

ing slaves on earth, merely because they are attempting to carry out a system unadapted to their opportunities. We are sorry to hear so little in such directions from our Model Farm School. Our farmers keep no accounts, but, generally speaking, calculate their profits by rule of thumb; but surely it is not so there, and we would like to hear more of the results of profit and loss—the true index of good farming. Have our Board of Agriculture never thought of establishing a medium through which our farmers wishing to improve might get a cheap and reliable analysis of soils and manures. Surely where the labor of handling is so costly, this is the country where we ought to deal in the less bulky manures.

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METHOD OF CURING BAD TUB BUTTER.—A quantity of tub butter was brought to market in the West Indies, which, on opening, was found to be very bad, and almost stinking. A native of Pennsylvania undertook to cure it, which he did in the following manner: He started the tubs of butter in a large quantity of hot water, which soon melted the butter; he then skimmed it off as clean as possible, and worked it over again in a churn, and with the addition of salt and fine sugar, the butter was made sweet and good again.

BAD EFFECTS OF GRASS ON COLTS.—When horses are turned out to grass in the spring of the year, the succulent nature of the food causes them to purge, often to a great extent; this is considered by many persons a most desirable event—a great misconception. The herbage is overcharged with sap and moisture, of a crude, acrimonious nature, to such an extent that all cannot be taken up by the organs destined for the secretion of urine, or by the absorbent vessels of the body; the superfluous fluid therefore passes off through the intestines with the indigestible particles of food, and thus the watery fæces are thrown off. Flatulent colic or gripes is a frequent attendant. The system is deranged; but the mischief does not terminate here. If the purging is continued, a constitutional relaxation of the bowels is established, very debilitating to the animal, and often difficult to control. I am so decidedly opposed to unrestricted allowance of luxuriant grass to horses at any age, that nothing could induce me to give it to them. After the second year, hay should form a considerable portion of the daily food in summer to every animal intended for riding or driving. So says the *Mark Lane Express*, an English agricultural journal of high character.

SOAP.—To make Windsor soap, slice the best white soap as thin as possible; melt it in a stew-pan over a slow fire; scent it with oil of carraway, or any other scent, and then pour it into a mould made for that purpose. When it has stood for three or four days, in a dry situation, cut it into square pieces, and it is fit for use. An excellent toilet soap is thus made: Take a quarter of a pound of old Castile soap, slice it down into a pewter jar, and pour upon it two quarts of alcohol; place the jar in a vessel of water at such a heat as will cause the spirit to boil, when the soap will soon dissolve; then put the jar, closely covered, in a warm place until the liquor is clarified; take off any scum that may appear on the surface, and pour it carefully from the dregs; then put it into the jar again, and place it in the vessel of hot water; distilling all the spirit that will arise; dry the remaining mass in the air for a few days, when a white transparent soap will be obtained, free from all alkaline impurities, and perfectly void of smell.

A VALUABLE HINT TO BUILDERS.—The *Scientific American* publishes the following suggestion from a correspondent, and endorses it as sound and reasonable advice. We venture to say it is worth more than five dollars, to any man who is about to build a house in our cold climate:—"This cold winter brings to mind a matter connected with the building of houses which I do not remember ever to have seen in print, and which, if generally known, is seldom practiced. It is this: in any cold climate cellar walls of houses should never be filled in around with loam or clay, or earth that retains much moisture, because the frost expands it, and it exerts a great pressure against the walls, tending to thrust them out of position. The effects of this are seen in the many cracked walls; the breaking of window and door sills and lintels; unjointed verandahs; and windows and doors rendered incapable of opening and closing, &c. In our New England States, this costs us many thousands of dollars yearly, all of which may be saved by filling in a few inches of sand or clean gravel next the walls."