of the disease was sometimes slow, at others very rapid—fresh coatings grew with fresh applications of the same food, and ultimately the passage through the intestines was generally stopped, causing inflammation and death; in other cases the balls remain stationary in size and situation, if the kind of feeding is withheld. He suggested the propriety of doing away with such food—it might be used for years without bad effects; but some accidental cause might produce a nucleus for the formation of a dust ball from the particles of barley or oats. Another circumstance, which he found to be attended with much evil, was giving roots, such as turnips, carrots and potatoes, without being washed. Some thought that these roots should not